

June 7, 2023.

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Winchester City Council held their monthly meeting June 7, 2023 at City Hall.

Mayor McIntire called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. with the following council in attendance: Jeff Pittman, Ron Bell, Bill Jacquot, Terry Gregory and City Clerk Teri Little. Lawrence Coultas absent.

Also, in attendance were Wanda Cody, City Treasurer; John Simmons, Supt of Public Works; John Paul Coonrod, City Attorney; Greg Hillis, Benton & Associates; Carmen Ensinger, Scott County Times; Steve Doolin, City Police Chief; Stevie VanDeVelde, Civic Group Representative; Emery Wood.

Mayor McIntire led those attending the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Wanda Cody, City Treasurer presented bills for approval.

MOTION: Terry Gregory moved and Jeff Pittman seconded to pay the bills as presented. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Mayor McIntire asked for any corrections for the regular meeting minutes of May 3, 2023.

MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved and Ron Bell seconded to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the regular May 3, 2023 meeting. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Greg Hillis, Benton and Associates, all paper work has been turned into IEPA and USDA. Hope to have all back soon but review at USDA may take a little time as the person that is in charge of review is out on medical leave and they are assigning to another person. Hope to advertise and send out for bid this month which is about 30 days behind.

Resident project representative has to be approved prior to bidding this is for project observation. Greg Hillis, Jim Morris and Dave Albers will be primary but Benton also recommends additional names be added in case others are not available.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Jeff Pittman seconded to approve letter 05-10-2023 resident project representative for USDA water main project. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

MFT roadwork sealed bid from IVP was only bid received. Bid was for \$65,674.20 which was 11.96% under the suggested cost of \$74,597.50.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Terry Gregory seconded to accept bid from IVP for MFT project for \$65,674.20. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Library project is close to being done. City crew still has some dirt work to do and once complete will turn in to close out grant funding.

Richards Electric did a grounding survey at the water treatment plant in the bottoms. They provided 2 options. The difference between the two was adding a surge protector to add additional protection. The cost would be \$8859.00. This would ground the area around the treatment plant to help reduce the lightning damage that has been experienced twice in less than 6 months.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Jeff Pittman seconded to approve the purchase of the \$8859.00 grounding project by Richards Electric. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Stevie VanDeVelde, Civic Group Rep, reported that the Spring fling was a big success. The civic group has planned to have a Christmas in July on July 27, 2023 from 5-8 pm. This will be similar to the night out event.

On July 13, 2023 would like to have a Glow Run after Music in the Park. Would require help in securing the route. John stated to get hold of him prior to event and they would work it out.

Teri Little, Library Board, needing to verify whom would be in charge of things such as the cleaning of gutters and things around the library. John will have someone check them. He recommended that the gutter guards would be great for the library since there are so many trees around the building. Teri will check into prices.

Emery Wood, requested to question the electric aggregation rate agreement that has been made with Constellation. A couple months ago the city entered into an 18-month agreement with Simec Energy Solutions Company to lock in a rate of 11.6% per kilowatt hour for all city residents. At the time Ameren rates were exceedingly higher. With the rates fluctuating so high it was in the best interest of the residents at the time to enter into the agreement. Any resident was welcome to opt out at anytime if did not want to participate. It has come to the cities attention that Ameren has lowered their rate now to 8.04% which is considerably lower that the fixed rate of Constellation. Residents can terminate with this new company with no issues but was advised to keep in mind Ameren can change rates at any time. There is a toll-free number just for Winchester residents to call and ask questions or terminate.

Steve Doolin, Police Chief, presented monthly report. Animal complaint – 2; Arrests – 3; Assist EMS – 1; Assist outside agency (Police) – 3; Assist fire department/Fire call – 2; Child endangerment – 1; Court – 1; Domestic disturbance – 1; Extra patrol requests – 3; Fight – 2; Found property returned – 1; Golf cart inspection – 2; Harassment – 4; Interviews – 2; Investigations – 2; Juvenile – 5; Noise complaint – 1; Sex offender register – 1; Speak to an officer – 39; Suspicious person – 1; Suspicious Vehicle – 2; Theft – 2; Traffic accidents – 1; Traffic control – 5; Traffic stops-verbal warnings – 4; Trespassing – 1; Well-being checks – 4.

Mayor McIntire wanted to recognize Chief Doolin for the great job he did in handling all the carnival traffic and keeping the peace among the large crowds. No incidents reported and he was very pro active in keeping eye on all the new people that were here in town.

Chief Doolin presented 3 fazes to get cameras for the city. The first one he advises to do is new camera install at park- 1 32 channel NVR, 16TB Storage for 25-30 playback, 18 indoor/outdoor Dome cameras, P2P Radios, install, setup and 3-year warranty for \$7000.00.

Second phase would be new camera install at City Hall - 1 16 channel NVR, 8TB Storage for 25-30 playback, 9 indoor/outdoor Dome cameras, install, setup and 3-year warranty. Include roof mount for 4 cameras for \$4250.00.

