

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE LEXINGTON CITY COUNCIL**  
September 8, 2016

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, Alderman Richard and Alderman Stover. Members of the staff and public present were: Star Torkelson, Don Cavallini, Jim Groth, David Belvery and Weiland Torkelson.

It was moved by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Cole to approve the minutes from the August 22, 2016 council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Alderman Stover and seconded by Alderman Johansen to approve the treasurer's report and pay bills in the amount of \$13,248.14. Motion carried unanimously.

**Public Input:** Resident Jim Groth presented the council with an idea to extend the Christmas on the Prairie festivities on December 3, 2016. Jim Groth would like to have a Christmas tree lighting ceremony along with possibly including the High School band and choir. There are two pine trees at the City Park by the memorial that Jim thought would be ideal. Alderman Miller asked who would do the work to install the lights and Jim Groth advised he would gather volunteers if needed. Mayor Mohr advised that it will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

**Ordinance Defining WTP Loan Repayment Plan:** An ordinance pledging revenue from various funds of the City of Lexington to pay debt service on IEPA Loan No. L17-4815. Mayor Mohr outlined the details of the payment plan for the new IEPA loan. Each 'Whereas' was read aloud and discussed by Mayor Mohr. Mayor Mohr noted that he is hoping to come in \$200,000 under the cap amount of the approved IEPA loan amount. Mayor Mohr continued by explaining that this ordinance was needed to meet an EPA requirement to itemize where the revenue would be coming from to cover the EPA payments. Alderman Cole asked about water meters and if that was figured in to the EPA loan amount. Mayor Mohr advised that those could be included as part of the new loan if needed, but for now the purchase of new meters has been put on hold. Purchasing new radio read meters can be addressed once the loan payment amount has been established. Mayor Mohr also advised that water rate increase is also an option long term as needed for a cushion. Alderman Richard suggested raising the water rates \$0.03 to stay ahead of the payments. Mayor Mohr advised the first payment should be around June 2017 and also mentioned that he doesn't see any reason for the City to not stay on contract with final loan amount. Noted that the contract for the sewer connection project stayed on contract cost. Alderman Meyer asked for a picture to be taken of the white board outlining the payment plan to

be attached to the ordinance for future reference. Motion made by Alderman Meyer and second by Alderman Miller to approve Ordinance No 2016-9. Motion carries unanimously.

**Route 66 Park Sign:** Alderman Johansen advised the council that he has been working with Fran Turgeon on the Rt. 66 Park. They are wanting to highlight Lexington on a Rt. 66 sign. Alderman Johansen has received a quote from Super Signs in Bloomington to recreate the old gas station signs to also include arrows to indicate where the gas stations were. After researching different options, Alderman Johansen and Fran Turgeon created a plan for a 3'x8' sign to be made for \$416.00. The sign could be ready by October. Alderman Johansen advised that they are also working on another project to promote and list local retail businesses. Alderman Richard asked that the retail sign be easily changed as businesses get added and removed. Alderman Cole asked for Business Builders to be a part of promoting local businesses and taking on the project. Alderman Meyer asked about the additional cost for mounting the sign. Alderman Johansen advised that the sign would be attached to the frame already in place for the Rt. 66 Park. Alderman Meyer inquired as to what fund would cover the expense of the new Rt. 66 park sign. Mayor Mohr suggested Main St, civic project, 22.22.170, could be used to cover the expense. Mayor asks for a motion to approve the signage for Rt. 66 Park to be paid out of the Main St. fund. Motion by Alderman Richard, second by Alderman Miller. Motion carries unanimously.

**Closed Session under section 2.(c)(5) ILCS – Property Acquisition:** Motion by Alderman Meyer, second by Alderman Miller to enter closed session at 8:10pm. Motion carries unanimously

### **Committee Reports:**

**Mayor:** Mayor Mohr advised that the EAV report has been emailed to the aldermen. The new EAV report shows an increase of 2.8% over last year. Slightly ahead of inflation. Mayor Mohr knows that there are more projects that are not being captured by building permits and asked for council help in reporting such projects. Alderman Richard stated he would start going thru them in the near future. Mayor Mohr also informed the council that there is a local resident interested in the position of Building Inspector/Code Compliance Officer. Jimmy Evans, who owns a home inspection business in Lexington, will be submitting a resume for review. Mayor Mohr advised that Jimmy Evans would take on the new home construction and remodeling projects for the City and Farnsworth would still oversee the larger projects.

**Police:** Alderman Meyer distributed the monthly Police report and indicated that it has been a busy month for the Police Department, but nothing new to present.

**Building/Insurance:** Alderman Richard notified that it was time to begin working on the employee health insurance for the next year. He advised that increases would be coming based on the insurance industry and that the election in November might play a role in increase. Alderman Richard advised that he will now more in November. Richard mentioned that the health savings fund and different employee options will need to be discussed in the near future.

**Finance/TIF:** None

**Water:** Nothing from Alderman Cole. Mayor Mohr mentioned an upcoming ground breaking ceremony for the new water treatment plant.

**Sanitation:** None

**Streets/Alleys:** Alderman Miller indicated that he spoke with Lindenbaum regarding the grass not being cut by Lindenbaum's neighbor, Steve Ross. Options to resolve are to issue ordinance violations until the weeds are cut down, or have the Public Works employees mow it down. The Street Dept will be asked to mow it down this one time.

There being no further business, it was moved by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Meyer to adjourn at 9:23 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Star Torkelson, Deputy Clerk

Approved: