June 5, 2019

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Winchester City Council held their monthly meeting June 5, 2019 at City Hall.

Mayor Rex McIntire called the meeting to order, with the following council members present: Ron Bell, Lawrence Coultas, Cathy Debold, Terry Gregory, Bill Jacquot, Jeff Pittman and City Clerk, Brenda Robinson.

Also in attendance: Amy Brown, City Treasurer; George Lindsey, Police Chief; John Simmons, Supt of Public Works; John Paul Coonrod, City Attorney; Carmen Ensinger, Scott County Times; Reg Benton, Benton & Associates; Joni Garrett, Joan Garrett, J. D. Fearneyhough, Marcie Renner, Donna Daws, Donna Lawrence, Don & Tammy Hoots, Leland Evans, Lyndsy McIntyre, Watts Copy Systems; Chris Fuller, Phil Pratt and Gordon & Lynn McKinney.

**MOTION**: Bill Jacquot moved and Terry Gregory seconded to pay bills as presented. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**MOTION**: Cathy Debold moved and Jeff Pittman seconded to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**Joyce Riggs** asked to be on agenda but was not here. She talked to Mayor McIntire about big dogs being led by owners around the square during the carnival. She was concerned about the safety of the kids. She thought it was inviting problems. She wondered if something could be put in the paper for next year. Council thought it could be a concern but wondered about music in the park and people bringing their dogs. It was decided something should be put in the paper requesting people from bringing their dogs to public events on the square.

**Don Hoots** addressed the council about the sewer problems at his residence on South Mechanic. They have had problems since 2001. It was a private line put in by previous owners, which none of them live there now. Hoots, James Peak, Lynn & Gordon McKinney & Chris Fuller are all on the same sewer line. They have problems with the sewer plugging and have to have it cleaned out. It is a 4-inch line serving the four (4) houses. Mayor McIntire said it was the cities’ responsibility to fix this. John Simmons will contact a couple sewer people to look into it. Reg Benton said an EPA construction permit would be needed and they are not hard to get. This is on the south and was not included in the west side trunk sewer project. The sewer line needs to be shot to get it right. The sewer line is 200 feet from the property line. It should be straight forward to install, with a 6 to 8 inch pipe. This will be discussed at the next council meeting with a resolution.

**MOTION**: Lawrence Coultas moved and Cathy Debold seconded for the City to engage with Benton & Associates to investigate the sewer service on South Mechanic St. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**Brenda Robinson, City Clerk** introduced Lyndsy McIntyre from Watts Copy System about purchasing a certified copy machine. The current copy machine is old and can’t get parts if needed. Also there are several issues with copying and with the machine jamming. McIntyre is suggesting a Kyocera TA-3010i Multifunctional System. She suggested a 60-month lease program and after the 60-months the City can purchase it for $1. Quarterly payments would be $243.40 which includes a maintenance agreement, 4,500 images per month and will be paid per quarter. Any excess per month will be charged $.01 per sheet. This price includes the current Sharp AR-M317 traded in. Cathy Debold asked if she would be able to check out the Winchester Library’s printer. At this time Watt’s does not have a contract with them but she can check on it.

**MOTION**: Lawrence Coultas moved and Cathy Debold seconded to do the 60-month rental for the Kyocera TA-3030i copy machine from Watts Copy System to pay quarterly with option to purchase for $1 after the 60-months. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**Reg Benton, Benton & Associates** said Mike McEvers and John Simmons rode the streets earlier & they evaluated the condition of the streets. The estimate of maintenance cost is $41,845 and Benton’s maintenance engineering agreement of $2,600 total cost is $44,445. Benton suggested passing a resolution of $45,000 to cover everything. MFT is on an annual basis. Benton told council the city may receive more money next year with the gas tax increase. Benton had been to a few MFT bid openings and prices were higher due to increase of diesel prices.

**MOTION**: Ron Bell moved and Cathy Debold seconded to approve MFT general maintenance & engineering cost agreement with Benton & Associates. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Cathy Debold moved and Ron Bell seconded to approve Resolution 2019-6-5 the approval of Resolution for Maintenance under the Illinois Highway Code in the amount of $45,000. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**Amy Brown, City Treasurer** passed out her monthly report. General funds finally received money for the sidewalk grant which helped. McIntire asked if the check for $36,000 had been taken off. She was not for sure. She said the pool has a negative balance and will get more negative with the purchases for the pool.

