

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LEXINGTON CITY COUNCIL
December 8, 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.

Mayor led the council in the pledge of allegiance.

Roll call was taken to find the following physically present: Mayor Mohr, Alderman Cole, Alderman Miller, Alderman Johansen, Alderman Fosen, Alderman Phelps, and Alderman Revelle. Members of the staff and public present were: Melanie Kunkel, Dustin Carter, Jackie Hux, Dakotah Metzke, Chad Mathey, Mike Beard, Don Cavallini, DuBoise, David Belvery, Bill Patrick, Bryan Hanner, Judd Stover, Jay Moran and Brandon Friede.

It was moved by Alderman Phelps and seconded by Alderman Miller to approve the minutes from the November 24, 2014 council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Alderman Revelle and seconded by Alderman Fosen to approve the treasurer's report and pay bills in the amount of \$28,104.25. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Input: None

Old Business:

Red Carpet Corridor: Helen Leake came to the previous meeting and did not have an opportunity to address the council regarding the Red Carpet Corridor. It was added to this agenda, however, in Ms. Leake's absence, Mayor gave a brief overview to the crowd gathered regarding the Red Carpet Corridor.

New Business:

Fireside Grant Discussion: The council previously agreed to give the Fireside a grant for building improvements in the amount of \$9,000 to be paid in increments. The second of which is due to be paid in January in the amount of \$3,000. Fireside Manager, Brandon Friede, has asked the Mayor for an advance for the January payment. The council received a letter from the State Liquor Commissioner that shows the Fireside is in arrears with liquor taxes and returns. A copy of the letter was provided to Mr. Friede. After a brief discussion, the council decided not to move forward with the advance but to keep the payment schedule as was set forth previously.

Swearing in New Part Time Officer: Police Chief, Dave Belvery, swore in the city's new part time police officer, Dustin Carter. Mr. Carter introduced himself to the council and gave an overview of his background.

ILEAS Mutual Aide Agreement: The city is already a member of Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS). Chief Belvery explained that ILEAS assists cities with additional law enforcement in emergency situations. There is no cost associated with having the mutual aide agreement. Motion by Alderman Johansen and second by Alderman Cole to approve the ILEAS Mutual Aide Agreement. Motion carries unanimously.

Christmas Bonus for Staff: There are five full time employees to be considered for bonuses and the Mayor pointed out that last year the council gave the part time police officers a bonus. Mayor noted that it is at the council's discretion as to whether they want to provide a bonus to part time employees again this year. Mayor distributed a formula written up by former City Collector, Margaret Quinley. Also discussed was last year's bonus Motion by Alderman Johansen and second by Alderman Revelle to provide each full time employee with a \$400 end of year bonus; grossed up so the net amount is \$400. Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance to Increase Police Department Spending from \$50 to \$500: The current city code for police department spending is \$50. This change will give the police department a little more authority to buy things, such as ammunition, without prior approval of the council and without violating the city code. The ordinance does provide that the Chief will be responsible to answer any and all questions pertaining to purchases and invoices for those items purchased. Anything over \$500 must be brought to the council for approval. Motion by Alderman Phelps and second by Alderman Fosen to approve Ordinance 2014-12 An Ordinance to Increase Police Department Spending from \$50 to \$500. Motion carries unanimously.

Amended Appropriation Ordinance: The city's auditor recommended the city amend the appropriation to reflect depreciation for the new sewer plant. \$110,000 for the water fund and \$950,000 for the sewer fund. Alderman Fosen noted that the primary change here is the optics of the appropriation, the depreciation values are book entries to reflect ongoing usage of the plants not cash and, as accountants, we are conforming to standards. Motion by Alderman Fosen and second by Alderman Revelle to approve Ordinance 2014-13 an Amended Appropriation for the ordinance passed back in June. Motion carries unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Mayor: Mayor noted that the fire district has called him regarding conveying some property to the city. When the city purchased the old fire house in 2005, there was a strip that was never conveyed and the fire district is still held accountable for it. Even though they are tax exempt, they still receive a bill. Mayor noted the city would draw up the paperwork to convey that parcel to the city. Alderman Phelps asked the Mayor about Dave Jenkins' role as the city's building inspector. Mayor noted that Dave does still come to town and does still work for the city. Alderman Revelle has received a complaint about a new construction building that appears to be against the current code. Mayor noted that he has repeatedly asked the council to move forward with finding a replacement if they are dissatisfied with Dave's work. Alderman Phelps indicated that he will contact Dave Jenkins regarding the properties discussed to see if permits have been issued. Alderman Johansen noted that he would assist Alderman Phelps and they would both get back to the council at the next meeting in January. Mayor asked the council for help in determining what to do with resident, Steve Ross, who received a fine pertaining to violations regarding the garbage ordinance. Mr. Ross drives around town and texts the Mayor numerous pictures every week of garbage cans that have been left out. Mayor is asking the council to consider what change, if any, they want to make to the code.

Police: Alderman Phelps provided the council with the first monthly activity report and noted that Chief Belvery's grant for three body cameras was awarded in the amount of \$1,696. The cameras are on back order and the Chief explained how he would implement policies and training to the police staff. Alderman Phelps noted that police committee meetings will be the third Thursday of every month at 4:30 pm.

Building/Insurance: Alderman Miller noted that the insurance is up to date; the increase was \$439 per month which also reflected the addition of City Collector, Star Torkelson, and her family.

Finance/TIF: Alderman Fosen noted that without there being another meeting for a month, he asks that Star get some bills together for payment and asks the council for flexibility with being able to pay some pressing bills during the council's time off.

Water: None

Sanitation: None

Streets/Alleys: None

There being no further business, it was moved by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Johansen to adjourn at 9:05 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Kunkel, City Clerk

Approved: 1/26/2015