

**CITY OF EARLVILLE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
December 7, 2022, 7:00 p.m.
City Hall Council Room, 210 W. Railroad Street, Earlville, IL**

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Alderman Goodbred called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Mayor Mark Actis, Alderman Robin Austin, Alderman Michael Goodbred, and Alderman Bryan Nelson. Also present: Alderman Chuck Jenkins and Alderman Steve Osborne by remote participation. Absent: Alderman Edward Farley. Also Present: Attorney Nigel Smith.

Alderman Chuck Jenkins and Alderman Steve Osborne made requests to participate in the meeting from remote locations via telephone.

- Alderman Jenkins and Alderman Osborne notified the City Clerk of their desire to participate remotely at least 24 hours before the meeting date.
- Alderman Jenkins could not attend the meeting because of personal illness, Alderman Osborne could not attend the meeting because of employment purposes.
- It was established that a quorum of the Earlville City Council Committee of the Whole was physically present for the December 7, 2022, meeting where remote participation was requested.

Alderman Goodbred made a motion, seconded by Alderman Austin, to allow Alderman Chuck Jenkins and Alderman Steve Osborne off-site remote participation in the meeting. On roll call: Alderman Austin – aye, Alderman Goodbred – aye, Alderman Nelson – aye, Mayor Actis – aye. MOTION CARRIED. Absent: Alderman Farley.

Visitors at the meeting were Maureen King, Kristin Decker, Roger Torman, and Chief Darin Crask.

Chairman Osborne requested Mike Goodbred run the meeting for him. Alderman Jenkins made a motion, seconded by Alderman Austin to have Mike Goodbred chair the meeting. All in favor by voice vote. MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Alderman Osborne made a motion, seconded by Alderman Nelson, to approve the agenda. All in favor by voice vote. MOTION CARRIED. Absent: Alderman Farley.

Public Voice

Maureen King requested the city consider decreasing utility tax on gas bills, asked how long someone has to complete a building project, what can be done to encourage someone to complete a project.

CONSENT AGENDA

Alderman Nelson made a motion, seconded by Alderman Austin, to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- Approval of November 2, 2022 regular Committee Meeting minutes
- Recommendation payment of all bills be placed on Council agenda

-Recommendation to place the proposed Committee of the Whole and City Council regular meeting schedule for 2023 on the Council agenda for approval; Committee of the Whole meetings to be the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. and City Council meetings to be the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The Zoning Board of Appeals meets as needed.

Roll Call: Alderman Austin – aye, Alderman Osborne – aye, Mayor Actis – aye, Alderman Jenkins – aye, Alderman Nelson – aye, Alderman Goodbred – aye. MOTION CARRIED.
Absent: Alderman Farley.

Finance

Alderman Austin made a motion, seconded by Alderman Goodberd, to have ORDINANCE NO. 12-14-2022 AN ORDINANCE LEVYING TAXES FOR THE CITY OF EARLVILLE, LASALLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING MAY 1, 2022 AND ENDING APRIL 30, 2023 placed on the Council agenda. Voice Vote. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.
Absent: Alderman Farley.

Alderman Austin addressed concerns about emails sent to department heads stating working hours were to change, questioned why Mayor did not bring concerns to the Council as they are the ones who set the policy. Alderman Austin expressed concerns about the working environment, hostile work environment and the effects on morale and employee retention. Martha Dankenbring questioned emails to department heads, the need to change work hours, consistency with policy, equitable treatment of all employees and harassment.

Attorney Nigel Smith addressed the Council on the issues raised in the discussion. He stated there are many parts to this discussion that the Council needs to consider and if the Council feels changes need to be made they would need to update their policies. He cautioned everyone to be aware of all situations, litigation on labor matters is a very costly.

Public Works

Alderman Goodbred made a motion, seconded by Alderman Austin to have the Intergovernmental Agreement with LaSalle County and the City of Earlville, for cape sealing various streets within the City of Earlville, payment for work performed on same and to authorize the mayor and city clerk to sign all documents necessary for the project, placed on the Council agenda. This project will be paid for with Motor Fuel Tax funds. Voice Vote. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. Absent: Alderman Farley.

Alderman Goodbred made a motion, seconded by Alderman Jenkins to place RESOLUTION NO. 12-14-2022 RESOLUTION FOR MAINTENANCE UNDER THE ILLINOIS HIGHWAY CODE Appropriating \$100,000.00 of Motor Fuel Tax Funds for the 2023 Seal Coat and Cape Seal Projects on the Council agenda. Voice Vote. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. Absent: Alderman Farley.

Mayor Actis made a motion, seconded by Alderman Nelson to place approval for the City Attorney to draft letters to the 4 property owners, to be directly affected by the vacating of a portion of West Street, explaining what will happen and an additional letter once the hearing date has been set, on the Council agenda. Voice Vote. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.
Absent: Alderman Farley.

Roger Torman informed the Council that Doug passed the test for class C & D in water, upon completion of training hours he will have his license. The new PLC is completely installed and

running great. The one-ton truck needs rear tires and transmission is slipping and the International was just serviced.

Police

Chief Crask stated he sent information out this afternoon on the proposed School Resource Officer duties.

Public Health & Safety – none

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Alderman Goodbred opened discussion on the proposed Continued Education / Compensation Policy stating he did not object to being compensated for additional education. Mayor Actis stated the proposed policy lacks the police department, they have state mandates, how would this play out with the CBA. The mayor read an email received from Mike Konsoer "I am urging you to oppose Item #10A on the agenda for the Committee of the Whole meeting on 12/07/22. Our families are struggling and cannot endure yet another City imposed expense. Our employees already enjoy great benefits. Additionally, you have no idea of what the legacy cost of this benefit will be." The mayor asked that a cost estimate be made. Martha Dankenbring asked what parameters should be used to calculate the cost. Mayor Actis stated that he felt it would be one person gaining certification.

Mayor Actis made a motion, seconded by Alderman Austin to place creating the classification of school resource officer within the police department, part time when school is in session, on the Council agenda. Roll call: Alderman Austin – aye, Alderman Nelson – aye, Alderman Goodbred – aye, Alderman Jenkins – aye, Alderman Osborne – aye and Mayor Actis – aye. MOTION CARRIED. Absent: Alderman Farley.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Actis made a motion, seconded by Alderman Nelson to place approval of creating a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the school resource officer classification on the Council agenda. Voice Vote. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. Absent: Alderman Farley.

Mayor Actis made a motion, seconded by Alderman Osborne to place approval of creating an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the school for the school resource officer on the Council agenda. Voice Vote. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. Absent: Alderman Farley.

CLOSED SESSION - none

ADJOURN

At 8:45 p.m., Alderman Jenkins made a motion, seconded by Nelson, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor by voice vote. MOTION CARRIED. Absent: Alderman Farley.

Martha E. Dankenbring

Martha E. Dankenbring, MMC
Deputy City Clerk