
Also present were City Attorney Ron Coplan, City Manager Scott Shumard, Assistant to City Manager Hadley Skeffington-Vos, Director of Financial Services Cindy Von Holten, Building and Zoning Superintendent Amanda Schmidt, Police Lt. Tim Morgan, Acting Fire Chief Gary Cook, NSP2 Grant Coordinator Mike Wolber, and City Clerk Marie Rombouts.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

John Carrillo lives on East 24th Street and explained they want to have a block party on August 25 and requested barricades to block the street at 12th Avenue and 16th Avenue. Lt. Morgan explained that Council action is not necessary because state routes are not being closed. Mayor Lee and the Council agreed this is a good thing to happen. Mayor Lee liked the follow-through with the WeCAN theory of getting to know your neighbors and forming neighborhood watch groups.

Jacob Mango asked when petitions could be circulated for the upcoming election. Clerk Rombouts stated that petitions can be circulated on Tuesday, August 28, 2012, for the two Alderman-at-Large positions in the April 2013 election.

Alderman Cox made a motion to approve the items on the Consent Agenda, as follows:

A) City Council Minutes of August 6, 2012
B) Bills and Payroll totaling $594,523.82
C) Approval of Plan Commission Minutes for the regular meeting on March 15, 2012 and a special meeting on March 29, 2012
D) Refer to Plan Commission a Petition from Country Lane Apartments GP, LLC, to build a 48-unit development at the southeast corner of West 11th Street and Woodburn Avenue
E) Award bid for demolition of the four-unit apartment building located at 1012-1014 West Fourth Street through the NSP2 grant to Fisher Excavating in the amount of $22,394.00
F) Petition from Lonnie Parks at 1505 Locust Street to have a street light installed on Avenue C at the back edge of the property, at his expense
G) Award bid for parking lot improvements on Municipal Lots 8 and 9 to Northwest Illinois Construction in the amount of $76,866.65
H) Award bid for Streetscape Phase X to Northwest Illinois Construction in the amount of $100,995.71
The motion was seconded by Alderman Sotelo. Voting: Ayes – All. Nayes – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston asked about the petition from Lonnie Parks for the street light. Manager Shumard explained that the rear of Mr. Parks’s property abuts the 1500 block of Avenue C. Mr. Parks would like more light for security purposes. Commonwealth Edison will install the light and the electricity will be charged with the City’s streetlights. Mr. Parks has agreed to pay for this electricity.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve the appointment of Patricia Nice to the Library Board as recommended by Mayor Lee for a term to expire June 30, 2015; seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – All. Nayes – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to pass Ordinance No. 2012-08-24 Amending Chapter 94, Section 35 regarding utility billing and collection of service charges; seconded by Alderman Sotelo. Finance Director Von Holten explained there have been problems with billing and the timing of the service charge. With the service charge being imposed after 51 days, there is a longer grace period and the service charge will be included on the next bill. Voting: Ayes – All. Nayes – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Sotelo made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2012-08-25 Declaring the 1983 Hahn/FMC engine and accessory equipment as surplus and be sold to Sauk Valley Community College for $1.00 for use in the Fire Science program; seconded by Alderman Elston. Chief Cook believes this will be a good addition for Sauk and the equipment is too outdated for our use. Voting: Ayes – All. Nayes – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Marley made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2012-08-26 Regarding the Location for City Council meetings at 20 West Third Street during ongoing renovations at the Coliseum building; seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – All. Nayes – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve Resolution #R2012-08-12 Authorizing the sale of 602 Dillon Avenue and 701 Locust Street through the NSP2 Grant Program; seconded by Alderman Marley. Wolber reported that after these two houses are sold, only three remain. One more offer is pending. Voting: Ayes – All. Nayes – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Martin made a motion to approve the purchase of one (1) Ford Flex from the Harkness Auto Group in the amount of $14,250.00, with the trade in of four vehicles:
1. 1997 brown GMC Jimmy with 144,610 miles
2. 2001 red Chevrolet Blazer with 100,900 miles
3. 1998 white 4-door BMW 318i, unknown mileage and no keys for vehicle
4. 1990 tan 4-door Mercury Marquis

The motion was seconded by Alderman Elston. Lt. Morgan explained the second low bid was accepted because of the mileage, year of the vehicle, and the make because of service concerns. Voting: Ayes – All. Nayes – None. Motion carried.

Bob Vail with Bernardi Securities explained that CGH Medical Center will be saving $2.3 million by refinancing. An additional $7 million is planned for new capital projects. Bonds issues from 2003, 2006, and 2011 are being refinanced. The new bonds will expire May 2023. Ed Anderson, CEO of CGH, explained that with these kinds of rates, additional funds can remodel the emergency room, upgrade the cath lab, upgrade the digestive diseases department, and update HVAC systems. Alderman Cox made a motion to approve the Mayor to enter into the Engagement Letter with Bernardi Securities to refinance bonds with CGH Medical Center; seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – All. Nayes – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to award the low bid for Asbestos Abatement for the Mezzanine Level of the Coliseum building to DEM Services, Inc. of Addison, IL in the amount of $153,000.00; seconded by Alderman Sotelo. Voting: Ayes – All. Nayes – None. Motion carried.

Chief Cook announced that Firefighter Tim Ries will be retiring next week.

Manager Shumard reminded Council that this is the last meeting to be held in these Council Chambers.

Alderman Elston asked why Fire Shift 2 seems to have so many more calls. Chief Cook explained that a specific time period may look like that but they average out over the year.

Alderman Martin noted the retirement of Norm Deets from CGH and expressed appreciation for his service to CGH and the community. Alderman Martin also thanked Attorney Coplan for his comments on Sterling Council’s ability to get along.

Mayor Lee recognized Forrest Tabor from Rock Falls on his 99th birthday next year and his service to the Sauk Valley board.

Alderman Sotelo made a motion to move to closed session at 7:15 pm to discuss personnel matters and discuss possible employment as covered under subsection (1) of 5ILCS 120/2; seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – All. Nayes – None. Motion carried.
Alderman Martin made a motion to reconvene the open meeting at 7:31 pm; seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – All. Nayes – None. Motion carried.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm.

Marie Rombouts
City Clerk