

## REGULAR MEETING OF THE LEXINGTON CITY COUNCIL

January 27, 2014

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: Mayor Mohr, Alderman Cole, Alderman Johansen, Alderman Miller, Alderman Phelps, and Alderman Revelle. Members of the staff and public present were: Melanie Kunkel, Mike Beard, Billy DuBois, Jeff Thomas, Jay Capps, Stephen Fosen and Kristen Sinnett.

It was moved by Alderman Miller and second by Alderman Cole to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2014 Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Alderman Revelle and second by Alderman Johansen to approve the treasurer's report and pay bills in the amount of \$38,427.53. Motion carried unanimously.

**Public Input:** Jeff Thomas addressed the council regarding his interest in filling Hank Brill's seat for Alderman in Ward 3. Jay Capps addressed the council regarding the city's dog ordinance. He feels some of the definitions in the current code are unclear regarding containment and/or leash laws. He feels the ordinance is being enforced improperly as no city official ever witnessed his dog off his property. He'd like his ordinance violations dismissed.

Kristen Sinnett, who also received an ordinance violation for her dog running at large, expressed frustration with her neighbor and questions whether or not there is any validity to the neighbor's complaints. Mayor asked for time to research the current ordinance and speak with the city's attorney.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:**

**Acceptance of Resignation of Alderman Hank Brill:** Alderman Brill resigned his position as Alderman at the end of the last council meeting following a move to Chicago to spend more time with his family. Motion by Alderman Johansen and second by Alderman Revelle to accept the resignation of Alderman Hank Brill. Motion carries unanimously.

**Confirm Appointment of Steve Fosen to Ward 3 Alderman:** Mayor noted that he has spent some time talking to potential replacements for Alderman Brill. Some residents in Ward 3 have recommended Steve Fosen. Mr. Fosen has a daughter in Lexington Junior High School. He has professional experience as a CPA and currently farms near Pontiac. Steve and his family live in the Meadow Ridge Subdivision. Motion by Alderman Revelle, second by Alderman Phelps to confirm the appointment of Steve Fosen for Alderman Ward 3. Alderman Johansen asked that next time the council be given more time to consider appointments. Motion carries with a vote of 3 yes, 1 present (which counts with the majority) and 1 no.

**Landscape Waste Code Enforcement and Pick Up Plan:** Alderman Cole proposes this ordinance. Motion by Alderman Cole and second by Alderman Miller to adopt Ordinance 2014-1 an Ordinance Amending Chapter 118 of the city code for the Purpose of Establishing Rules

and Regulations with Respect to Yard Waste and the Collection of Brush and Limbs. Alderman Revelle is dissatisfied with the language limiting residents to 2 loader buckets of yard waste before being charged a fee. He feels there should not be a limit or a fee. Motion by Alderman Johansen and second by Alderman Miller to amend the main motion by striking the second sentence to the end of the paragraph in Section 1(c) effectively eliminating the 2 bucket limit. The amendment was approved by unanimous roll call vote. A vote on the amended main motion, to accept Ordinance 2014-1, carries unanimously as well.

**WTP Phase II Engineering Proposal:** Mike Beard, Alderman Cole and Billy DuBois had a meeting at Farnsworth regarding research for the new water treatment plant options. The two processes they are currently looking at are reverse osmosis and ion exchange. The next phase is to prepare the design of the plant. Both of those treatment processes can fit the plant design they are looking at. Mayor commented that the revolving loan fund from the IEPA has an interest rate at about 1.9%; however, there is currently no grant money available. Some TIF revenue and some of the surplus in the water fund will make the payments on the future IEPA low interest loan. There is also \$850,000-900,000 set aside in the water fund for this project including the studies provided by Farnsworth. Mayor recommends that the council approve the proposal. Motion by Alderman Cole and second by Alderman Revelle to approve the Phase 2 Engineering proposal and proceed with the planning process. Motion carries unanimously.

**An Ordinance Vacating Certain Sewer Easements:** Mayor worked with Mike Tibbs to separate the two questions of vacating the obsolete sewer easements and vacating the obsolete Jenny Lane in the KW Subdivision to make the questions more clear to the council and community. Mayor would like the council to pass these two ordinances to support the developer so they can begin selling building lots to prospective buyers. Motion by Alderman Phelps and second by Alderman Miller to approve Ordinance 2014-2 vacating the sewer easements. Motion carries unanimously.

**An Ordinance Vacating Jenny Lane ROW:** Motion by Alderman Miller and second by Alderman Phelps to accept Ordinance 2014-3 vacating the Jenny Lane right of way in the KW Subdivision. Motion carries unanimously.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Mayor:** Mayor noted that the meeting on January 25<sup>th</sup> with the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Planning Commission was very useful. The objective was for the committees to review their roles and responsibilities. Both of those committees are short of members. Mayor asked council to consider potential candidates and make recommendations for appointments. One opinion that came out of the January 25<sup>th</sup> meeting was to maintain the current commercial zoning around Dollar General. Alderman Johansen noted that Don Cavallini recommended this meeting but was in Florida at the time while the rest of us were freezing here in Illinois.

**Police:** Alderman Phelps confirmed with Alderman Cole that his complaints pertaining to Michael Powell commercial equipment storage have been resolved. He also noted that he circulated a memo to city employees informing them that any complaints received from residents must be documented in writing to generate a paper trail. Police department is still waiting for their new uniforms. There was a burglary and the suspect was apprehended. Dave has been working hard to get the city in compliance with the state. Alderman Cole asked again about Dave circulating a work schedule for the police officers. Alderman Phelps told Alderman Cole he would email those schedules because of concern of a paper schedule floating around for

anyone to see. Mayor would like to treat the schedule confidentially to prevent anyone intending to commit a crime from knowing the police schedule. Alderman Johansen asked Alderman Phelps to check on the ordinance violation issued to Ernie Swartz as he understands that it has still not been paid.

**Building/Insurance:** Alderman Miller noted that Devin Bernstein, the city's health insurance provider, has hired several new employees to assist in paperwork for employee reimbursements.

**Finance/TIF:** None

**Water:** None

**Sanitation:** Alderman Johansen asked Mayor about the bid process for the old Jacyee Hall. Mayor noted that he, Farnsworth and Jon Kemp have been working together on the specifications and they are now finalized and will be going out for bid. Mayor noted he would forward the specs to Alderman Johansen for his review.

**Streets/Alleys:** None

There being no further business, it was moved by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Johansen to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Kunkel, City Clerk

Approved: 2/10/2014