

Council Minutes

FEBRUARY 19, 2002

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE ZION CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2002, AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE CITY
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, ZION, ILLINOIS**

Mayor Harrison called the meeting to order.

On call of the roll the following answered present: Commissioners DeTienne, Rogers, Bennett and Mayor Harrison. Commissioner Taylor arrived at 7:01 P.M.

Mayor Harrison led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

AGENDA CHANGES

It was moved by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Bennett to accept the Council agenda with amendments as follows: - Deleting an Ordinance authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Bonds for the purpose of defraying the cost of Sheridan Road and related improvements, item 9.b. - Adding to consider authorizing payment for trees for Sheridan Road streetscape, item 11.g. - Adding the discussion of pending litigation, purchase of real estate and personnel to Closed Session, item 14. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Rogers, aye; Bennett, aye; Taylor, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

LAKE COUNTY CLERK/VOTER REGISTRATION

Lake County Clerk Willard Helander gave a presentation regarding the new voter registration cards. All registered voters in Lake County should have received new cards indicating the new precinct numbers and polling places. Due to redistricting by the State, congressional districts have also changed. Additional information is available on the Lake County Clerk's web site.

DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Paul Bouchard, Chairman of the Downtown Redevelopment Program, gave an overview of the program. Mr. Bouchard stated committee chairmen are Daron Mackey, Finance, Tom Lay, Marketing, Doug Malcolm, Business Development and George Swade, Appearance. Finance Chairman Daron Mackey stated ample funds are still available for the project, and next year's budget will be ready soon for presentation to

the Council. Terry Jenkins and Sharon Curcio of Business Districts, Inc. presented the project's following accomplishments and priorities: - Recruitment - developers packets are being developed - Outreach - obtaining ideas from conferences and trade shows - Identify key development sites - Creation of a downtown web site to be linked to municipal site - Façade improvement program - Communication/media relations - Streetscape improvements The budget for 2002/03 will be presented in April. 2/19/02

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Bennett, seconded by Commissioner Taylor that the Consent Agenda be approved as follows: (a) MINUTES of a Regular Meeting and Closed Session held on February 5, 2002 at 7:00 P.M., with all members having previously received copies. (b) DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS: Detailed Revenue & Expense Report and Detailed Balance Sheet for period ending January 31, 2002; Building Inspector's Report, January, 2002; Public Works Department Report, January, 2002 (c) BILLS: Vouchers 78817 through 78941 drawn on the National City Bank, \$630,050.95; First Midwest Bank, \$5,397.91; Bridgeview Bank, \$21,342.32; Total: \$656,791.18 (d) PAYMENTS: Ancel, Glink, Diamond, Bush, DiCianni & Rolek, P.C., legal services, \$13,250.00, \$260.00, \$4,885.49, \$1,862.50, \$101.25, \$32.50, \$33.75, \$35.00, \$945.00, \$262.50, \$202.50; Total: \$21,870.49; Business Districts, Inc., services rendered on Downtown Redevelopment Program, \$5,084.34; Northern Illinois Police Crime Lab, FY 2002/2003 membership assessment, \$29,401.00; Illinois State Police Academy, enrollment for 4 recruits, \$7,328.48 The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Rogers, aye; Bennett, aye; Taylor, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Bessie Alexander thanked the Council for bringing new businesses to the city. Ms. Alexander stated she would like to see an Aldi's grocery store in Zion. Mayor Harrison stated this store has been considered, and meetings with the grocery store chain will continue.

Jim Howard questioned the status of the Newport Fire Protection District lawsuit. Mayor Harrison stated this is litigation and can't be discussed. Mr. Howard questioned what would happen if the proposed Newport referendum were approved. Mayor Harrison stated the township portion of the tax bill would go to Newport Township.

ZION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #6 REFERENDUM

Mayor Harrison stated local schools could lose many of their programs without passage of the referendums. Mayor Harrison stated two of the reasons the schools are in this situation are due to tax caps and the fact

the State doesn't amply fund education. It was moved by Commissioner Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Bennett that a Resolution (02-R-5) be passed supporting the Zion Elementary School District No. 6 referendum, which proposes to increase the annual tax rate for educational purposes. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Rogers, aye; Bennett, aye; Taylor, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried. Resolution passed.

ZION BENTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT #126 REFERENDUM

It was moved by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Rogers that a Resolution (02-R-6) be passed supporting the Zion Benton Township High School District No. 126 referendum, which proposes to increase the annual tax rate for educational purposes. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Rogers, aye; Bennett, aye; Taylor, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried. Resolution passed.

NUISANCE REGULATIONS

Commissioner Rogers stated a draft ordinance, establishing nuisance regulations for the City of Zion, has been reviewed by staff and the City Attorney. Health and safety issue regulations would be as follows: - Unsafe or unfit structures and premises - Nuisances dangerous to health - Chronic nuisance property abatement - Deposit of refuse Commissioner DeTienne proposed returning to utilizing a local court for hearing minor offenses. A local court would be convened with a judge hearing these cases, which would bring in income and not require staff to travel out of town for court. Commissioner Rogers requested the Council review these regulations and consider adoption of an ordinance at the next Council meeting. No action was taken on this item.

EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE

A memo (02-DOC-19) was received by Commissioner Bennett regarding the employees' health insurance. The current contract with Health Plan Management will expire May 1. Commissioner Bennett recommended authorizing a committee to solicit proposals for the purpose of hiring an insurance consultant. This consultant would be responsible for reviewing the City's health insurance plan, preparing bid specifications and assisting in evaluating bids. Commissioner Bennett recommended the committee be comprised of Commissioner Taylor, Commissioner Bennett and Judy Mackey. It was moved by Commissioner Rogers, seconded by Commissioner DeTienne to authorize formation of a committee of Commissioner Taylor, Commissioner Bennett and Judy Mackey for soliciting proposals for the purpose of hiring an insurance consultant. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Rogers, aye; Bennett, aye; Taylor, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

POLICE DEPT. FIELD TRAINING PROGRAM

A memo (02-DOC-20) was received from Acting Chief Larry Booth, requesting permission to waive bids and approve the purchase of Field Training and Evaluation software for the Police Department. The recommended software for the Field Training Program is from ADORE: MdE, Inc. for a total cost of \$3,410. The purchase would be made from the Police Drug Fund. It was moved by Commissioner DeTienne, seconded by Commissioner Taylor to waive bids and approve the purchase of Field Training and Evaluation software for the Police Department from ADORE: MdE, Inc. for a total cost of \$3,410. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Rogers, aye; Bennett, aye; Taylor, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

FIRE/RESCUE DEPT. COMPUTER SOFTWARE

A memo (02-DOC-21) was received from Chief LaBelle, requesting permission to waive bids and approve the purchase of computer software for the fire-reporting program for the Fire/Rescue Department. This software would allow the Police and Fire dispatchers to automatically share information. The software is only available from New World Systems/Visionary Systems at a total cost of \$7,500. Upon execution of an agreement, 60% or \$3,000 to New World Systems would need to be paid with the balance due upon installation. Funding for this project would come from the Illinois First Technology Grant. It was moved by Commissioner DeTienne, seconded by Commissioner Bennett to waive bids and approve the purchase of software for the fire reporting program for the Fire/Rescue Department from New World Systems/Visionary Systems at a total cost of \$7,500. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Rogers, aye; Bennett, aye; Taylor, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

ENGINEERING INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

A memo (02-DOC-22) was received from Brian Usher, requesting permission to form an agreement with Marquette University for the Engineering Internship Program. This program provides two engineering interns at a pay rate of \$11.00 per hour. Engineering students have been utilized in the past with great success. This program would be an on-going program throughout the year. The total annual cost for both interns would be \$22,800. It was moved by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Bennett to grant permission to enter into an Engineering Internship Program Agreement with Marquette University for two engineering interns to be compensated at a rate of \$11.00 per hour. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Rogers, aye; Bennett, aye; Taylor, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

