

June 16, 2008

ROLL CALL, MINUTES, BILLS & PAYROLL

Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Clinton, Illinois in session in the Council Chambers of City Hall, Monday June 16, 2008. Mayor Ed Wollet, presiding. On roll call Commissioners Edmunds, Hickman, Wise and Milton were present.

Written motion was made by Commissioner Wise and seconded by Commissioner Hickman that the minutes of the regular meeting of June 2, 2008 and the special meeting of June 9, 2008 be approved as submitted. On roll call Commissioners Edmunds, Hickman, Wise, Milton and Mayor Wollet voted "Yes."

The bills and payroll were read.

Written motion was made by Commissioner Edmunds and seconded by Commissioner Milton that the bills and payroll be allowed as read and the Clerk be instructed to issue warrants on the Treasurer for the several amounts. On roll call Commissioner Edmunds, Hickman, Wise, Milton and Mayor Wollet voted "Yes."

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Darren Moser, 77 Hillcrest requested to be on the agenda this evening asking several questions of concern about sewer backup his basement received June 3rd after a considerably hard rainfall. This was the third incident with the first being clear water, the seconded being sewage of a lesser amount and the third being 9 inches in the basement. Darren read several questions with Council listening before discussion and further questions took place. Questions were as follows:

Why is the City looking into an expansion projects (primarily the Warner ground south of Kleemann Dr.) when the Sanitary District can't handle the current sewage problem?

Why can't the City take care of the residents that currently live in the City before spending funds on more ground?

Why is the City not looking more directly into these sewer problems if they indeed are aware of the problems?

Is the sewer line in front of Darren's home a 10" line and where does it go after it leaves the Hillcrest/Kleemann intersection?

He feels this 10" line is handling a lot more capacity than was ever meant to be placed on the line.

After requesting to be on the agenda, City workers came to the area to camera the main line. Question – why stop at Kleemann? A number of backwater valves have already been installed with the likelihood of a few more on the way.

What is the City's backup plan when the Sanitary District goes down?

In checking with the Illinois EPA – records show that the City has received low interest funds – where did those funds go?

Commissioner Edmunds began with some history on the sewer systems here in town by first explaining that the Sanitary District does not belong to the City – they are an entity all to themselves. After conveying some of the past sewer projects with funding that came from bonds which the residents pay for through the water billing, Commissioner Edmunds said that with this system being underground, it is very difficult to pinpoint the problems that need urgent repair until a heavy rainfall causes backup and damage.

More information was offered by Sanitary Board President, Al Perring and plant manager, Ron Pollock with interjections into the conversation by Steve Lobb, Public Works Director. Intensifying this backup was the fact that the Sanitary District's control panels were knocked out due to a lightning strike that shut their operation down. Touching on the subject of backwater valve, Council could not respond to the fact that they are protective to a homeowner. At various times both city and sanitary district explained that the Illinois EPA has very stringent rules for extensions of sewer lines and proof must be provided that the line can handle the area. With just one other concern, Darren asked if he could have clarification on the rejection of the claims that several residents filed with the City's insurance company. Mayor Wollet will get back to him on that request.

Dawn James 73 Hillcrest Dr. briefly spoke of her experience with backup on the 15th and 20th and a foot of sewer on the 30th of May causing her to file multiple insurance claims with her insurance and the City's. She also expressed interest in hearing back from Mayor Wollet concerning the City's insurance.

Last item for Petitions and Communications – Dana Korneman, Chairman of the Clinton Planning Commission came this evening to update the Council on drafting the City's Building Codes. They have been working with a nationally recognized standard of building codes and property maintenance codes. A draft Ordinance along with amended documents tailoring the codes to our community needs is nearly completed – ready to go before Council at their July 21st meeting. Three public informational sessions will be June 23rd, 26th, & 30th 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the High School auditorium. The City already has in place an Intergovernmental Agreement to share a building inspector until such time staff can be trained. Tim Followell along with the Planning Commission has worked a long time on getting the codes to this point. Council thanked them and expressed that they are looking forward to being at the informational meetings. These building codes will help in insuring a basic right to expect some uniform standards in homes purchased and rented in Clinton.

REPORT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Mayor Wollet offered a motion for appointment to the Hospital Board.

Written motion was made by Commissioner Edmunds and seconded by Commissioner Wise to appoint Joe Rodts to the Dr. John Warner Hospital Board – said term to expire July 1, 2011. On roll call Commissioner Edmunds, Hickman, Wise, Milton and Mayor Wollet voted “Yes.”