**John Simmons, Supt of Public Works** said he needed to send James Dobson and Derik Evans to basic training for all the gas modules in Onley, IL on July 8, 9, & 10. Cost for training & rooms will be approximately $3,000 for both. They only allow 12 people to attend this conference. Cost will be $1,000 for the conference per person, plus mileage and motel. Cathy Debold had a library board meeting the night before and said the board was very pleased with the new parking spaces on North Main.

**MOTION**: Bill Jacquot moved and Cathy Debold seconded to approve James Dobson and Derik Evans to gas training in Olney, July 8-11. Maximum cost will be $3,000. Roll call resulted in 5 yeas and 1 abstention. Lawrence Coultas abstained. Motion carried.

**Simmons** passed out his monthly report as follows: poured 25¼ yards of concrete to extend parking north of library; lots of rain & had 22 working days; 60-70 hours overtime at pool; had 30 J.U.L.I.E locates, 2 calls by the City; 36 work order tickets; 7 funeral, grave opening; 3 gas leaks; Emergency response meeting on May 2; had several hours with flood water at city lagoons treatment; passed out 11ordinance violations for yard clean up; City is mowing several extra yards; received over 3 inches of rain May 1; yearly leak survey on gas done by USDI and 1 employee; brush pickup; filled pool; carnival; extra fuel tank from F.S. in case of levee break; monthly odorant reading.

**Simmons** said this was not on the agenda but wanted to let council knowsaid he had talked to Jamie Haden & Adam Fox about the sludge in the lagoons. They have suggested the city add additives to the lagoons to reduce the sludge by 40 – 60%. The city would add the additive in the warmer months. The cost would be around $6,000 for the treatment. Simmons was told to get more information and get it on the agenda next month.

**Mayor McIntire** said he got a call from Blake Roderick from Pike-Scott Farm Bureau and he asked if the city had any project around $5,000. McIntire stated the sidewalk at the library for extra parking had just been completed. Roderick said they had set aside $5,000 for the City of Winchester but the mayor needs to fill out the application. McIntire talked to Mr. Roderick and met Senator Steve McClure, who replaced Sam McCann.

**McIntire** said last month the roof at Hickory Flats had been brought up. Since then Scott Gregory has talked to Abe Kunz about fixing it. They hope to work out a deal with Chalmer Herring to get it fixed before damaging Studio 29.

**McIntire** turned it over to Lawrence Coultas who had been getting quotes for a sound system for the Douglas Park. Lawrence Coultas received three (3) quotes: Advanced Audio of Peoria quoted $26,461.37; AirNetix, LLC from Atlanta, GA bid $8,550 and Sundown One in Springfield bid $1,658.78. He talked to people about the sound system from GA and they loved it but you had to have it installed. Sundown One has a two (2) speaker system (can purchase 2 more speakers if needed) you do not have to bury cables, you just roll them up, has two (2) wireless mics and stand. He asked if we would plug their company if we could get a discount and he would need to talk to his boss. It will cost $170 to set up & show how to use it the first time. Sundown suggested getting a trunk to store all the equipment in. This will be use at events on the square. Cathy Debold has volunteered to be the employee to manage it.

**MOTION:** Cathy Debold moved and Lawrence Coultas seconded to purchase the sound system from Sundown One in Springfield for $1,658.78 (minus $119 in tax). With the stipulation only be used by city employees and not everyone be allowed to use it. Roll call resulted in 5 yeas and 1 abstention. Bill Jacquot abstained. Motion carried.

After the abstention of Bill Jacquot, Mayor McIntire said he was not very happy about his abstention after spending all the money at the pool in the last few weeks. Bill said he was not opposed at the cost it was because only two (2) events had been talked about per year when the system would be used. McIntire said he didn’t know how much it would be used.

**McIntire** said the music in the park would feature Tapestry. McIntire commented that one person was missing at the meeting Don Campbell was not in attendance. He said at the Memorial Service he had several people comment on how nice the cemetery looked and Don Campbell was one of them. Lawrence Coultas said Don Campbell stopped by his house and commented on how nice it looked.

**McIntire** said membership to Scott County Economic Development Corporation. was due. Amount is $500. The corporation is made of up of several business owners. Pat VanDeVelde is President, Jay Rueter is V-President, Jennie Weder is Secretary, Keith Devlin is Treasurer; along with several board members.

**MOTION:** Lawrence Coultas moved and Terry Gregory seconded to approve the membership to Scott County Economic Development Corporation with annual fee of $500. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**McIntire** wanted to address several things. He stated he ran to improve and clean up the city. He thought he had done that. He donated his equipment and made several trips to Springfield & didn’t ask for any money for gas. He donated tools and other items.

**McIntire** said he there was a rumor going around that he purchased the Coultas ground and turned around and sold it to the city and made money on it. All you have to do is go to the courthouse to see who purchased the property and it was the City of Winchester. The council voted in closed session to purchase the property. J.D. Fearneyhough cash rents the ground and pays a good amount. The property is zoned conservatory and plans are to improve 3 or 4 acres as a recreational area. There are grants available to build ball parks. Along Old Highway 36 it would be zoned as commercial with someone looking to purchase property to build a restaurant.

**McIntire** talked about the Windsor Homes when they were being built. Now look at what we have. There are nice home standing where eyesores one stood. He said he heard they were ruining the school system but that is the housing not affordable housing. The Windsor homes are not section 8 houses. They have to be investigated and must meet certain guidelines as well as a background check. After much discussion about the affordable housing, it was decided to move on but find out the facts before talking about the housing.

**McIntire** talked about the infrastructure fee. Last month a $5 infrastructure fee per water meter was passed. Phil Pratt has two (2) water meters on his property and asked why he should pay $10 a month and only use one (1) meter 3 months out of the year.

**McIntire** would like to sell some of the property on North Main for use as residential. J.D. Fearneyhough said the water is bad and there are sink holes out there. He suggested putting up NO TRESPASSING signs. Joni Garrett asked about the Fellowship Church and what would be done if it was sold. Could someone build a house there and she was told it is SR1, (single residence)

**Donna Daws** asked about the water that is flooding her property at the funeral home. She was promised sewer when they moved here and still does not have it at the funeral home. Jimmy Moore hooked them up to sewer at their house.

**J.D. Fearneyhough** asked how much the city was asking for the lots on N. Main. A reasonable price would be $15,000 per acre or $25,000 for 2 acres. It would have to be measured. J.D. Fearneyhough said he would be interested in purchasing if & when the city decides to sell them.

They are planning to put sewer & water on the property when they get ready to sub-divide or upgrade it. When everyone was leaving Joni Garrett said thank you!

**Matt Watson, Police Officer** cited a person about throwing out trash at the lagoons. The person left letters & other identifying items. He went to the person & made him clean it up.

**John Coonrod, City Attorney** passed out the 2019-2020 annual appropriation for council approval. He said it could be passed tonight or could wait until next month but thought it was good to go.

**MOTION**: Lawrence Coultas moved and Cathy Debold seconded to pass Ordinance 890 – An Appropriation Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 the City of Winchester, Scott County, Illinois. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**Coonrod** passed out façade & roof improvement program. Since the TIF program we can pass as a resolution instead of an ordinance. It was passed out last month and there were a few changes so we could put this in effect. They must complete an application and not to exceed $5,000. This is anything dealing with façade or roof structure and have bids attached. Application can be approved or rejected by council. Applicants must be in the TIF district.

**MOTION**: Terry Gregory moved and Ron Bell seconded to pass Resolution 2019-6-2 A Resolution Authorizing Façade and Roof Improvement Program. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**Coonrod** passed out an Ordinance Providing for Review of Probationary Employees. This ordinance amends the city handbook. This clarifies start date & hires date. The department heads have to give a written performance review. Terry Gregory said it would be nice to have a form to use for this. She will pick it up when she goes to Springfield later this month.

**MOTION**: Cathy Debold moved and Lawrence Coultas seconded to pass Ordinance 891, an Ordinance Providing for Review of Probationary Employees. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**Coonrod** passed out the annual prevailing wage ordinance.