TAB OF BIDS/ROUTE 173 WATER MAIN INSTALLATION

A Tabulation of Bids (02-DOC-23) was received from Brian Usher regarding the water main installation on Route 173. Mr. Usher recommended awarding the contract to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder, Lake County Grading Company, in the amount of \$420,847.00. This work was included in the 2001 Water and Sewer Bond. It was moved by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Bennett to award the contract for the Route 173 water main installation to Lake County Grading Company in the amount of \$420,847.00. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Rogers, aye; Bennett, aye; Taylor, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

ILLINOIS DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES GRANT

A memo (02-DOC-24) was received from Peter Cioni, recommending that a grant application be filed with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Among the eligible projects is the elimination of brownfield sites. Mr. Cioni stated it appears the old candy factory would fall under this grant, whereby the state would finance 80% of the clean up costs. Mr. Cioni estimated it would cost a minimum of \$170,000 to return this property to a clean site. It was moved by Commissioner Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Bennett that a Resolution (02-R-7) be passed authorizing the filing of an application with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Office of Water Resources for a grant under the Illinois-Great Lakes Coastal Restoration Grant Program. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Rogers, aye; Bennett, aye; Taylor, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried. Resolution passed.

SHERIDAN ROAD STREETScape TREES

A memo (02-DOC-25) was received from Brian Usher, requesting a deposit be made for trees for the Sheridan Road Streetscape Project. The deposit would allow for tagging the appropriate trees needed for this project. Area nurseries have indicated they expect a shortage of trees by this summer. Mr. Usher recommended authorizing a payment to Mill Creek Nursery in the amount of \$4,544.00. The City would be reimbursed from bond proceeds for money spent on these trees. Commissioner Bennett stated the Council has not approved the plan regarding the number, type and placement of trees to be planted. Mr. Usher stated this request will allow the City to tag an appropriate number of trees to start the project. Mayor Harrison stated plan details have been decided upon by staff and consultants at Baxter & Woodman. The total cost for all trees would be approximately \$22,720.00. Mill Creek Nursery has agreed to commit to the following prices: 32 - Chanticleer pear trees - 2 ½ @ \$200/tree = \$ 6,400 32 - Chanticleer pear trees - 4 ½ @ \$475/tree = \$15,200 4 - Skyline locust trees - 4" @\$280/tree = \$ 1,120 2/19/02 It was moved by Commissioner Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Taylor to authorize payment to Mill Creek Nursery for a tree deposit in the amount of \$4,544.00 for the Sheridan Road Streetscape Project with prices and trees to be purchased as recommended. The vote on roll call was:

Commissioner DeTienne, aye; Rogers, aye; Bennett, aye; Taylor, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 27	ZBTHS Parent B Network fundraiser
March 5	City Council Meeting
March 9	Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast
March 15	Blood Drive at Zion City Hall
March 19	Zion Township Board meeting

CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Commissioner DeTienne, seconded by Commissioner Taylor that the Council recess to Closed Session at 8:29 p.m. to discuss probable litigation, pending litigation, the purchase of real estate and personnel. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Rogers, aye; Bennett, aye; Taylor, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Bennett to reconvene the Regular Council meeting at 9:47 p.m. with all members present. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Rogers, aye; Bennett, aye; Taylor, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

PURCHASE OF PROPERTIES

Mayor Harrison stated the Council feels the purchase of two properties, as discussed during Closed Session, is in the best interest of the City. The purchases would appropriately utilize money from the Economic Development Fund. It was moved by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Rogers to authorize the City Attorney to prepare contracts for the purchase of 2805 Elisha Avenue, Zion, Illinois in the amount of \$109,000, with funds to be utilized from the Economic Development Fund, and also authorizing the Mayor to sign said contracts. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Rogers, aye; Bennett, aye; Taylor, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Rogers, seconded by Commissioner DeTienne to authorize the City Attorney to prepare contracts for the purchase of 2700 Sheridan Road, Zion, Illinois in the amount of \$250,000, with funds to be utilized from the Economic Development Fund, and also authorizing the Mayor to sign said contracts. The vote on roll call was:

Commissioners DeTienne, aye; Rogers, aye; Bennett, aye; Taylor, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, it was moved by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner DeTienne and unanimously approved the meeting be adjourned at 9:57 p.m. Motion carried.