

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LEXINGTON CITY COUNCIL

June 27, 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.

Mayor led the council in the pledge of allegiance.

Roll call was taken to find the following physically present: Mayor Mohr, Alderman Miller, Alderman Cole, Alderman Johansen, Alderman Stover, Alderman Meyer, and Alderman Richard. Members of the staff and public present were: Don Cavallini, Walker Adams, Katie Adams, Sue Noland, and Dave Belvery.

It was moved by Alderman Johansen and seconded by Alderman Miller to approve the minutes from the June 13, 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 \$40,234.47. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Input: None

Old Business:

Business Builders Proposal: The City Council considered a proposal by Business Builders of Bloomington to help with public relations, advertising and social media. The proposal reduced from \$15,000 to \$12,000 which was the same fee as last year. The video, created in 2015, is now prominent on the city website. There has been communication with Business Builders regarding fresh new ideas and feedback from the community regarding the brochure. A templates for a press release to broadcast upcoming events to local media outlets like radio, and newspaper will be included in the plan. Specific tasks also include a panel display that can be used at the Shops at College Hills, the home show, etc. It was recommended to hold monthly meetings with Business Builders to stay connected with the City's objectives. It was suggested that the meeting would occur monthly prior to the scheduled city council meeting. The cost of the Business Builders proposal has been included in the FY17 budget. Alderman Meyer said a "stringer" type news gathering role may be a missing link with promoting community events, alerting the council to upcoming events, and keeping Business Builders apprised of these events. He also suggested Star Torkelson, Katie Adams, and Alderman Johansen may be needed to help with this coordination. Alderman Johansen stated that all council members should be responsible for the collection of information with regards to community events and take responsibility for promoting the City that we represent. Alderman Stover suggested a contract agreement per project versus the contracted amount of \$12,000. The general consensus of the council was to continue the contract the second year to try to maintain the momentum created so far. It was moved by Alderman Meyer and seconded by Alderman Cole to approve the Business Builders contract in the amount of \$12,000.

Motion carried by a 4 to 2 vote with Alderman Stover and Alderman Richard voting against the motion.

Revised Solicitation Ordinance: Revisions to the solicitation ordinance have been tabled for a future meeting pending more research and creation of a draft to consider.

New Business: The Anticipated Revenues Resolution #2016-4 in the amount of \$2,164,119 was reviewed and discussed. There has been an increase in sales tax due to increased sales by local merchants and more accurate business listing used by the Illinois Department of Revenue. There is also an increase in estimated income tax receipts based on information from the Illinois Municipal League. Mayor Mohr explained the interest income projections are conservative and mostly affected by a declining Water Fund balance that is being used to pay for the ongoing water treatment plant project. It was moved by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Johansen to approve the Anticipated Revenues Resolution #2016-4. Motion carried unanimously.

2017 Carnival Contract: Ticket sales, for the June 9-11 event, were about \$12,000 with the City receiving 10% of those sales. The City covered expenses associated with a rented tent and entertainment contracts. A broad overview of the receipts and disbursements suggests the City spent approximately \$1,500 to host the event. Although it didn't quite pay for itself; council members and many residents viewed the carnival as a success. Negotiations with Connor Family Amusements and city officials have set a 2017 date of June 8, 9, and 10. The negotiated contract includes an increase in the guaranteed fee to Connor Family Amusements and an increased share of ticket sales revenue (20%) for the City. More rides (approx. 12) and a food booth will be incorporated into the 2017 carnival by Connor. A fund raising opportunity will still be provided to local civic groups who participate and compliment Connor concessions. Alderman Johansen suggested city council members approach local businesses to serve as sponsors to offset expenses generated by the carnival. It was moved by Alderman Johansen and seconded by Alderman Miller to enter into a contract with Connor Amusements and secure the dates for the 2017 carnival. Motion carried unanimously.

Prevailing Wage Ordinance: The Prevailing Wage Ordinance was tabled for a future meeting as the ordinance has not been provided by the state.

20 Concord Easement: The City is seeking a permanent easement, on the north boundary, of the property at 20 E Concord for a water main extension. The work is associated with the new water treatment plant. This easement is necessary to create a water main loop on south end of the City improving the water distribution network around the proposed water treatment plant. In return for the easement; the owner is asking the City to provide irrigation water, for one season, for several rows of strawberries on an undeveloped residential lot located at 1004 W. North St. It was moved by Alderman Johansen and seconded by Alderman Cole to grant the irrigation water incentive in exchange for the permanent easement at 20 E Concord. Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Mayor: All pertinent information has been submitted and the city audit is nearly completed. The 2013 bond refinance will be discussed during two upcoming conference calls scheduled for July 13 with Bernardi Securities and July 21 with Standard and Poor's rating agency. The S&P discussion will aid in determining a credit rating for the City and will be beneficial with future borrowing needs. The State Liquor Control Commission has notified the local BP station for a violation of their State liquor license for alcohol sales to minors. The violation opens the door for the City to also impose a fine. The Lexington Lakers will host the 10th annual invitational swim meet on July 9 and it is will bring a lot of participants and families into the City. Approximately 300 swimmers will be involved in this all-day event. Local merchants should benefit from additional sales generated by the event. The City, through Catalyst Construction, contacted a development group working on a hotel project in Pontiac, IL to determine any interest in Lexington sites. They replied that they thought the community would be better suited for a smaller motel/hotel business model than they traditionally build.

Police: Chief Belvery has recruited Barker Chevrolet, Kemp's Upper Tap, and State Farm as sponsors for the Bike Safety Course to be held on July 16 from 9:00am to 11:00am. The sponsors are offsetting the cost of bike helmets and the grand prize of a new bike. The city website will be updated with information on the event and also the Police Department's mission statement. A traffic stop video with a mother and son was recently made by a local officer which may have some value as a promotion for the City. The Chief is hoping to add the video to the city's website.

Building/Insurance: None

Finance/TIF: None

Water: None

Sanitation: None

Streets/Alleys: Alderman Cole noted residents of North Park Subdivision have reported the streets are "bleeding" tar. He stated the streets will be coated with sand to eliminate this situation. Mayor Mohr suggested the street department, with the assistance of the Farnsworth Group, create a map of storm water drainage. Currently, there is no map in place and he sees this to be a necessary map for future reference.

There being no further business, it was moved by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Meyer to adjourn at 9:00 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Noland, City Treasurer

Approved: