

**CITY OF EARLVILLE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
REGULAR SESSION MARCH 2, 2016
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 Barry Cox, Rick Morphey, Martha Dankenbring, Mike Hall, Sheila Jenkins, Mike Heiston, Wilma Stillwell, Roger Torman, Joe Plumlee, Tamara Abbey (News-Tribune), and Stu Bloom (Earlville Post).

REPRESENTATIVE FROM TURNROTH SIGN COMPANY

Mr. Barry Cox presented sign choices and gave an overview of what the Turnroth bid included. The sign will be built by Watchfire, it will show for 3 seconds with drive by estimated at 9-12 seconds, the sign is recommended for 2 line use, the program includes thousands of graphics, programming is through office computers, installation and training is included in the pricing.

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Earlville City Building Inspector Mr. Rick Morphey discussed the ordinance to deal with vacant properties and the priority lien procedures. He shared he has experience in this area and it is complicated. He recommended that he, the city attorney, the mayor, and council members meet to discuss who will be responsible for what when dealing with vacant properties.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA - None

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Alderman Jenkins made a motion, seconded by Alderman Austin, to approve the February 3, 2016, Regular Session minutes. All in favor by voice vote. MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC VOICE - None

FINANCE – Alderman Austin reported:

Alderman Austin made a motion, seconded by Alderman Jenkins, that payment of the bills be placed on the March city council agenda. All in favor by voice vote. MOTION CARRIED.

Alderman Austin reminded committee members the Wage Ordinance is passed and wage changes are decided in April to be effective May 1, 2016. The wage ordinance will be discussed at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

Alderman Konsoer inquired about the progress on the City of Earlville website. Mrs. Dankenbring reported the server arrived March 1, Chris will get it loaded during his school break, by the end of March everything should be installed. Mrs. Dankenbring has asked police and city works department to select any documents they feel need to be posted on the website. Alderman Grimm stated he would award a \$50 prize to the person who creates a city logo selected by the City Council for use on website and city stationary/documents. He encouraged school students to participate. Alderman Konsoer recommended the committee establish parameters, recommended it become an agenda item, and established May 1, as a live date for the website.

PUBLIC WORKS – Alderman Harp recommended Council approve Resolution. Alderman Jenkins made a motion, seconded by Alderman Austin, to move to the council meeting the adoption of RESOLUTION NO. 03-09-2016 RESOLUTION FOR MAINTENANCE OF STREETS AND HIGHWAYS BY MUNICIPALITY UNDER THE ILLINOIS HIGHWAY CODE (For the appropriation of Motor Fuel Tax funds for the project). All in favor by voice vote. MOTION CARRIED. The motor fuel tax balance is approximately \$200,000 with \$92,000 needed for the project. The reserved difference will be held for use next year to repair Ottawa Street and downtown streets.

Mr. Torman reported the city will be conducting berm cleaning but only in areas where the snow plow has thrown gravel into the berm and grass. The city will not be cleaning all berms.

POLICE – Alderman Jenkins reported: Chief Plumlee shared information on a proposed alcohol awareness program to be presented to Earlville CUSD #9 students. Chief Plumlee asked the council to approve purchasing two pairs of special goggles for simulation of alcohol use at a total price of \$300, as stated. Alderman Jenkins made a motion, seconded by Alderman Austin, to purchase two pairs of goggles to be used by Officer Theis and other officers in alcohol awareness program and officer use. All in favor by voice vote. MOTION CARRIED.

Chief Plumlee stated the Earlville High School requested additional police coverage for the Donkey Basketball games.

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY – Alderman Bonine reported: Animals are running at large and the recent insert in the water survey was good, but would not eliminate the animal problem. Chief Plumlee stated he uses judgment when issuing tickets to violators so as not to pile on tickets. It was agreed that Alderman Grimm would rewrite the animal ordinance according to Illinois State laws and submit to the council.

Even though the Safe Routes to School Grant is not available at this time, Alderman Konsoer recommended the City Council go ahead and steer the project with sub committees reporting to a committee so the city will be ready for the grant when funds become available. The committee should include school representatives.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Alderman Konsoer reported on the city hall lighting upgrade. He stated he was happy to report Mr. Torman's department, Jack and Gary, worked great on the project. All that is left in the upgrade outlined in the grant is the basement lighting. Alderman Konsoer reported materials came in under estimates.

Alderman Bonine recommended the City Hall sign approval for \$12,755, proposed by Turnroth Sign Co., Inc., be moved to approval at City Council meeting. The quote includes installation, training, and a two year warranty. Alderman Grimm asked the old sign with broken letters be removed.

NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Konsoer discussed the M1 boundaries. Mrs. Dankenbring explained a Manufacturing zone (M1) has no residential dwellings so it does not affect voting. Alderman Konsoer recommended that the following be placed on the April Committee of the Whole agenda: putting the M1 property in Ward 1 and modify the zoning process to predetermine what ward Manufacturing will be in prior to its approval.

Alderman Konsoer asked to table the Special Use permit fees for the M1 District to the next meeting.

ADJOURN

At 8:39 p.m. Alderman Jenkins made a motion, seconded by Alderman Grimm, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor by voice vote. MOTION CARRIED.


Jane M. Bauer
City Clerk