

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LEXINGTON CITY COUNCIL

April 27, 2020

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 Colclasure, Alderman Franklin and Alderman Stover. Alderman Schreiber was attending remotely and Alderman Richard and Alderwoman Wilson were absent. Members of the staff and public present were: Kenneth Sours, Chief Belvery and Bill Elias.

It was moved by Alderman Colclasure and seconded by Alderman Franklin to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2020 council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Alderman Franklin and seconded by Alderman Stover to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2020 TIF meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Alderman Franklin and seconded by Alderman Colclasure to approve the minutes of the April 2, 2020 special council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Alderman Stover and seconded by Alderman Franklin to approve the Treasurer's Report and pay bills in the amount of \$381,043.24. It was noted that this included the entire month of April. There also were payments for TIF and Sewer and Water Loan payments. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Input: None

Old Business: None

New Business:

Discussion/Vote Resolution 2020-2: Motor Fuel Tax

Bill Elias led the discussion on this resolution. This resolution needs to be passed before May 1st every year and is for \$68,000 this year.

The sewer project of 10 years ago is now turning into a road project. We are having to seal more than normal and this year more than last year. The old hot mix patches are starting to crack and break up. We are needing to pave over them with more hot mix and hard chip. That is why our numbers are up a little this year.

Salt we raised to \$130 last year. It was at \$55 and it went to \$120. We don't know that answer until August. That makes that number up a little. Everything else looks about the same.

Farnsworth is predicting \$59,201.25. The resolution is for 5% over what they predict it to be. In the past we have been below the \$59,000 that they project. We are not normally over what we take in.

There is also sidewalk concrete money of \$2,750.

Mayor Johansen commented that our Motor Fuel Revenue last year did increase due to the \$.19 gasoline tax.

There was some discussion and concern about the tile in front of the grocery store.

Motion was made by Alderman Colclasure and seconded by Alderman Stover to approve Resolution 2020-2: Maintenance Under the Illinois Highway Code. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Vote on June Carnival

Illinois Municipal League is recommending all the municipalities cancel any early summer events. We have a contract with the carnival and this is the last year of that contract. It is for \$5,000 which is what they are guaranteed. It will cost \$5,000 to get out of the contract. We have the bands and all the music on hold.

Mayor Johansen thinks that even if the governor opens things back up on the first of June that people are still going to be leary of going out. He feels we should cancel rather than have it and not have any crowd.

Alderman Stover agrees that we should not have it but his concern is he would rather we would not have it because of the governor's shutdown. He wants to wait and see if he says we cannot officially have it. If we cannot have it, he feels we won't owe anyone any money because we didn't cancel it. It is better to let the state cancel it than us.

Mayor Johansen agrees with this. The governor has been pretty open about everything. He did cancel school for the rest of the year and he is waiting for him to come up with an official word that we need to cancel these kinds of events. We can wait until the next meeting to decide on this. It might be possible to get another date later in the summer.

After discussion it was decided to wait and see what action the governor takes before the next meeting but wait to officially cancel at the next council meeting.

Discuss 2020-21 Budget

Alderman Stover started this discussion saying there are still a lot of numbers to finetune yet. It is not quite as bad as he thought it would be when he started to look at the individual revenues. General Fund wise they are probably off \$35,000, so we need to be budget conscious. Income

Tax is going to be off a little, he expects Sales Tax to be off and will be the biggest hit we will take other than possibly Motor Fuel. Online Tax should increase with the amount of people who are ordering things online and not going into stores now. We still have to look at some numbers on the Garbage Receipts.

He reminded everyone that this is just a wild guess because there is yet no end set to the situation we are in. For his projection, he took the month of May and said we are going to take some hits there, and extended that thru September. It's hard to know what is going to happen. There will be repercussions with a lot of the businesses even when they reopen that could still cost us money down the road. He still thinks he is being fairly conservative here.

Mayor Johansen felt we would know a little more about the Sales Tax when they get the last quarter check in. It will be for March, April and May. That will give a better idea of what April and May were like.

Water and Sewer are self sufficient now and we have money there that we can work around if we need to. We had some significant costs in Admin last year that we are going to be able to bring down this year.

We do have an opportunity on the vehicle side. We are due to buy a squad car and are due next year to buy a dump truck but Bill Elias has a bid that looks fantastic right now on the dump truck. We have the money already saved up for what we could have bought one three years ago.

Douglas Road is going to do more damage to us than the virus. When we get done with the budget and still very conservative numbers that we are going to put in here with what we are going to pay out of this year's budget and what we have left to do, if we even get close we will be about \$40,000 short of what we are budgeting for our actual expense for this road. That still leaves us in a position where we can pay off our loans, pay off the bonds and still have our annual TIF grants and things like that. They are going to tweak some things as far as payments go toward the end of the TIF but right now we are in good shape. The downside is we don't have any more big fund money, this road will do it. We could eventually do something on a loan program as long as it worked out perfectly and we were absolutely certain we were going to have it back before we needed it

The question was asked if we were going to be able to help out our local businesses with loans after the pandemic to which the answer was no we do not have it in our budget. There are a lot of programs out there to help them and he hopes they will take advantage of them.

Mayor Johansen had a comment about the road. The original bid from McLean County Asphalt was \$311,445. He and Bill have met with McLean County and eliminated some things that didn't need to be in there, some of the things that we can do. They had us put the approach into Casey's and that was about 9,500 and we decided that was not our responsibility, that was over on Casey's. We met with McLean County to try and narrow them down on what they are

going to pay for. Originally they were going to pay for the last layer of asphalt on the turn lane. After talking with them they are going to do all the striping. We have taken that down to around \$240,000. That does not have David Leake's work on there.

Committee reports:

Mayor's Report: Mayor Johansen reported on the following items:

Casey's is waiting until the stay at home order is lifted so they can make sure they get all their supplies when they need them. He anticipates June 1st now.

Economic Interest Statements are due. If you haven't got those done, there was a glitch in the computer system and it didn't accept those filed before April 13th. This includes all aldermen except Alderman Franklin.

He passed out a sample ordinance from the Illinois Municipal League regarding the wearing of masks. He is wondering if we want to do anything with it. By the time we would get it passed May 1st will be here. It was noted it is a state requirement. His thoughts are we leave it up to the stores to enforce. He thinks most people will comply.

Police: None

Building/Insurance: None

Finance/TIF: Alderman Stover will continue to work on the budget.

Water/Sewer/Sanitation: None

Street/Alley: They have been working on hauling the dirt but the rain has set them back. So far everything has been going good. The compactor that we had rented we sent back. McLean County Asphalt has loaned us one and all we have to pay for is the fuel. It is doing a lot better job. The culvert is in.

There being no further business a motion was made by Alderman Franklin to adjourn at 7.34 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

By Pati Pease

City Clerk

Approved: