

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LEXINGTON CITY COUNCIL

February 27, 2017

The regular meeting of the Lexington City Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor, John Mohr, in the City Council Chambers at Lexington City Hall.

Roll call was taken to find the following physically present: Alderman Miller, Alderman Cole, Alderman Johansen, Alderman Meyer, and Alderman Stover. Alderman Richard was absent. Members of the staff and public present were: Melanie Kunkel, David Belvery, Mark Witherell and John Colclasure.

It was moved by Alderman Cole and seconded by Alderman Johansen to approve the minutes from the February 13, 2017 council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Alderman Stover and seconded by Alderman Cole to approve the treasurer's report and pay bills in the amount of \$518,675.26. This includes a pay request for the water treatment plant and TIF redevelopment agreement payments in the amount of roughly \$35,000. Mayor noted that the rest of the tax money captured for those properties is being used to pay for about half the cost of the water treatment plant. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Input: Mark Witherell addressed the council with regard to some recently sold properties and asked specifically about the old Filling Station. He noted that while there is a sold sign on the property, it is highly unusual that the MLS does not reflect a pending sale. Mr. Witherell inquired as to whether or not the city used any money to help the buyer's purchase of the property. Mayor noted that he was not involved in any discussions pertaining to the sale or purchase of the old Filling Station. Alderman Johansen indicated that he is not aware of any monies promised or given to the current buyer from the city to aid in his purchase.

Old Business:

TIF Grant Application Revisions: Alderman Stover would like this item forwarded to the next meeting.

New Business:

Show Bus Donation: The council has approved a donation in past years for the Show Bus as it does provide reliable transportation for seniors and because it has been a useful service to our residents, Mayor feels it appropriate to make a donation. Motion by Alderman Miller and second by Alderman Johansen to approve a \$500 donation to the Show Bus. Alderman Meyer commented that the Show Bus receives a substantial grant from the County Board and asked if the Mayor is aware if other towns make donations. He also inquired as to whether or not the Show Bus provides any accountability for where the city's donation goes. Mayor noted that to date the city has not received any information from Show Bus and will send a letter with this donation asking for information. Alderman Meyer noted that he is not against the Show Bus and agrees they provide a great service to those in need, however, he feels they should be providing the city with information as to what the donations are used for. Motion carries unanimously.

Approval of Monthly Charge for Orange St. Street Light: Alderman Miller noted that the street light has been installed. Motion by Alderman Miller and second by Alderman Meyer to approve the recurring monthly charge of \$8.35 for this light. Motion carries unanimously.

High Point Hill Redevelopment Agreement Closeout: Larry Reece is trying to closeout his interest in that area. The redevelopment agreement called for 20 payments over a 20 year period. There would be one payment left after 2016 and it is a partial payment. Mr. Reece has asked that next year's payment be lumped into this year's payment. Doing so will close out the redevelopment agreement with High Point Hill. Alderman Stover asked if the payments were lumped together now would the city still be liable to make the 20th payment next year. Because Mr. Reece is currently trying to sell the property, council questioned whether or not the agreement would stay with the property and then a 20th payment would need to be made to the new owner next year. Mayor is withdrawing this question from the agenda at this time so he can review the redevelopment agreement.

Committee Reports:

Mayor: Mayor met with CornBelt Energy and their Economical Energy staff. He noted that they have their eye on cities that have solid infrastructure and Lexington is one of them. Big energy users would come to them and ask about sites available for development. The Economical Energy staff are interested in highlighting some of the parcels out by I-55 for development and they also noted that they provide grants for businesses. Mayor circulated a confidential letter sealed in an envelope to each Alderman and asked that they treat the contents confidentially.

Police: Alderman Meyer asked about the vehicle replacement line item in the budget. He noted that the line numbers on his report don't match up with the current budget printout. By the end of the meeting Alderman Meyer found what he was looking for.

Building/Insurance: None

Finance/TIF: None

Water: Billy DuBois completed some training with the city's insurance company. He noted that construction workers are 45% done with the piping out at the water treatment plant. The tanks have been installed and the roof is being put on.

Sanitation: Alderman Johansen noted that Bob Brown purchased Anderson's corner and will be opening a bakery. Chamber of Commerce had their first meeting and all went well. Alderman Johansen's noted that his wife's employer, Metagenics Midwest donated their used office furniture for the office out at the water treatment plant. He also noted that Bill Elias did a car count on Main Street and found that in a 24 hour period 1300 cars drove down Main Street.

Streets/Alleys: Alderman Miller met with Bill about meeting to go over their budget. He noted that Bill expressed an interest in using Motor Fuel funds to pick a specific street every year and fixing it or repaving it. Alderman Johansen would like to see them start at the school and move out from there. Alderman Cole noted that the storm sewer needs to be redone before any streets are repaved as once the storm sewer is done, the roads will settle and any new paving will need to be fixed. Bill and the Mayor had previously sketched a storm sewer map with Farnsworth's help and submitted it to McLean County's IT department to add another layer to the county's GIS system. They are currently working on getting that layer added.

The budget workshop is scheduled for Saturday, April 8th at 8:30 am.

There being no further business, it was moved by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Johansen to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Kunkel, City Clerk

Approved: 3/13/17