

## REGULAR MEETING OF THE LEXINGTON CITY COUNCIL

April 9, 2012

The regular meeting of the Lexington City Council was called to order at 7:47 p.m. by Mayor Mohr in the City Council Chambers at Lexington City Hall.

Roll call was taken to find the following physically present: Mayor Mohr, Alderman Cole, Alderman Higgins, Alderman Miller, Alderman Revelle, and Alderman Winterland. Alderman Brill was absent. Members of the staff and public present were: Melanie Kunkel, Bill Elias, Dave Schneider, Don Cavallini, Dan McDaniels, Matt Cheever, Sara Emberton, Anita Martin, Terry Martin, Niki Thomas, Christine Doll, Greg Crewe (MSA Professional Services), Tom O’Kite (MSA Professional Services), Connie Lindenbaum, and John Lindenbaum.

It was moved by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Cole to approve the March 26, 2012 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Alderman Winterland and seconded by Alderman Revelle to approve the Treasurer’s Report and authorize payment of bills in the sum of \$24,158.10 of which approximately \$9,500 was payment of an Allied Waste services bill. Motion carried unanimously.

**Public Input-** John and Connie Lindenbaum circulated a copy of an email they sent regarding issues with the accumulation of a neighbor’s garbage cans permanently placed at the entrance of their property. They are asking the council for assistance with dealing with their neighbor and removing the accumulated garbage cans. Mayor indicated that the council would consult the code book to see if there are any code violations. Bill Elias noted that the garbage cans have become a street issue as the road is deteriorating and he would be discussing same with homeowner Steve Ross. Mr. Lindenbaum has asked the council to consider allowing them to beautify the area where the garbage cans currently sit once the cans have been removed.

Dan McDaniels addressed the problems regarding pit bulls in the community. In the past few weeks there have been two bites, with one dog having to be destroyed. Dan passed out an article regarding a ban on pit bulls in a Nebraska town. Mayor noted that he has been in contact with the city’s attorney, Mike Tibbs, who is drafting an ordinance regarding the handling of vicious dogs. Anita Martin, Terry Martin, Christine Doll, Sara Emberton and Matt Cheever discussed their individual run-ins with unrestrained pit bulls as well as other loose dogs in the neighborhood. Most expressed concern with what the city code deems as acceptable fencing and are asking that the code be tightened for individuals who do not contain their animals. They also asked that a dog deemed vicious, regardless of breed, be dealt with by the city in a swift manner as to avoid future bites.

Greg Crewe with MSA Professional Services discussed his ability to provide the city with a development feasibility study. Mayor has asked the council to consider this study so he can have a cash flow analysis as a marketing tool to possibly market private investment to potential developers. Tom Okite discussed his ability to provide the city with a pavement analysis profile which would give the street department insight as to the current condition of city streets as well as provide a plan to care for the roads in the future.

## **Old Business:**

- 1) **Police Department Business: (1) Police Chief's Report:** Dave reported that he is currently working on a list of properties whose grass/weeds are on the cusp of needing attention. Dave discussed the recent school lock down where a single .22 shell was found on the floor in the Ag shop. The student had the round in his jacket pocket. It was an isolated incident and the student was disciplined. Dave indicated the schools lock down plan worked well and he and Dan McDaniels are going to set up a disaster drill for the school. Dave also noted that he has worked a couple of felony theft arrests.
- 2) **Ordinance Violation Update:** The tanning building ownership issue is still not resolved. Dave Jenkins has a commitment from Virginia Grady for her to demolish the home and the shed sometime this spring or summer. The Jaycee Hall has been inspected and was found to have several brick issues and electrical problems. The building was inspected with the owner along with experts in demolition and historical restoration. There are a wide range of possibilities with this building that will be discussed at the budget meeting.

## **New Business:**

**Animal Control Procedures/Vicious Dog Ordinance/Animal Control Fines-** Dan McDaniels would like to see the current ordinance tightened via increased fines. He would like to take a vicious dog straight to County rather than keeping the dog here, and, among other items, he'd like the authority to determine that the housing for a vicious dog is sufficient for what type of animal they are trying to keep in. He'd also like a requirement that the dogs be registered with the city. Mayor noted that the attorney will have something for the council to consider in the near future and asked Dan to provide him with his list so it can be forwarded to the attorney for review and possible inclusion in the ordinance.

**Mowing Liens-** Mayor discussed possibly hiring an outside service to mow yards that are not being cared for by residents. That way there would be a proper paper trail via the company's invoice. Alderman Miller added placing a note in the city newsletter as a blanket warning to all residents that if their yards are not kept to code, the city will mow and file a lien on the property. Mayor recommends the council read through the nuisance code and come back with any questions. In the meantime he will add those notes to the city newsletter.

**Closed Meeting Minutes Review** – This topic was passed to Don Revelle to schedule a meeting with the review committee to review closed minutes.

**Wooden Hare Roof Repair** - There have not been any leaks inside the building, however, the roof appearance is showing a lot of wear. Paul has asked for some bids from roofing companies that will be reviewed at the next meeting.

## **Committee Reports:**

**Mayor:** - Parker Kemp called asking to provide city water to one of his properties that is not within city limits as they are having problems with their well. Mayor had a meeting with Farnsworth, which yielded two ways to provide that service. Water goes out there by Barker Chevrolet and a curb stop could be constructed and then the homeowner would be required to run the water through his property to the house. The other option would be a water main extension down PJ Keller Highway which would be very expensive. Mayor has asked Bill Elias

and Alderman Cole to look into the possibility of connecting that property. Mayor attended a meeting for the Central Illinois Broadband Network. They are installing fiber optic cable with 50 partners over 200 cities. One of those cities will be Lexington and buildings such as City Hall and the school are a few that will benefit from this service. The meeting focused on construction which will begin here in the fall. The cost will be comparable or less than what is currently being paid. The IEPA loan disbursement was requested last week. A prefeasibility study for a new water plant and tower is being considered. That would include an analysis of the existing wells and water quality so a decision can be made as to what type of treatment plant the city will need. This topic will be considered in the budget meeting. Regarding the Jaycee Hall inspection, the cost of repairing the building versus tearing it down ranges from \$50,000 to \$150,000.

**Police:** - None

**Building/Insurance-** Alderman Miller received a note from the city's health insurance company looking for a 1/2% premium increase. The council was very happy with the minor increase.

**Finance/TIF-** A budget meeting has been scheduled for Monday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.

**Water-** None

**Sanitation-** None

**Streets/Allys-** Alderman Revelle discussed the large generator left over at the old fire station. It is extremely heavy and is of no use to the city. There is an individual who is interested in purchasing it and, in exchange, the street department is looking into purchasing a new generator that would be portable on a trailer and could be more useful to the city. Mayor noted that he will need to use the current generator for the Red Carpet Corridor but if the street department could arrange for an even exchange prior to the event, he could use what they get.

There being no further business, it was moved by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Winterland to adjourn at 9:40 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Kunkel, City Clerk

Approved: 4/23/2012