

CITY OF AMBOY
COUNCIL MEETING
May 19, 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

WARD 2: John Schamberger
Dennis Weidman

WARD 3: Daryl Stuckemeyer
Dave Shaw-Absent

MINUTE'S APPROVED-The minutes from the March and April regular city council meeting were presented. Motion made by Alderman Hoy and Dewey. 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 Stuckemeyer and Dewey. 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 Stuckemeyer. Carried. *A copy of the financial report is kept on file at the city hall and is available upon request.

"Public Hearing pursuant to the requirements of Sections 10 and 20 of the Bond Issuance Notification Act of the State of Illinois, as amended on the plans to issue General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2014 in the amount not to exceed \$1,700,000. " – 7:02pm -Hearing was called to order and Mayor Nauman read the bond issuance requirements. This bond is to refinance the current lease and also for the city to borrow additional funds for water tower repairs. Mayor Nauman asked for any written or oral comments. With no comments the hearing was concluded at 7:06pm.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COMMUNITY BUILDING-Alderman Dewey reported the ice machine quit working and the building will just use bag ice at this time. Corrine Powers is arranging a Quarter Mania fundraiser to be held at the community building with donations going to local charities. The first one is scheduled for June 19th and proceeds will benefit the baseball batting cages.

DEPOT MUSEUM-Mayor Nauman reported an update will be given later in the meeting regarding the museum chimneys that need repaired.

E.S.D.A- Alderman Dewey –Alderman Dewey reported that the FCC license is being redone due to a classification issue.

PARK-Alderman Schamberger reported that the statues at the city park are starting to rot and even with being sealed they still are not being preserved. If anyone has any ideas to save the statues please let the city council know. Diane Carbonari suggested storing them during the winter however it's more like they are rotting from the inside. The park will be taking bids for steel roofing at Shapiro Shelter and Nauman shelter due to city hall by June 2nd.

LIBRARY-Alderman Weidman reported the library board met on May 13th with no new business. The new budget has been approved. Rebecca Englebarts has given her resignation to accept a teaching position. The library will be accepting applications for a new head librarian. The next meeting will be held on June 17th.

FINANCE COMMITTEE-Alderman Weidman reported that the committee discussed truck repairs (bodywork), employee reviews/raises, park shelter roof repair bids, new maintenance building location, Depot Museum chimney repairs, street bid locations/motor fuel, and finance/committee change held the first Monday of every month at 6pm at the community building.

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE- No Report.

POLICE COMMISSION- No Report.

MAINT. DEPT /STREETS-Alderman Schamberger reported the city will be reviewing streets to resurface. Also a letter from the Jr. High has been written regarding closing Park Street. The council members will meet to discuss this proposal and options. The Nauman Subdivision road still needs to be completed. The city will need to replace at least one mower next year and needs to budget for this.

WATER/SEWER DEPT-Alderman Stuckemeyer reported that the odor from the sewer ponds is because of the pond bugs/bacteria getting killed off this winter. The Sensient treatment facility went down and the sewer ponds got over run with sewer material and the bacteria was killed. The city is adding direct bacteria as well as Sensient is adding bacteria to theirs too. It will smell for a while but it is being treated. Also midge flies are starting to hatch and the city is treating the flies before they start to become a problem. The treatment for five gallons is around \$300.00 per treatment. The city is doing everything to prevent the odor from getting any worse.

CONCERNS FROM THE AUDIENCE-Hank Gerdes spoke on behalf of the Car Show and wanted to explain that the ticket committee sells tickets and that they have ordered 300,000 tickets for 2014. The tickets will go on sale after the Dixon Petunia Festival. The 2015 entertainment has been set. The 2014 Depot Days is sure going to be exciting this year and things are expected to be bigger in 2015 for attendance and tickets. Hank Gerdes questioned two things on the agenda and wanted the council to think about why the

mowing employees are not paid the same. He also mentioned the lawns on the highway that need to be mowed. It makes our town look really bad to anyone visiting or traveling thru on the highway. Randy Singleton complimented Diane Carbonari on the new business they have started. The windows look great and many items to purchase. Also Veterans Park looks great and a big thank you to Don Schamberger for all his hard work. He questioned how the minutes are to be recorded if it is word for word or just an overview. Attorney Matt Keegan explained that the city clerk records the minutes to accurately reflect the happenings of the city council meeting. Not every comment has to be recorded word for word as long as the meeting is explained for citizens to review. Randy Singleton questioned Mayor Nauman regarding his water service and if he paid to have it installed. Mayor Nauman explained that he granted the city an easement thru his property for water hookup to his shed. Once the water was hooked up and turned on a city meter was installed. Randy Singleton questioned if the meter was read monthly by the water dept. Mayor Nauman explained he paid the bills sent to him by the city. Mayor Nauman said he never reprimanded Gary Dimmig. Mayor Nauman said he was accused of stealing water by Alderman Hoy. Alderman Hoy said she never accused him of stealing city water. Mayor Nauman called Aldermen Shaw and Stuckemeyer to view his hookup and to contact whomever regarding his water in his shed. Alderman Hoy explained that her concern was that the shop was not regularly billed for water services. Randy Singleton understands if it was not billed properly that is one case but if the meter was not read that is another problem. Mayor Nauman explained that when the water line was installed it was not turned on. The line was installed but there was no water in the building. When the meter froze two years ago the water was turned off and a new meter cost \$200.00 to fix it. Hank Gerdes wanted everyone to know that the motorcycle is here and it will be on display at the Illinois Fire Store. John Evans a marketing supplier is interested in doing an aggregation for the gas utilities. He will have a letter written and get a copy to the city attorney for review. It would be similar to the electric aggregation program.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

APPROVE BID LOCATIONS FOR 2014 MFT STREET PROJECTS-Mike Richetta from Chamlin and Associates presented the estimates for the streets for 2014 MFT repairs. He is proposing a seal coat program for this year and then spending more MFT in 2015. The timeline for this would be during warm weather months. Hank Gerdes wanted to make sure it was not done around Depot Days to keep the dust down for the event. Mike Richetta explained the rock can be washed before it is set. Mayor Nauman was worried about the added cost to haul that preferred rock for the project. Alderman Hoy is totally opposed to chip and sealing Main Street and East Avenue. It is a poor idea for the downtown when they have invested in the downtown business areas. Mike Richetta explained that he is not crazy about the chip/seal idea but it can save the road from deterioration. The mayor wants us to preserve as many streets as the city can to maintain the streets. Alderman Schamberger questioned on how much money the city would spend for 2014? Mike Richetta is recommending spending only a portion of the motor fuel and then having more to spend in 2015. If the city only spent \$45,000 for this year that would be a recommendation from Chamlin and Associates. A list of streets has been provided by Al Stenzel-Director of Public Works. Chamlin and Associates just needs to be directed

which streets the city would like to receive bids on. Also if the city would have a spray patching done before the chip and seal is done that would level some of the roadways better. Alderman Schamberger was concerned on the timeline of the bids and work being done. Mike Richetta would like to be authorized by the June meeting to accept bids and approve the resolution for IDOT. Motion to Table the MFT Street bids until the next meeting made by Aldermen Schamberger and Dewey. All Approved. Tabled.

APPROVE NEW ELECTRIC AGGREGATION RATES-Mike Mudge presented the city council with the current electric aggregation bids. This time five bidders have presented their rates. The city rate of 4.67 runs until August 2014. The new rates are higher due to capacity and usage. The proposals now are back up with ComEd rate 7.5 which is market based and passed on to all customers. The best bid for the city is for a three year term community rate of 7.38 from Mid American Energy. If any citizen wants to opt out they can with the opt out letter or at any time with no termination fees for leaving the program. The new agreements do not guarantee to match ComEd if the rates would drop. That would be up to each household to make that phone call to opt out. The council needs to choose a supplier either by tonight or have a special meeting due to the opt out period, the city rate ending in August and getting the contract set. Otherwise the citizens will have to change back to ComEd until the new program is signed, approved and setup. Attorney Matt Keegan explained some of the changes since two years ago. Which if the supplier was higher than the ComEd rate they would match the ComEd rate and that is not in the agreement anymore however each resident can make that decision. Otherwise the contracts are the similar to the contract two years ago except the rates are not as much of a savings. The city will most likely have to have a special meeting in order to remain on track with the old contract and getting the new one setup. Alderman Dewey was concerned on the Mid American Energy program due to not many others signing contracts with them. Mike Mudge is not concerned because they have a great credit rating and have signed more contracts in last few days. The city needs to plan for long range and the rates for ComEd will most likely increase and not decrease. The rates are based on usage within the community. Mid American Energy will hold the rate if the city signs a letter of intent. Alderman Hoy feels that at this time the new contract rates show no benefit to the citizens at this time. Attorney Keegan explained that the best term is the three year Mid American Energy rate however it is not guarantee to match ComEd if the rates would drop. The idea of the contract is the bargaining power of the whole community instead of an individual rate per household. Mike Mudge feels that this rate will benefit the community and the citizens will save money on their electric services. Attorney Matt Keegan asked Mike Mudge if the city did not sign the contract would the city have to have a referendum done again. Mike Mudge explained it does not since the voters have already made their decision. Alderman Weidman explained the best rate to the meeting attendees was 7.38 instead of the ComEd rate of 7.596 and it looks like the best rate of the bids. Attorney Matt Keegan explained that if the city signs the letter of intent with the supplier then the contract can be reviewed and approved. Motion to Approve the Letter of Intent with Mid American Energy -contract rate of 7.38 for three years pending contract approval made by Aldermen Dewey and Weidman. All Approved.