Final phase would be new camera install at Police department- 1 16 channel NVR, 8TB Storage for 25-30 playback, 12 indoor/outdoor Dome cameras, install, setup and 3-year warranty for \$4750.00.

An optional plan is LPR cameras with P2P unit and labor \$1,100.00 each

The park recommendation is first due to 2 incidents in the 1st week of the pool opening. He believes it would be very beneficial to have cameras at the pool and park since summer is here and so much more activity.

Cameras are the best way to deter crime and assist in solving crimes that do occur. There was some vandalism at Coonrod Funeral Home and the cameras on the courthouse were able to capture the person that caused the damage. Also, the LPR cameras are good to have to keep track of people entering and leaving town. Previously had a suspicious person reported in town that advised his car had been stolen but later he found it and left town. He had been tracked from up by Chicago to CA to AZ/Mexico border to Kansas City to here then back up by Joliet. The LPR camera's read the license plates of all cars that go by.

MOTION: Jeff Pittman moved and Terry Gregory seconded to approve purchase up to \$8100.00 for new camera system install at the park and 1 LPR camera using Rebuild America Funds in the MFT account. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Taylor Scott has been hired as a new fulltime officer. He will be attending the academy in August and has been doing ride along with Chief Doolin.

Teri Little, City Clerk, reported that the current postage machine that is being used is soon to be obsolete and no longer able to get parts. Three proposals were shown and council had a few questions on the fees for on site service & repair agreement. Teri will call and verify and council will vote at July meeting.

Bill Jacquot, Pool Board, presented the pool report as of June 7th, 2023. Attendance for the first 10 days was over 1000 patrons. This includes regular hours, swim parties and swim lessons. Report is included with minutes for detail.

Wanda Cody, City Treasurer, passed out all financial sheets for the month. Needing council approval to remove Caleb Handy from the USB bank account and add Steve Doolin.

MOTION: Terry Gregory moved and Jeff Pittman seconded to approve removing Caleb Handy and add Steve Doolin to USB bank account. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Council inquired as to what the \$779.00 amount for farm land rent was for. It was decided that it was for the hay bales received from the farm land.

John Simmons, Supt of Public Works, Monthly report – Work orders – 6; Locate tickets – 23; Funerals & grave openings – 3; Gas leaks – 3; Water leaks – 1; Opened up pool; Zoning

applications – 3; Put up new street signs; Roodhouse help w/sewer cleaning; Monthly brush pick up; read meters; Monthly odorant reading; Put in new gas service for Brad Meyers; Cold patching streets; Painted cross walk for school; Clean up, seed/fertilize grave spaces; Flags put up for Memorial Day.

Simmons is requesting the council approve to simplify the water leak adjustment process. He would like to change it to just removing the sewer portion of the bill to cover the adjustment. This would be for city residents only.

MOTION: Jeff Pittman moved and Ron Bell seconded to approve water leak adjustments to remove sewer only on city resident bills. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

In the past the city has hired high school students for summer help. He would like to request 2 be hired as soon as possible for the summer.

MOTION: Terry Gregory moved and Jeff Pittman seconded to approve to hire 1 high school summer worker at \$13.00 per hour based on personnel committee recommendation. Roll call resulted in 3 yeas and Bill Jacquot voting no. Motion carried.

Four bids were received for the sale of the 2006 ½ ton chevy pickup truck.

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|--------------------|-----------|
| 1. Larry Combs Sr | \$1250.00 |
| 2. Nick Davidson | \$1507.00 |
| 3. Jason Timmerman | \$1272.99 |
| 4. Jeff Kemper | \$ 785.00 |

Nick Davidson had the highest bid and will be advised he can purchase the truck. Ordinance 960 is for sale of surplus property.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Terry Gregory seconded to approve Ordinance 960 to sell surplus property 2006 ½ ton chevy truck. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

There has been damage reported to a headstone in the cemetery by the mowing crew. Pictures passed around could not definitely see if there was damage or not just the way the stone was. John will ask Justin Daws to take a look at it to see if it is the stone variation or true damage and then proceed from there.

Rex McIntire, Mayor, presented 3 loan quotes for the financing of the VacTrailer for \$134,510.32. UCB, 1st National Bank and Farmer State Bank all provided quotes. UCB had the lowest quote of 4.9% with annual payment.

MOTION: Terry Gregory moved and Jeff Pittman seconded to approve loan for 2023 TruVac Trailer for \$134,510.32 at 4.9% for 5 years with payment annually. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

A recommendation to appoint Rebecca Bigelow Williams to the pool board was presented.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Jeff Pittman seconded to approve to appoint Rebecca Bigelow Williams to the pool board. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Melinda Hembrough has been presented to fill Sandy Long's vacancy on the council for Ward II.

MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved and Ron Bell seconded to approve appointing Melinda Hembrough to fill the vacancy of Sandy Long Alderman Ward II for remainder of her term. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

The gentleman that has ownership of the old IGA lot is ready to proceed in building a gas station/convenience center. They have financing, architects and tanks have been ordered a couple months ago as it can take 8-9 months to receive. It will be a Phillips 66 or Conoco. They are wanting a guarantee that the city will award them a liquor license once open. They want to be able to sell alcohol and have gaming. Alderman Pitman wanted a guarantee from them that if awarded a license they would not sell drug related items. Legally the city cannot state they cannot sell this since CBD and marijuana is legal in IL. Lawrence Coultas was present for this portion of the meeting on the phone. He stated that even though he didn't like the fact of more gaming machines in town having the new business would be good for the town. It can create additional jobs, add income and draw more people to town. When polled who would agree to a new license once requested – Terry Gregory, Lawrence Coultas, Bill Jacquot and Jeff Pittman stated yes with Ron Bell stating no.

John Paul Coonrod, City Attorney, reported that 5 prior municipal citations have been resolved with residents cleaning up what was requested or shown improvement.

1. Ian Callahan
2. Rita Howland-Travis Howland POA in the process of selling
3. Mike Elliott
4. Ryan King-Tracy Reed
5. Mike and Debbie Anslyn

Requesting approval to issue 3 new citations

1. Robbie Blevins – Debris, accumulation of junk 151 S Main St also sent a detailed letter about future lien on property
2. Dennis Savage – Weeds, Debris, outdoor furniture 20 N High St also sent a detailed letter about future lien on property
3. Gus Nault – truck, trash, junk weeds 314 N Main St

MOTION: Terry Gregory moved and Jeff Pittman seconded to approve 3 new municipal citations as requested. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

The Water & Waste grant agreement was distributed to review. This is for the new water main project. It explains the contract between USDA and the City of Winchester for the awarded grant. This also allows the USDA to inspect the project at any time.

MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved and Ron Bell seconded to approve Water & Waste System grant Agreement between USDA and the City of Winchester. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Also passed out was the loan resolution for the water main project. Loan amount is \$2,404.00.00.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Bill Jacquot seconded to approve Loan Resolution for Water Main Project. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

The council has to approve contract for John Paul Coonrod, City Attorney to provide legal services for the water main grant project.

MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Jeff Pittman seconded to approve Legal Services Agreement with John Paul Coonrod for the Water Main Project. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Ordinance for Annual Appropriations Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 of the City of Winchester was passed out to review and will approve at July meeting.

No Public Comments

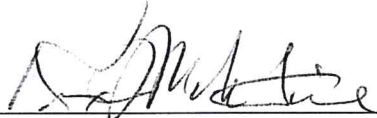
MOTION: Ron Bell moved and Bill Jacquot seconded to move into closed session. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

MOTION: Jeff Pittman and Ron Bell seconded to move out of closed session. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

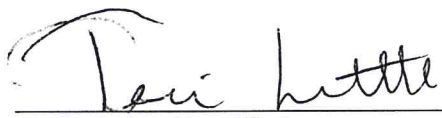
MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved and Terry Gregory seconded to open closed minutes from May 5, 2021 thru December 7, 2022. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

MOTION Ron Bell moved and Jeff Pittman seconded to approve starting pay for new police officer, Taylor Scott, at \$22.00 per hour. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

MOTION: Terry Gregory moved and Jeff Pittman second to adjourn at 11:40 pm. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.



Rex McIntire, Mayor



Teri Little, City Clerk

Swimming Pool Report

As of June 7, 2023

Attendance for the first ten days (May 27 thru June 5) was over 1,000 patrons. Those attendees at the Pool include swimmers during regular hours, party hours (6:30 – 8:30) and swim lessons. Yesterday, June 6, had the highest attendance to date with 143.

On the evening of June 2, there was a free admission to swim with sun screen. For the remainder of the summer, swimmers should ask lifeguards for sun screen and it will be given to swimmers as long as supply lasts. There was a “huge turnout.” It was a good start to the summer.

The first session for swim lessons started June 5 with 18 participants.

Tamara Galloway, Pool Board member, is assisting with supplying the concessions. She is getting food, snacks and drinks for stocking / resale at the Pool.

Thad Walker, Meredosia school superintendent, contacted the Pool Board about renting the pool during the summer as part of their summer school program. The Meredosia school will rent the pool on June 9th and July 14th, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. The school will pay the pool \$3,000.00 for both days and will bring 49 students each day. The pool will open to the public at 1:00 PM albeit delayed open time on those two dates. The Pool Board was happy to be able to accommodate his request as well as having him bring his students to our community pool.

Thank you to City employees with any and all work at the pool in advance of opening the swimming pool. Concession area was increased and installation of the sun screen in the concession area was great improvement. The crew worked many days to prep the pool. Water was in the pool earlier than in years past. Thanks especially to Jim Dobson for extra attention to the water and chemicals.

Minor problems resolved:

1. Phone at the Pool is now working after Frontier rep found bird nest disrupting line outside the bath house. Resolved on May 30.
2. Dumpster finally delivered by GFL on June 6.
3. Money sheets were initially incorrect when submitted to City Hall. Some signatures were illegible. Now is resolved...