Murphysboro City Council Meeting April 8, 2014

The Murphysboro, Illinois, City Council met in regular session, pursuant to its ordinances, on the 8th day of April, 2014. Mayor Stephens called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and Pastor Larry Gilbert led the council in prayer. Following the invocation, Mayor Stephens led the council in the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Mayor Stephens then directed City Clerk Cottonaro to call the roll. The roll was called with the following

Present: Barb Hughes, Vicki Ardrey, Bill Pierson, Mike Bastien, Danny

Bratton, Mark Costa, Sandra Bullar, Russell Brown, Gary McComb

Absent: Ron Nolan

Mayor Stephens commented on letters he had received from Mrs. Katie Russell's third grade General John A Logan Elementary School class. Although most of the letters concerned recycle bins along Walnut Street during the Apple Festival, two students wrote about losing TV channels and wanting x-boxes, phones and fixing the bridge.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the March 11, 2014 council meeting. All aldermen received a copy of the minutes, for their review, prior to the meeting.

Motion by Alderman McComb Second by Alderman Bullar Mayor called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

Motion Carried

Motion: To approve the accounts payable, register #527, #528 & #529 through April 4, 2014, accounts receivable through April 4, 2014 and payroll through April 4, 2014. All aldermen received a copy of the accounts payable, accounts receivable and payroll for their review, prior to the meeting.

Motion by Alderman McComb Second by Alderman Brown Mayor called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

Motion Carried

REQUESTS FROM THE FLOOR

Shannon Woodworth, Director of the Du Quoin Fair, addressed the council regarding a Veteran's Appreciation Day scheduled for 9/1/14 at the fair. There will be a VIP tent, free parking, free food and free entertainment. This is the 91st year of the fair, which started in 1923.

COMMITTEE/COMMISSION REPORTS

Building & Grounds Committee meeting of March 17, 2014.

Motion: To approve accepting the bid from Baine Roofing in the amount of \$26,820 for the replacement of the administration building roof.

Motion by Alderman Bratton Second by Alderman Costa

Mayor called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

Motion Carried

Motion: To approve Wright Building Center's proposal to install new door closers on the west side doors at the administration building in the amount of \$422.

Motion by Alderman Bullar Second by Alderman Brown

Mayor called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

Motion Carried

Alderman McComb commented on the fact that only Sweet Gum qualified for the cemetery maintenance contract since bidders were required to have two years cemetery mowing experience. Several alderman thought the bid submitted by Sweet Gum was high and we should not accept it; we should rebid. Alderman Bratton stated that when we spec bids we should stick to them for everyone's interest. Alderman Bratton stated that when we rebid he would like one adjustment, which is they are required to include the names of the cemeteries they had mowed. Mr. Jerry Koonce addressed the council and informed them he had experience. It was determined we could place an ad on Sunday the 13th and discuss the bids at the standing committee meeting on the 28th.

Motion: To approve to rebid the cemetery mowing contract.

Motion by Alderman Costa Second by Alderman Bullar

Mayor called for a voice vote.

Ayes: Alderman Hughes, Alderman Ardrey, Alderman Pierson, Alderman Bastien,

Alderman Costa, Alderman Bullar, Alderman Brown

Nays: Alderman Bratton, Alderman McComb

Motion Carried

Public Improvement Committee meeting of March 17, 2014.

Motion: To approve the installation of a street light on Shawnee Drive at the Big Muddy facility.

Motion by Alderman Bastien Seconded by Alderman Bratton

Mayor called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

Motion Carried

Public Safety Committee meeting of March 17, 2014.

Motion: To approve the hiring of two police officers.

Motion by Alderman Costa Seconded by Alderman McComb

Mayor called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

Motion Carried

Motion: To authorize Chief Swafford to test fire hydrants.

Motion by Alderman McComb Seconded by Alderman Bratton

Mayor called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

Motion Carried

Personnel Committee meeting of March 17, 2014

No action taken.

Budget & Finance Committee meeting of March 24, 2014.

Motion: To approve a donation of \$150 to help with the beautification of the Welcome sign on the east end of town.