SHOP AMBOY UPDATE -Diane Carbonari gave an update on things that have been done in the community. Recently billboards have been purchased to advertise our downtown community. The Mayor is getting some metal hangers for the light posts to advertise our businesses and stores. The Artisan Market now has 25 vendors marketing their items. Junk in your trunk is an idea for vendors to come and have items for sale on the street. Eileen Quest is arranging music for downtown Amboy and flyers are being made to hand out to campers for the weekends. The website is almost finished and the banner will have the website information for everyone to view. We need to welcome all visitors to our community.

NEW BUSINESS

ANNOUNCE POPPY DAY PROCLAMATION- Mayor Nauman read the Poppy Day Proclamation for Memorial Day Weekend. Please show your support and purchase a poppy.

APPROVE 2014-2015 BUDGET-Motion to Approve 2014-2015 Budget made by Aldermen Hoy and Dewey. All Approved.

APPROVE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF PART-TIME EMPLOYEES RICHARD GEIGER AND WESLEY PIERCE-SEASONAL MOWING 2014.-Mayor Nauman explained that Richard Geiger is making more than Wesley Pierce however he will be the supervisor for the mowing crew. Also Wesley Pierce will be paid thru the BEST program. Alderman Schamberger explained that part time kids can apply and be paid by a grant thru the BEST program. Motion to Approve the Resolution for Hiring Part Time Seasonal Mowing Richard Geiger and Wesley Pierce made by Aldermen Schamberger and Stuckemeyer. All Approved.

APPROVE FULL TIME EMPLOYEE RAISES/EVALUATIONS EFFECTIVE - MAY 1st 2014. (.35) Motion to Approve Full Time Employee Raises made by Aldermen Hoy and Dewey. All Approved.

APPROVE 2014-2015 MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS-Alderman Hoy questioned if it was a conflict to have the Fire Chief on the Police Commission. If the two departments had an issue how would it be resolved since they work so closely. Attorney Matt Keegan does not feel it's a problem legally and since the police commission is only an advisory committee it should be fine. Mayor Nauman explained that Jeff Bryant Sr. wanted to be on the police commission to get more grants and help out the department in any way. Alderman Hoy explained he is already on the grant writing committee and can write grants whether he is on the police commission or not. It also just puts Jeff in a position that may not be good for him as fire chief. Jeff Blake questioned if there was a problem with Mike Koppien and Mayor Nauman had no problem with Mike Koppien he was just looking for a change in members and Jeff Bryant Sr. wanted to be on that committee. Sue England questioned why Alderman Hoy was being removed from the police commission. Mayor Nauman commented he is downsizing the committees. Attorney Matt Keegan explained that per the ordinance book it does not set any numbers for the committees.

However if Alderman Hoy wants to meet and review set committee appointments and descriptions of functions that can be done and updated. Motion to Approve 2014-2015 Mayor's Appointments made by Aldermen Stuckemeyer and Weidman. All Approved.

APPROVE NEW LOCATION CITY MAINTENANCE BUILDING-Alderman Schamberger would like to see the council look into the American Automotive location as the city would then not have to purchase property. The current location is not big enough for a new building and is in a flood zone. Motion to Approve the American Automotive Property for the New Maintenance Building Location made by Aldermen Schamberger and Dewey. Voting Yes-Weidman, Dewey, Schamberger and Stuckemeyer. Voting No- Hoy. Shaw –Absent - Passed 4-1.

