

September 8, 2008

Minutes of the reconvened meeting of the City Council of the City of Clinton, Illinois in session in the Council Chambers of City Hall Monday, Sept. 8, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Ed Wollet, presiding. On roll call Commissioners Edmunds, Hickman, Wise and Milton were present.

Mayor Wollet opened by expressing that it is the hope of this City Council that they will be ready to move toward updating the Vision Plan that was addressed by a previous Council in the spring of 2001.

Mission statement – The purpose of the city government for Clinton, Illinois is to provide the highest quality of life possible for our citizens and guests while maintaining a cooperative atmosphere for the retention and attraction of business and industry.

Our mission statement has focused on our geographic location to capitalize on two million visitors to our area annually. Outdoor was listed as one of our amenities – already in place.

With that in mind, the Council had placed on file at their last meeting, a Resolution Opposing the Closure of Weldon Springs. Motion was offered for approval.

Written motion made by Commissioner Edmunds and seconded by Commissioner Milton to adopt Resolution #2008-14, a Resolution Opposing the Closure of Weldon Springs State Park. On roll call Commissioners Edmunds, Hickman, Wise, Milton and Mayor Wollet voted “Yes.”

Also left over from the previous meeting was the direction of purchasing Fire Prevention Week – Material \$2,756.24.

Written motion was made by Commissioner Milton and seconded by Commissioner Edmunds to approve the purchase of Fire Prevention Material in the amount of \$2,756.24. On roll call Commissioners Edmunds, Hickman, Wise, Milton and Mayor Wollet voted “Yes.”

As discussions continued, Ruth Stouffer of DCDC worked with the Council on the Vision Plan. DeWitt County is going to work with Farmer City and incorporate their thoughts and goals into the County Vision Plan – along the City’s update of 2001 plan making smoother cooperation and information to be shared by all three

At this point many in-depth conversations diverted in many directions challenging the thought process to come up with something new and creative to promote not only Clinton but the entire area.

Tim Followell then turned the conversation to annexations that greatly influence the growth of the City and the direction for development. Over the past few years, the City

has made some key purchases on both east and west sides of town that in many ways have been good and some ways have been a disadvantage.

Ruth said cities have to keep moving or die out.

A list of other accomplishments concerning the TIF Districts and the fact the information is on the City Website might be attractive to future endeavors.

Commissioner Edmunds suggested a next step should be updating the Comprehensive Plan involving the City, public and maybe the regional planning commission to get input from all areas.

Downtown renovations have received perks from the façade grants available to businesses to make facelifts to their aged buildings. Tim said this might be a dated project since the TIF could be ending in a few years.

At times the list of things to do compared to the list of projects seems overwhelming. Updating this list to have time lines and quarterly reports seemed to be a good suggestion. Budgeting funds to support these future plans is also another key element.

Wrapping up the thoughts Mayor Wollet read a paragraph from the IMAP recommendation that the City take a facilitated strategic planning process that reviews the existing vision statement, identifies strategic issues that needs to be addressed in order to achieve that vision and then sets goals to address the issues.

Mayor Wollet said he will be scheduling professional groups to help Council with these endeavors.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hickman and seconded by Commissioner Edmunds to adjourn the meeting. Motion was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rozella D. Wickenhauser
City Clerk