Motion by Alderman Ardrey Second by Alderman Bratton

Mayor called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

Motion Carried.

Motion: To approve accounts payable register #525 and #526 through March 24, 2014.

Motion by Alderman Bratton Second by Alderman Ardrey

Mayor called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

Motion Carried.

Mayor Stephens tabled the public works job description motion for further discussion at a later date

Mayor Stephens informed the council that Mr. Johnson had talked to him and stated that he wanted the difference between the \$422.16 in taxes that is due and the \$700 the city said it would pay. Discussion was that the city agreed to pay the taxes up to \$700, not pay \$700. Alderman Bratton indicated that we should only pay the taxes after the paperwork is done; if he will not accept the city's offer we should require he put up a fence around the property and maintain it.

Motion: To approve paying \$422.16 to Jackson County for Andre Johnson's taxes on the Washington School property when Mr. Johnson signs the property over to the city.

Motion by Alderman Bratton Second by Alderman McComb

Mayor called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

Motion

Community Relations Committee meeting of March 24, 2014.

Mr. Lamporte's request for street closures on Cruise Night was discussed. We will put on the agenda for the standing committee meeting on the 28th and the special city council meeting that same night.

Motion: To approve the request from Immanuel Lutheran School for a 5 K on May 10, 2014, using the Walnut Street route.

Motion by Alderman Ardrey Second by Alderman Hughes

Mayor called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

Motion Carried.

Public Works Committee meeting of March 24, 2014.

No action taken

MAYOR'S REPORT

Motion: To approve moving the standing committee meetings to the 4th Monday of each month.

Motion by Alderman Bratton Second by Alderman Bullar

Mayor called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

Motion Carried.

Motion: To approve the Motor Fuel Resolution for 2014 paint program in the amount of \$3500.

Motion by Alderman Pierson Second by Alderman McComb

Mayor called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

Motion Carried.

Mayor Stephens discussed the traffic on Gartside Street. We need a stop sign at 19th & Gartside.

ALDERMEN ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS

Barbara Hughes Nothing

Vicki Ardrey Nothing

Bill Pierson Nothing

Mike Bastien Encourage everyone to come to the meeting on the 3rd

Monday for the banner discussion.

Danny Bratton Gumballs discussed.

Mark Costa 17th Street cars are growing. According to Eric Kennedy Mr.

Cripps has purchased the northern portion of Cox Trucking

and will be storing the cars there.

Sandi Bullar Nothing

Russell Brown Nothing

Gary McComb Thank Darrin for work done.

DEPARTMENT HEAD ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS

Ed Heller Nothing

Sandra Ripley Relay for Life Dinner Fund Raiser at participating restaurant this

evening.

Bill Center On 17th Street on the north side of Blankenship's there is a

Johnson Trucking Company sign up.

Steve Swafford Nothing

Brian Hollo He will be monitoring motorcycles and loud stereos.

Eric Kennedy Nothing

Ron Manwaring Nothing

Brian Manwaring Nothing

Darrin Mills Nothing.

Jim Stewart Nothing

Motion: To go into executive session at 8:12 pm to discuss matters related to 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1) regarding the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or general counsel for the public.

Motion by Alderman Bratton Seconded by Alderman Bullar

Yeas: Barb Hughes, Vicki Ardrey, Bill Pierson, Mike Bastien, Danny Bratton, Mark

Costa, Sandi Bullar, Russell Brown, Gary McComb

Nays: None Motion Carried Motion: To come out of executive session at 8:18 p.m.

Motion by Alderman Bastien Seconded by Alderman Bratton

Yeas: Barb Hughes, Vicki Ardrey, Bill Pierson, Mike Bastien, Danny Bratton, Mark

Costa, Sandi Bullar, Russell Brown, Gary McComb

Nays: None **Motion Carried**

Motion: To approve to terminate the employment of the current public works director and eliminate the position.

Motion by Alderman Pierson Second by Alderman Bratton

Mayor called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

Motion Carried.

Motion: To adjourn

Motion by Alderman Bastien Second by Alderman Bratton

Mayor called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.