

## **SPECIAL/REGULAR MEETING OF THE LEXINGTON CITY COUNCIL**

January 9, 2017

The special meeting of the Lexington City Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor, John Mohr, in the City Council Chambers at Lexington City Hall.

**Business Builders Ongoing City Advertising Discussions:** Erica Kaiping will be leaving Business Builders effective January 20, 2017. A new account rep will be assigned to assist the City with communications and promotion plans. The City's contract with Business Builders ends at the end of February. A proposal for re-newel has been submitted. Mayor Mohr suggested that we try to match the term of the agreement with our fiscal year for simpler budgeting and accounting. The new contract could focus on performance and enhancements to our social media platforms and content.

Our Home Market ad with the Pantagraph will run through August 17<sup>th</sup>. The artwork will be rotated to keep the image fresh. The photograph of the top of the Fireside Inn building will be replaced with an image of the Community Center. The video running in local movie theaters ends the weekend of January 14<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Mohr asked that the video be provided to Star Torkelson to publish on the City's Facebook page as a boosted post to reach surrounding communities.

Production of a second video is included in our current contract. It is being scripted and will feature testimonials from City residents. The residents have been identified and a questionnaire has been sent to them. Video appointments are being scheduled. It was suggested that local photographer, Jeff Daw, bring his drone video footage to the first Council meeting in February to review. The Council would consider adding this material to our library for use in other promotional pieces.

Trade show display items were discussed including a table cover and retractable banner. Mayor Mohr asked that a decision on purchasing these items be postponed until a new contract could be considered.

Web site analytics were reviewed and showed good activity. Majority of hits were occurring from sites in Bloomington, Chicago, Normal and Fairbury. Approximately 65% of the website activity was coming from computer operating systems while 35% were coming from mobile devices.

Business Builders will return on February 13<sup>th</sup> to continue discussions beginning at 6:30 pm.

The regular Council Meeting was called to order at 7:30pm.

Roll call was taken to find the following physically present: Alderman Miller, Alderman Johansen, Alderman Meyer, Alderman Richard, Alderman Cole and Alderman Stover. Members of the staff and public present were: Melanie Kunkel, Dave Belvery, Isaac Martin, James DePaepe, Jr, Foxx Beasley, Dominic Martin, Camden Hardman and Jon Kemp.

It was moved by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Johansen to approve the minutes from the December 12, 2016 council meeting. Motion carries unanimously.

It was moved by Alderman Stover and seconded by Alderman Meyer to approve the treasurer's report and pay bills from December 29<sup>th</sup> (due to the cancellation of the December 26<sup>th</sup> council meeting) in the amount of \$36,345.42 and approve the treasurer's report and pay the current bills in the amount \$28,455.01. Motion carried unanimously.

**Public Input:** James DePaepe came with the local Boy Scouts who are earning a badge that requires them to sit in on a public meeting. James explained to the council that he and his family are participating in a fundraiser to raise awareness for the homeless population through Home Sweet Home Ministries in Bloomington. He and his family will be spending the night in a car and need to raise \$1,000 and he is asking the city for a donation to help with the cause. Alderman Johansen noted that the council had previously discussed not using taxpayer money for donations. James also asked if the city could share the fundraising information on the city's Facebook page. Mayor agreed to share the information via the city's social media pages and explained to James that, due to Open Meetings Act policies, the Council can only vote on items that are listed on the agenda.

Jon Kemp came to ask that any change in the liquor code for extended hours on Sunday including changing the start time to 8:00 a.m. so he can begin serving breakfast/brunch that would include mimosas and Bloody Mary's. The current code does not allow alcohol to be sold before noon on Sundays which would prevent him from serving alcoholic breakfast drinks. He noted that the town of Normal has this time restriction on Sunday mornings as well and he feels changing the hours to accommodate these types of drinks will set Lexington apart.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

**Zoning Updates:** Alderman Johansen noted that he had a meeting with Dave Jenkins to iron out some of the current communication issues. He felt the meeting was real productive. Alderman Johansen noted that a lot of the missing permits were either on Dave's computer in Leroy or his computer here in Lexington. Many of the permits had not been printed and placed in the file. Alderman Johansen recommends Mike Beard to be the contact/ground person here in Lexington to help answer questions, check boundary pins and print/distribute permits after they've been approved by Dave. Alderman Johansen noted that salary compensation for Mike is not necessary for the rest of this fiscal year but would be a topic for discussion during budget planning. Dave Jenkins will set Mike up to take some online classes and Aldermans Cole and Richard noted that any costs associated with these classes should be covered by the city. Alderman Johansen noted that Mike has expressed interest in continuing this job beyond his retirement.

**Liquor Code Review/Revision:** DAT Bar has had some problems with the current code hours for Sunday night football events. They have been open for football games that start late and causing them to have to ask patrons to leave before the games are over. Our current code provides for Sunday hours of 12:00pm to 10:30 pm. And if December 31<sup>st</sup> falls on Sunday, such hours shall be from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. Alderman Richard would like those Sunday hours changed to 8:00 a.m. to Midnight on Sundays and 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. on December 31<sup>st</sup> when it falls on a Sunday. Motion by Alderman Richard and second by Alderman Miller to approve the above

changes which will be submitted to the city attorney to draft as an amendment to the current liquor code. Alderman Cole questioned whether the council should consider requiring a certain amount of food to be served on Sunday mornings in order for liquor to be served in an attempt to get Jon Kemp to open his other restaurant. Alderman Richard noted that he feels Jon's objective is to open the other restaurant for breakfast/brunch which is why he is asking for a change in the service hours on Sunday mornings. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Mayor:** Mayor has spoken to representatives at Breakthru Beverage (Wirtz) who are close to submitting a list of TIF eligible expenses as per the Redevelopment Agreement in order to obtain their property tax reimbursement. Mayor noted that the City's share of these property taxes will pay for approximately 20% of the new water treatment plant. Mayor ran into Jon Johnston, Procurement Manager for City of Bloomington, who did the City's grant paper work at Farnsworth for a number of years. He reflected on his work that helped to secure over \$13 million in grant money for City projects.

**Police:** Part time police officer, Mick Humer, graduated from the part time police training academy. Chief noted that Creve Coeur will not allow us to borrow an in car video camera at this time. He has secured a replacement. Chief spoke regarding a six week trial agreement with Lexus Nexus for an electronic citation program. The activity report was distributed to all council members.

**Building/Insurance:** Alderman Richard spoke with the insurance company and issued a reminder that they would like the city to secure Hold Harmless Agreements for every sub-contractor hired.

**Finance/TIF:** Alderman Stover noted he'd like to be added to the first meeting in February to wrap up TIF grant application revisions.

**Water:** Alderman Cole provided an update on the roofing of the new water treatment plant building.

**Sanitation:** Alderman Johansen noted he and Star had a wrap up meeting with those involved with Christmas on the Prairie. Interest has been expressed in a Chamber of Commerce. Alderman Johansen sent out mailings regarding same. He also noted that the interest in the old Filling Station is looking good as the individual has secured financing and will be closing soon.

**Streets/Alleys:** Alderman Miller would like to see the city put a light on the corner of Orange and Route 66 as that intersection is very dark. Mayor inquired as to the blueprints the state has to reconfigure that intersection. Alderman Miller noted that his father spoke with someone who indicated there is no longer any funding from the state for that project.

There being no further business, it was moved by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Meyer to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved 1/23/2017

Melanie Kunkel, City Clerk