

**CITY OF EARLVILLE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
REGULAR SESSION DECEMBER 2, 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 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Alderman Robin Austin, Alderman Ken Bonine, Alderman Walter Grimm, Alderman Brock Harp, Alderman Chuck Jenkins, and Alderman Michael Konsoer.

Visitors at the meeting were Martha Dankenbring, George Durbin, Pat Durbin, Mike Heiston, Jim Hall, Wilma Stillwell, Rose Stockley, Roger Torman, Joe Plumlee, Tamara Abbey (News-Tribune), and Stu Bloom (Earlville Post).

ADDITIONAL AGENDA - None

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Alderman Bonine made a motion, seconded by Alderman Jenkins, to approve the November 4, 2015, Regular Session minutes. All in favor by voice vote. MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC VOICE

Jim Hall inquired as to whether there would be a tax increase or a levy increase, thanked Roger Torman, and encouraged the council to work together.

FINANCE – Alderman Austin reported:

Alderman Austin recommended payment of bills be placed on the agenda of the regular December meeting. Alderman Konsoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Grimm, that payment of the bills be placed on the council agenda.

Alderman Austin discussed Levy figures recommending a request of a 4.95% increase over the previous year's levy extension. Discussion followed related to appropriations ordinance and the tax levy. Mrs. Dankenbring reported the increase/decrease on each fund in the levy. Alderman Jenkins made a motion, seconded by Alderman Austin, to accept a 4.95% increase over last year's levy extension request.

PUBLIC WORKS – Alderman Harp reported:

Mr. Torman stated

- The plow hit a manhole and broke beyond repair. A new 1-ton 9 1/2 foot plow is ordered which fits same brackets and wire harness.
- Tires on the Bobcat need to be replaced.
- The city presses and hauls sludge.
- The city will coordinate with LaSalle County on bidding for MFT street repairs.

POLICE – Alderman Jenkins reported:

Chief Plumlee reported

- The radar gun is repaired.
- There is a continuous battle to cover shifts.

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY – Alderman Bonine reported:

Alderman Bonine made a motion, seconded by Alderman Jenkins, to recommend City attorney proceed with action on the house at 515 Stilson Street.

Alderman Bonine made a motion, seconded by Alderman Grimm, the city adopt and amend the Streator ordinance to the City of Earlville to deal with vacant properties, excluding 515 Stilson Street.

NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Harp brought up having internet access for the alderman to use at city hall for city research. Discussion held on getting a router to allow internet access and to get a color printer for Alderman to use, recommend putting this on the agenda.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Alderman Konsoer offered to complete rebate application paper work for pre-approval of a lighting upgrade.

Mrs. Dankenbring will talk to the IT man to try to get additional quotes for the hardware/software for email archive required to move forward with webpage. Will get acrobat software now to prepare documents. Alderman Harp stressed that he wanted it to be done right.

Alderman Harp recommended discussion on Sand Transfer Plant Royalties and operator's license fee be tabled until January.

NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Konsoer recommended a deadline be set for placing items on the agenda. It was determined the deadline to Brock Harp for agenda items would be 1:00 p.m. on Monday.

Alderman Konsoer recommended the office purchase a postage meter. Mrs. Dankenbring stated they tried that in the past, unsuccessfully.

Alderman Konsoer recommended the city consider bi-monthly water billing as a cost savings.

At 8:53 p.m. Alderman Jenkins made a motion, seconded by Alderman Austin, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor by voice vote. MOTION CARRIED.



Jane M. Bauer
City Clerk