Written motion was made by Commissioner Edmunds and seconded by Commissioner Wise to re-appoint Sue May, Doug Tilley, Russell Hickman, & Francis Jackson to the Zoning Board of Appeals – said terms to expire July 31, 2011. On roll call Commissioners Edmunds, Wise, Milton and Mayor Wollet voted “Yes.” Commissioner Hickman “abstained”.

Written motion was by Commissioner Edmunds and seconded by Commissioner Wise to re-appoint Don Builta to the Zoning Board of Appeals – said term to expire July 31, 2010. On roll call Commissioners Edmunds, Wise, Milton and Mayor Wollet voted “Yes.” Commissioner Hickman “abstained”.

Mayor Wollet reminded all residents of Clinton that we have in our Codes 5-1-3 domestic animals – a law that if you walk your pet, you must pick up the feces from public property. Mayor Wollet has received several calls complaining about walking pets.

REPORT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF STREETS & PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

Commissioner Hickman had no report.

REPORT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC PROPERTY

Commissioner Wise announced that the Water Dept. will be flushing mains June 24th and 25th.

A hydro-stop has been completed so that a Fire Hydrant at the corner of Adams/Poplar can be use in case of fire in that area.

Also the department has repaired a part at the Water Park at Kiwanis so that the kids can now play in the water.

REPORT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY

Commissioner Milton asked to move his discussion of Fire Chief down to new business on the agenda.

REPORT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTS & FINANCES

Commissioner Edmunds had no report at this time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Summer Maintenance will be in two sections this year – the other section will be repair to the corner of Jericho Road and Hillcrest Drive. The engineering and survey will be this year – construction at a later time.

Written motion was made by Commissioner Hickman and seconded by Commissioner Edmunds to adopt Resolution #2008-11, Resolution authorizing MFT funds for Jericho Road & Hillcrest Drive Engineering Agreement - \$24,000. On roll call Commissioners Edmunds, Hickman, Wise, Milton and Mayor Wollet voted “Yes.”

Written motion was made by Commissioner Edmunds and seconded by Commissioner Hickman to adopt Ordinance #1124, an Ordinance of the City of Clinton, DeWitt County, IL Ascertaining the Prevailing Rate of Wages for Laborers, Workers & Mechanics employed on Public Works of said City. On roll call Commissioners Edmunds, Hickman, Wise, Milton and Mayor Wollet voted “Yes.”

Tim Followell explained that after the bids were opened for the remodeling job at City Hall, West Construction bid was withdrawn due to an error. The now low bidder is Waters Construction. With a withdrawal of bid, City Attorney Steve Myers stated that this motion will take a 4/5 vote.

Written motion was made by Commissioner Milton and seconded by Commissioner Edmunds to award the low bid of Water’s Construction for remodeling at City Hall in the amount of \$168,500. On roll call Commissioners Edmunds, Hickman, Wise, Milton and Mayor Wollet voted “Yes.”

Written motion was made by Commissioner Wise and seconded by Commissioner Hickman to adopt Ordinance #1125, an Ordinance authorizing Sale of Surplus Real Estate – 920 E. Johnson St. On roll call Commissioners Edmunds, Hickman, Wise, Milton and Mayor Wollet voted “Yes.”

NEW BUSINESS

A bid on Summer Maintenance 2008 was opened at City Hall this morning – the one bid submitted is ready for Council action.

Written motion was made by Commissioner Hickman and seconded by Commissioner Wise to award the MFT Summer Maintenance 2008 contracts to the successful bidder or bidders subject to IDOT’s approval – Group I -\$1,568.76, Group II - \$12,540.00, Group III - \$69,503.94 and Group IV - \$19,511.05 – all totaling 103,123.75. On roll call Commissioners Edmunds, Hickman, Wise, Milton and Mayor Wollet voted “Yes.”

Last item for discussion – Fire Chief – Commissioner Milton came back to Council with copies of various qualifications of different towns that have advertised for a Fire Chiefs recently. This position might be interim for a while until Council can come to a decision of whether to hire a full-time Chief with possible multiple duties. Commissioner Milton’s opinion is swaying toward putting in an interim Chief so that this department of 3 drivers and 27 or so volunteers can have a head source for not only leadership but also continue to improve the organization of the department. The department after the death of Chief Jeff Pearl has operated very well but it is past time to fill the vacancy. Some classes available in the next week just might be of help to Commissioner Milton and Councilmen to make the critical decision between part/time and full/time.

After clarification of a few classifications involving educational classes required, Council moved forward with working up a draft of qualifications, advertising the position and setting interviews (in closed session) for July 14th 2008.

With no further business to come before the Council, motion was made by Commissioner Hickman and seconded by Commissioner Milton to adjourn. Motion was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rozella D. Wickenhauser
City Clerk