**MOTION**: Bill Jacquot moved and Cathy Debold seconded to pass Ordinance 892 Prevailing Wage Ordinance of the City of Winchester, Scott County, Illinois. Roll call resulted in all yeas, Motion carried.

**ALDERMAN REPORTS:**

**Bill Jacquot** wanted to thank the mowers at the cemetery. They are doing a great job and it looks nice. He stated Jeff Pittman, Terry Gregory and himself would be meeting at the cemetery to go over stone repair for this year. They plan to get about $5,000 to $6,000 worth. He left a message for Duane Crockett stating a two (2) stone needs to be revisited and one (1) headstone needs to be engraved.

**Swimming Pool**, Thanks to John Simmons, Leland Evans and crew as well as Greg Hillis, Benton & Associates for doing a good job on getting the pool opened on time. It opened on May 25. Everything that could go wrong did go wrong the first week. We really have some bad equipment at the pool. Chemicals and things were taken out of Simmons hands a few years ago. He stated they took advantage of Bill McNeese that is what he wanted. There were some things he didn’t relate to them that would have helped. We lost $2,500 worth of chlorine tablets; they have a company that delivers when needed. A check list is needed because things are not getting done. With the managers being younger some things are not getting done.

**Jacquot** was asked how many lifeguards are needed per swimmers. American Red Cross said one (1) lifeguard per 20 swimmers and swim lessons were one (1) instructor per 3 – 5 students. There was a problem when 6 were signed up and 4 additional showed up. So that made a total of 10 kids in the class. So after the Monday session they had another instructor. It was stated there is one instructor per five (5) kids and one (1) lifeguard on deck in case the kids get away from instructor.

**Jacquot** was asked if he thought there were an excessive number of lifeguards this year. He thought there was and he was going to talk to Jill Cox since she is the pool board chair. There are seventeen (17) lifeguards and two (2) junior lifeguards on the roster at the present time.

**Simmons** thought next year there should be a pool manager and a maintenance manager for the pool. You can have a manager who is not a lifeguard.

**Cathy Debold** attended the library board meeting the night before. She said term renewable for John Coonrod, Ande Fundel and Robin Lyons this is a 3 year term. This will be on agenda next month. Kevin Evans resigned as library board president and Merrilyn Fedder is as interim president. The board needs to find a replacement for Kevin Evans. The library board was very appreciative of the new parking spaces.

Summer story hour is every Tuesday in June at 10 am at the library. It was discussed about having flashing lights during this time as safety percussions. It was discussed about reducing the speed limit in front of library.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** **Mayor McIntire** said he was brewing for a fight earlier and that caused him to jump down Bill Jacquot’s throat. He was very offended and he apologized for his outburst. Donna Lawrence talked about the affordable housing and how people were against it. The investors almost pulled out of it. They cannot discriminate and the government makes the rules. **Ron Bell** stated there is not a franchise tax on the fiber optic, but that was the other council.

**McIntire** said the council should consider amending the infrastructure fee from last month. Phil Pratt has two (2) hydrants. He thought if they pulled them out they will lose $14 a month plus $5. The Dog House has three (3) water meters. It could be for each household.

**MOTION**: Cathy Debold moved and Terry Gregory seconded to rescind the May 1 Resolution for infrastructure fee for $5 beginning June 1, 2019. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Lawrence Coultas moved and Jeff Pittman seconded to charge a $5 fee per city utility customer each billing cycle beginning with the June 2019 billing. Said fee will be referred to as a “Maintenance Fee.” Revenues from the “Maintenance Fee” will be earmarked to only be used for infrastructure maintenance and projects related to the City of Winchester. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**MOTION**: Lawrence Coultas and Cathy Debold seconded to go into closed session to discuss hiring full-time/temporary employee. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**MOTION**: Ron Bell moved and Bill Jacquot seconded to go out of closed session. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried. Came out of closed session at 11:30 p.m.

**MOTION**: Ron Bell moved and Bill Jacquot seconded to adjourn. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:35 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Rex McIntire, Mayor Brenda Robinson, City Clerk