

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LEXINGTON CITY COUNCIL

NOVEMBER 13, 2017

7:00 P. M.

The regular meeting of the Lexington City Council was called to order at 7:00 P. M. by Mayor Spencer Johansen in the City Council Chambers at City Hall.

Mayor Johansen led the council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken to find the following physically present: Mayor Johansen, Alderman Schreiber, Alderman Richard, Alderman Stover, Alderman Fosen, Alderman Colclasure and Alderwoman Wilson. Members of the staff and public present were: Sue Noland and Don Cavallini.

It was moved by Alderman Colclasure and seconded by Alderwoman Wilson to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2017 regular City Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Alderman Fosen and seconded by Alderman Stover to approve the Treasurer's Report and pay bills in the amount of \$103,253.30. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Input: None

Old Business: **Consideration/Vote on property on Chestnut Street being donated by Sue Davis:** This vote was tabled for a future council meeting.

Consideration/Vote n Final Bids for Surplus Property:

1. 1998 Ford Dump Truck with 11 ft. snow plow (Bonnell) with VIN. 1FDXN8OE9WVAO528 and metered hours of approx. 2631 and approximate mileage of 23.150 miles
no sale
2. 1996 John Deere 455 3cyl 22hp Tractor with 60" Mower Deck with metered hours of approximately 1865 hours sold for \$1200 to Ronald Heiken
3. 1982 Vermeer 1250 Chipper Serial LD 33749U3347711 with metered hours of approximately 869 hours no sale
4. 2016 Western Snow Plow Contractor Grade Ultra finish and Ultra Mount 2 14040320412374485 (used once) sold for \$3600 to Jason Rinkenburger
5. 2009 Ford Crown Victoria Police Package VIN 2FAHP71V99X123754 with mileage of approximately 98,000 miles sold for \$1207 to Chicago Motors

Alderman Richard made a motion that we accept the bids offered on the 1996 John Deere Tractor of \$1200, 2016 Snow Plow of \$3600 and the 2009 Crown Vic Police Car of \$1207 and refuse all other bids. Pertaining to the unsold items of the 1998 Ford Dump Truck and the 1982 Chipper, he proposes that City employees pursue getting rid of these items. Alderwoman Wilson seconded this motion. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business: Consideration/Vote on Donating to Senior Citizens Thanksgiving Dinner: The City has donated \$300 every year for many years. This is the Thanksgiving turkey dinner for the Senior Citizens. It is a goodwill gesture for the City to donate this money each year. Alderwoman Wilson motioned to continue this tradition. Motion seconded by Alderman Colclasure. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration/Vote on Employee Christmas Bonus: This is something we do every year. Full time employees receive \$400 and part time employees receive nothing as it violates their contract. This has been a stable number and in the past we have done a half number for part time employees. The only part time employees we have are part time officers who only work once or twice a year during special events. We usually give full time employees cash and the part time employees gift cards to some place here in town. Currently there are five part time police officers. The total dollar amount for seven full time employees and 5 part time employees would be \$3050. It is important to keep a distinction between what we provide to full time employees and what we provide to part time employees. Motion was made by Alderman Colclasure to approve the \$400 Christmas Bonus for full time employees and a \$50 gift card for part time employees. Motion was seconded by Alderman Stover. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion on Health Insurance/Increase and Options: If we renew our insurance with the same company there would be a 41% increase in premium bringing the total premium to \$24,000 per year for health insurance. The alternate plan might be able to improve on the plan and be more reasonable for everyone. The alternative program is an \$8100 increase over last year's total premium for everyone which does not include dental. How do we want to handle this? Who will pick up this extra cost? One way to handle this would be to pass some of the cost on to the employee. Perhaps pass the cost in lieu of raises this year of 2.something% raise. Employees should be in favor of this as it is good for them. When they see the numbers they should be in agreement with this. This is a good plan for them and they would not be able to improve on it in the current market. The plan has a higher individual deductible but a lower family deductible. Right now we are paying 100% of employee and 50% of family deductible. With the new plan the family deductible is \$13,100 and an individual deductible is \$6400. The first thing we need to do is cap the deductible payment so we do not go over the aggregate balance. Alderman Stover has investigated Health Alliance and we can change if something comes along before January. Alderman Stover feels this is the best thing in our best interest.

The aggregate fund is a moving plan for medical premiums. Savings from prior plans and using for employees benefits. What is actually going on with this account is still being investigated. Where this money is coming from that is paying the medical premiums. The dollar amount of \$30,000 floats because of timing. The only expenses coming out of this account is the prescription plan which has been dropped. We have looked at individual claims and we have not been invoiced for them. It is hard to determine how much is in this fund until we have the

plan figured out as where the income and expense are going. Blue Cross and Blue Shield is investigating this for us. They appear to be paying our bills but have no record of them.

If anybody has any other ideas please let Alderman Stover know. We need to keep insurance for our employees and they are better off have us pay the premium. In March when we do the budget there will be an insurance increase.

Committee Reports:

Mayor's Report: The EPA has granted the operating permit for the new water plant.

Police: We have hired two part time officers. Our agreement was to hire them and put them thru school then the council would approve them. Alderman Richard thought going forward the Council should approve the hiring of the officers before funds were spent to send the officers to school. The candidates are Ramin Nasser of Lexington and James Scott of Bloomington. Each candidate must complete:

1. Pre-employment testing (given by our insurance company)
2. Criminal back ground investigation (conducted by Chief Belvery)
3. Polygraph examination (conducted by McCann and Associates)
4. Psychological evaluation (conducted by Campion Barrow and Associates & Standard and Associates)
5. Drug screening (conducted by LabCorp)

Mayor Johansen would like a recommendation from the police committee before the next council meeting recommending the hiring of the two new officers.

The two new officers will be sworn in at the next council meeting on November 27, 2017.

Building/Insurance: Our property insurance has been renewed.

We had never filed a tax exempt form for the Cedar Street (Old City Hall) property. That has now been filed.

Finance/TIF: None

Water/Sewer/Sanitation: Training is done for the guys and they are getting ready for testing and tweaking. They expect no issues at the moment. They are moving the generator from the old plant to the new plant.

Street/Alley: None

Street lights that are out need to be reported to Star and the officers on duty need to be aware of lights that are out and report them to Star.

There being no further business motion was made by Alderman Fosen to adjourn at 7:45 P. M.
Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Pati Pease

City Clerk

Approved: November 27, 2017