

CITY OF AMBOY
COUNCIL MEETING
February 17, 2014

Mayor Nauman called the Regular meeting of the Amboy City Council to order and the council and audience stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

WARD 1: Deanne Hoy
Brett Dewey-Absent
WARD 2: John Schamberger
Dennis Weidman
WARD 3: Daryl Stuckemeyer
Dave Shaw

MINUTE'S APPROVED-The minutes from the January regular city council meeting were presented and approved after a motion was made and seconded by Aldermen Weidman and Schamberger. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT APPROVED- City Treasurer Nancy Neal submitted the financial report. Making a motion to approve the reports as presented was made and seconded by Aldermen Hoy and Stuckemeyer. Carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS APPROVED- A list of outstanding bills, involving city accounts as prepared by the city clerk's office was submitted. Making a motion to approve the bills as presented was made and seconded by Aldermen Schamberger and Weidman. Carried. *A copy of the financial report is kept on file at the city hall and is available upon request.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COMMUNITY BUILDING-Mayor Nauman reported that the University of Illinois is interested in leasing the kitchette and ESDA will be using an office for their meetings.

DEPOT MUSEUM-Alderman Shaw reported the thermometers are working and everything is good.

E.S.D.A- Alderman Dewey –No Report.

PARK-Alderman Schamberger-March 6 at 7:00pm will be the next park board meeting. The legion is still discussing the Veterans park property donation and has a few more things to review before making a decision.

LIBRARY-Alderman Weidman reported the board met for their monthly board meeting and has nothing new to report.

FINANCE COMMITTEE-Alderman Hoy reported the finance committee met and reviewed the lease /refinance, Grace Fellowship Church, MFT 2014, Dollar General, budget review and discussed the Amboy Improvement committee.

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE- No Report.

POLICE COMMISSION- No Report.

MAINT. DEPT /STREETS-Alderman Schamberger reported that the handrails were to be installed on Tuesday however with the new snow that date has been pushed back. The guys are busy plowing snow and keeping the streets clear.

WATER/SEWER DEPT-Alderman Stuckemeyer reported there have been four water main breaks and the guys have been working quickly to get water service back on to residents. The break on Rt 52 went really well and was not directly under the highway.

CONCERNS FROM THE AUDIENCE-Diane Carbonari spoke on behalf of the new group starting to work at attracting new business and people to downtown. There is a need in the community to build and keep our downtown full. As a concerned business owner there are concerns of what the future is and what we can do to grow in the future. We would like the council to review some things and see what ideas they can come up with to help make Amboy better. The committee would meet and make goals and come up with a plan to attract new business. We have a lot of knowledgeable people in the community and many things to offer visitors. We have Depot Days, The Depot Museum, wildlife, camping and farming. Discussion lately has been about a Dollar General and Diane inquired how many jobs would be involved in this new business. What else could we pull in and build this up for more people to buy locally. This is all tax revenue that goes back to the town to spend on streets and city development. Looking at Mendota and Rt.251 they have alot built at this location on Rt. 251, however their downtown is struggling because new buildings and stores have been built in this area instead of their previous business district. If we promoted downtown there could be more jobs and more business downtown than ever before. Peru has a great downtown and may be something to look into. Diane is asking for a committee to be created for the future of Amboy. If everyone could just give a little bit of time and thought we can change the future of our downtown. Mayor Nauman is willing to help out in any way to make this work out for Amboy. Alderman Hoy and Alderman Schamberger have volunteered to also be on the committee. Attorney Keegan will create a Main Street organization ordinance for the new committee.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

DISCUSS LEASE REFINANCE –Mayor Nauman has met with Chase Leasing regarding the rate on the current lease. They can do a rate modification and still keep the same terms on the current lease with a lower interest rate. More information to follow next month.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVE DARYL STUCKEMEYER LIASION-DOLLAR GENERAL/NAUMAN SUBDIVISION- Mayor Nauman is requesting that Daryl Stuckemeyer would be the contact for Dollar General/Nauman Subdivision since Mayor Nauman's family owns the current property. Alderman Hoy questioned why this appointment is being requested since the Finance Committee already has been in contact with Dollar General. Attorney Keegan advised that all contact for Dollar General-Nauman Subdivision must go a council member and it just cannot be Mayor Nauman since he has an interest in the property. As long as the finance committee has been previously in contact with Dollar General those members will be the contact for this project. Two concerns with this project is location and what will they ask for as incentives for their business. Alderman Hoy would also like input from citizens before the project would be started. Mayor Nauman explained that Dollar General has certain requirements before they build depending on land and location. Citizens were concerned on the location and if there were other options for Dollar General to locate. Alderman Hoy and Weidman will continue to be the contacts for the Dollar General project.

DISCUSS 2014 MFT PROJECTS-Mayor Nauman would like to see the council improve Provost Street in front of Central School. The street needs to be widened and new sidewalks installed for people walking their kids. Update next month on this project.

APPROVE \$1,000 BUDGET SUMMER BANDS-SATURDAY NIGHTS-Eileen Quest has proposed having entertainment every other Saturday night during the summer. Other communities have done this and the band cost is \$75.00-\$100.00 per night. Mayor Nauman is requesting \$1,000 to fund this for the summer. The bands would play on Saturday evenings and would bring people to town and be good for local business. Alderman Schamberger feels that this would be a great idea and can see people coming to town to eat and see the entertainment. Alderman Weidman would like to include this in the new budget but thinks it would definitely benefit the community. Motion to Approve the \$1,000 for the bands made by Aldermen Schamberger and Shaw. All Approved.

Building Inspectors Report-No Report.

Animal Report- See Report.

ATTORNEY CONCERNS-Nothing.

COUNCIL CONCERNS-

Alderman Stuckemeyer- Good job done by all our city crew during the cold weather.

Alderman Schamberger- Thank you to Diane Carbonari for attending the meeting and taking charge of the new committee. Also this band idea for the summer will be a great thing for the community.

Alderman Hoy- Thank you to Bill and Diane and all their hard work. Hopefully we can get everyone involved.

Alderman Weidman-Nothing.

Alderman Shaw- Some water lines have frozen up and would suggest residents let their water drip so their pipes don't freeze during this cold weather.

MAYOR CONCERNS-Thanks to the maintenance dept. and all the hours they have worked. We will have to review our odd/even snow policy so that we can get cars moved more quickly when snowfall occurs. Thanks to everyone that has been clearing their sidewalks during the winter for the kids walking to school.

With no further business to come before the council the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m. There were 14 people present in the audience.

Submitted by

Melissa Eisenberg, RMC
City Clerk-City of Amboy