

CITY OF EARLVILLE
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, November 28, 2022, 7:00 p.m.
City Hall, 210 W. Railroad Street, Earlville, IL

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Mark Actis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. On November 23, 2022, notice of this Special Meeting was posted at City Hall, Posted on the City website, sent to elected officials via email, a hard copy put in elected officials City Hall mailboxes, and sent to press via email.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Alderman Robin Austin, Alderman Edward Farley, Alderman Michael Goodbred, Alderman Bryan Nelson, and Alderman Steven Osborne. Present by remote participation was Alderman Chuck Jenkins. Also present Nigel Smith, attorney.

Alderman Chuck Jenkins made a request to participate in the meeting from a remote location via telephone.

- Alderman Jenkins notified the City Clerk of his desire to participate remotely at least 24 hours before the meeting date.
- Alderman Jenkins could not attend the meeting because of a personal illness
- It was established that a quorum of the Earlville City Council was physically present for the November 28, 2022, meeting where remote participation was requested.

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

Visitors: Martha Dankenbring, Chief Darin Crask, and Rich Faivre – Earlville Community Unit School District #9 Superintendent.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Public Voice – none

Mr. Rich Faivre, Earlville Community Unit School District No. 9 Superintendent, spoke on a School Resource Officer (SRO) and the school's position. He stated that a few years ago he did not feel it was necessary. Now, with mass shootings everywhere, he feels it is another added step of protection adding to the vigilance currently in place at the school. Having an armed first responder is extremely important. Mr. Faivre stated a survey of staff indicated that 97% favored having an SRO; only one person voted no.

Chief Crask stated a majority of school shooters are students or parents and therefore, allowed into the school. He also added that an SRO would be involved in many areas in the school for example, talking about traffic stops and would also attend sporting events.

A part-time SRO officer was defined as a police officer working 200 full days in the school.

Mayor Actis led in a discussion on forming the position of School Resource Officer then led in a nominal group process; each alderman gave their standing on an SRO:

- Alderman Farley stated he doesn't favor taking away from the current police department, but would favor a part time officer.
- Alderman Goodbred stated the need for an SRO. He did not feel like taking away a full time officer from the city's current force.
- Alderman Osborne stated he was in agreement with it, but not in favor of full time.
- Alderman Jenkins stated he favored part time and that it made a lot of sense for part time.
- Alderman Austin stated she favored part time
- Alderman Nelson stated he favored starting with part time

There was a consensus that a part time SRO would be acceptable.

Aldermen favored revisiting the position of an SRO at the end of the school year.

Attorney Nigel Smith stated he liked the process and discussion that is taking place. He stated they will need to develop a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU).

Mayor Actis stated the city needed to spell out severability language. They would work from the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) and the specifics of the Police Contract.

ADJOURN

At 7:40 p.m. Alderman Osborne made a motion, seconded by Alderman Jenkins, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor by voice vote. MOTION CARRIED.

Jane M. Bauer

Jane M. Bauer, Ed.D.
City Clerk