

**CITY OF EARLVILLE  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
REGULAR SESSION AUGUST 5, 2015  
City Hall Council Room, 210 W. Railroad Street, Earlville, IL**

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Alderman Harp called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

The following members were present: Alderman Austin, Alderman Bonine, Alderman Grimm, Alderman Harp, Alderman Jenkins and Alderman Konsoer.

Visitor at the meeting were James Hall, Eldon Collins, Shelia Jenkins, Wilma Stillwell, Ed Taylor, Don Sawicki, Roger Torman, Mike Heiston, Jenny Boltz, Bill Schwabenland (Wipfli), Joe Plumlee, Mike Hall, Tamara Abbey (News-Tribune) and Stu Bloom (Earlville Post).

**ADDITIONAL AGENDA**

Alderman Grimm stated he would like to look into a city logo. Item placed under New Business for discussion.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Alderman Jenkins made a motion, seconded by Alderman Austin to approve the July 1<sup>st</sup> Regular Session minutes. All in favor by voice vote. MOTION CARRIED.

**PUBLIC VOICE**

James Hall voiced his concern about a dead tree, where Don Grey used to live, stating he felt it was very dangerous. He also stated he is saddened about the police thinking they need a union representation. Mr. Hall left at 5:35 p.m.

Eldon Collins stated he would like to defer his comments until the discussion on the Winthrop Street sidewalk under Unfinished Business.

**FINANCE** – Alderman Austin reported:

- Recommend payment of all bills – Alderman Harp made a motion, seconded by Alderman Bonine to recommend payment of the bills be placed on the council agenda. All in favor by voice vote. MOTION CARRIED.
- Bill Schwabenland of WIPFLI LLP gave a brief overview of the annual audit for fiscal year 5/1/2014 – 4/30/2015. Alderman Austin made a motion, seconded by Alderman Jenkins to place the acceptance of the annual audit on the agenda for the August City Council meeting. All in favor by voice vote. MOTION CARRIED.
- Discussed the bid for replacing the light fixtures at city hall. Alderman Jenkins made a motion seconded by Alderman Grimm to table this until September when more information can be gathered about the proposed LED lights and possible grants to help with the cost. All in favor by voice vote. MOTION CARRIED.

## **PUBLIC WORKS – Alderman Harp reported:**

- There were no bids received on the 2015 MFT Maintenance Project due to all contractors being already fully booked with work for the season. Discussed holding the project until next year and bidding it earlier when the county bids projects.
- Roger Torman is waiting to hear from Putnam County on when they will start the water tower maintenance.

## **POLICE – Alderman Jenkins reported:**

- Continuing looking at possibilities to get the cameras in the park working again
- Alderman Bonine asked if we are enforcing the city sticker ordinance. Alderman Jenkins and Chief Plumlee state it was being enforced. Discussion was held on how aggressively to enforce the vehicle sticker ordinance. Discussed how to get the information out so people know about the requirement. Chief Plumlee asked the council if they wanted it enforced aggressively – those who purchased stickers but do not have them in the window of the vehicle, as the ordinance states would technically be in violation, should they be fined?

## **PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY – Alderman Bonine reported:**

- Next spraying for mosquitos is scheduled for tonight
- The city engineer took pictures of the house on Stilson Street wrote a letter concerning its unsafe condition. Alderman Jenkins stated that Nicor removed the gas meter today.
- Alderman Grimm stated he looked at Streator's abandoned building ordinance and suggested that the city look at it and draft one for Earlville so these abandoned buildings can be dealt with and possible get some funds to help with the costs.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Eldon Collins stated he felt that the city should pay for the sidewalk repair at his house at 420 W. Winthrop Street, that he states the contractor damaged, but he decided that if the city paid 70% he would be happy. Mr. Collins stated he had three quotes but 2 of them could not do the job until next year. He stated that the sidewalk would be put in higher to help with the drainage problem. Alderman Konsoer asked about details of the project so that everyone could be certain what is being agreed to and that when the project is done there will be no more issues. Mayor Hall suggested checking with the city insurance to be sure there would be not liability on the city. Alderman Konsoer made a motion to make a one-time exception to the sidewalk program and do a 70 city/30 homeowner split pending some kind of detail of the project specifications so everyone is clear what is being done. Mr. Collins stated that is in the bid and he provided the bid to be copied for each Alderman. Alderman Harp summarized that it would be put on the agenda for the council meeting next week to approve the one-time exception to the sidewalk program with the 70/30 split.

Discussion of the proposed Resolution dealing with training and travel expenses. Alderman Jenkins made a motion that the resolution state that department heads submit a written report of upcoming training, as long as funds are available, to the council before hand and also give a written report of what was learned and the benefits of the training and it be put on the agenda for the council meeting next week. Alderman Konsoer seconded. All in favor by voice vote. MOTION CARRIED.

## NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Grimm discussed the idea of creating a city logo. He suggest possibly contacting the school about art students submitting possible drawings. He will contact the school art teacher about possibilities. Alderman Austin suggested having discussion about what would be placed on the logo. Alderman Grimm will check with Rose Stockley, of the Historical Society, about things important in Earlville's history.

At 6:34 p.m. Alderman Jenkins made a motion, seconded by Alderman Grimm, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor by voice vote. MOTION CARRIED.

*Martha E. Dankenbring*

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Deputy Clerk

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