APPROVE HIRING BUILDING ENGINEER-DEPOT MUSEUM/CHIMNEY REPAIRS-Mayor Nauman explained that the chimneys are leaking and the museum took bids however the bids were not all the same. So at this time a building engineer needs to be hired to make a recommendation to the city for repair work. Alderman Schamberger questioned which engineer would be contacted? The city has two engineer firms and can decide whom it wants to call to review the museum chimney repairs. Randy Singleton questioned if the bids were comparable that were submitted. Alderman Dewey explained that they were not and that is why the engineer needs to make a recommendation for the project. Motion to Approve Hiring Building Engineer –Depot Museum-Chimneys- made by Aldermen Schamberger and Hoy. All Approved.

APPROVE DARYL STUCKEMEYER LIASON-DOLLAR GENERAL- Mayor Nauman had wanted someone to contact Dollar General and at the Finance Meeting he asked if anyone had made contact and Alderman Hoy had emailed Dan Elkan. I want to ask the council again for Daryl Stuckemeyer to be the contact person. Attorney Keegan had spoken with Attorney Dana Considine regarding the Dollar General and they are to not make presentations until the project is ready. Per Attorney Dana Considine a letter from Mr. Elkan will be submitted to the city attorney with their requests for the Dollar General. At that time Attorney Keegan will advise the city. Mayor Nauman still thinks the city should have someone for a contact person. Aldermen Hoy explained that her and Alderman Weidman were not dropping the ball on this. Dollar General has been on the agenda and has not shown up for the council meetings. Alderman Hoy explained that Mr. Elkan advised her that he prefers emails and she and Alderman Weidman will continue to answer questions as he needs them answered. You cannot be the contact person and it is a conflict of interest so let us handle this. Mayor Nauman feels that no one has made contact for two months. Alderman Hoy cannot be responsible for him not showing up and if he won't email or respond that is not the city's problem. Mayor Nauman wants someone on the phone daily trying to contact them and get them to bring a Dollar Store to Amboy. Alderman Hoy and Weidman want to also discuss other locations and options with Mr Elkan and let us do our jobs. You are not suppose to have contact with Dollar General as Mayor. Mayor Nauman does not feel that Alderman Hoy or Weidman are contacting them enough. Mayor Nauman is asking for a motion. Alderman Schamberger is fine with this as long as Alderman Stuckemeyer is only a contact for the Dollar Store.

Motion to Approve Daryl Stuckemeyer as Dollar Store Liason made by Aldermen Schamberger. No Second. Motion Denied.

Building Inspectors Report-See Report.

Animal Report- See Report.

ATTORNEY CONCERNS-Nothing.

COUNCIL CONCERNS-

Alderman Hoy-As far as Alderman Schamberger's comment regarding not having Dennis Becker do the repairs to the city trucks. That is not what was meant, as far as any bids for city work we need to get more bids and give everyone a fair chance. Our job as elected officials is to get the best deal possible for the city. It has nothing to do with any individuals it just needs done in the right way.

Alderman Dewey-Nothing.

Alderman Schamberger-If a special meeting is going to be setup on June 2nd we need to meet with Al and each Aldermen regarding approval of estimates on MFT roads. On Monday there will be a service at 10am for Memorial Day.

Alderman Weidman-As far as contact with Dollar General he feels that we are not limiting it to just one store. We need to push for any new business to open in town and welcome everyone. We have a large empty building that needs to be filled and the city will be looking for any new business.

Alderman Stuckemeyer-Just so everyone knows that the Dollar General business profile is a location by itself with its own parking lot. It must be on the main highway with traffic. If we can keep 25% of our citizens from shopping out of town then we keep gas and other stores in business by doing so. If we talk to Jim Duntemann again he owns the land by Subway he may want to sell his lots. Dollar General prefers to have a new store built. They are interested in coming and believe that we have enough people that need items that a Dollar Store supplies.

MAYOR CONCERNS-Mayor Nauman explained that the properties that need mowed in town will be mowed. Sergeant Jeff Blake reported the homes must be posted for 7 days before the city can mow them. They will be mowed before the holiday weekend. The foreclosure homes are a problem but they will be cleaned up. Everyone have a great Memorial Day Weekend.

With no further business to come before the council the meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m. There were 23 people present in the audience.

Submitted by

Melissa Eisenberg, RMC
City Clerk-City of Amboy