

**Murphysboro City Council Meeting
January 24, 2017**

The Murphysboro, Illinois, City Council met in regular session, pursuant to its ordinances, on the 24th day of January 2017. Mayor Stephens called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and Alderman Hughes 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, Linda Porter-Smith, Russell Brown, Herb Voss, Gary McComb, Bill Pierson, Danny Bratton, John Erbes, Gloria Campos

Absent: Tom Ridings

Joe Koppeis discussed the development of the former Appletree Inn site. He stated there will be a Holiday Inn Express, and he has had interest from several full service gas station folks and thinks we will have one. Also several fast food chains who are interested. He expects construction to start this spring or early summer. He would like to have a green area to use for special events such as the brew fest, Apple Festival, BBQ, wineries. He stated he would have approximately 6 ½ million dollars invested in the hotel project.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the January 18, 2017 council meeting. All aldermen received a copy of the minutes, for their review, prior to the meeting.

Motion by Alderman McComb

Second by Alderman Bratton

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

Motion Carried

Motion: To approve the accounts payable, register #671 through January 24, 2017, accounts receivable through January 24, 2017 and payroll through January 24, 2017. 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 Campos

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

Motion Carried

COMMITTEE/COMMISSION REPORTS

Alderman Bratton opened Budget & Finance Meeting.

Motion: To approve the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Redevelopment Agreement with Murphysboro Holdings, LLC.

Motion by Alderman Hughes Second by Alderman Pierson
Ayes: Barb Hughes, Linda Porter-Smith, Russell Brown, Herb Voss, Gary McComb,
Bill Pierson, Danny Bratton, John Erbes, Gloria Campos

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Motion: To approve the Business District Incentive Agreement with Murphysboro Holdings, LLC.

Motion by Alderman McComb Second by Alderman Campos
Ayes: Barb Hughes, Linda Porter-Smith, Russell Brown, Herb Voss, Gary McComb,
Bill Pierson, Danny Bratton, John Erbes, Gloria Campos

Nays: None

Motion carried.

The following financial reports were presented: Schedule of Sales/HR Tax Receipts, Schedule of State Income Tax Receipts Vouchered, Comparison of Budgeted vs. Actual Payroll, Schedule of Operating Expenses by Department vs. Budget, Schedule of Certificates of Deposit, Schedule of Costs Related to WWTP Construction, Schedule of Healthcare Costs, and Schedule of Housing Rehab Loans Receivable.

Motion: To approve the request to declare vehicle #86-02 (1986 GMC Sierra) and 06-27 (2006 Ford Crown Vic) as surplus property and sell at the next Canning Auction.

Motion by Alderman McComb Second by Alderman Hughes
Alderman Bratton called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

Motion Carried

No public comment.

Alderman Brown opened the Building and Grounds Meeting.

Attorney Heller stated that we have done everything we can do regarding the Franchise Agreement with Ameren for gas and electric and it is now in their hands.

No public comment.

Alderman Bratton opened the Community Relations Committee Meeting.\

The request by Cindy B's to utilize two city-owned parking spaces for their dumpster was discussed in detail. Attorney Heller distributed a lease agreement to council members. It was determined there would be a charge of \$100 a year with a five year term.

Motion: To approve request by Cindy B's to utilize two city-owned parking spaces for a fee of \$100 per year for a five year term.

Motion by Alderman Campos Second by Alderman Porter-Smith

Ayes: Barb Hughes, Linda Porter-Smith, Russell Brown, Herb Voss, John Erbes,
Gloria Campos

Nays: Gary McComb, Bill Pierson, Danny Bratton,

Motion failed.

Alderman McComb stated that he was not opposed to approving Cindy B's request if we received letters from the owners on either side of Cindy B's stating they had no objections. We will revisit this item when we receive those letters.

Lance Liggett addressed the council regarding the Big Muddy Apple Obstacle Run. This event has been added to the Apple Festival and will benefit the Apple Festival. It is a three mile obstacle course. Fee to enter varies from \$35 up to \$75. They will put the area back like it was when the race is over.

Motion: To approve the request for use of city-owned property for the Big Muddy Apple Obstacle Run on September 16, 2017.

Motion by Alderman Campos Second by Alderman Voss

Alderman Bratton called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

Motion Carried

Rachel Ensor stated this is the second year for the Oak Street Art Fair. It is juried for southern Illinois artisans. Last year they had 25 artists plus music and over 650 people attended. The fair is open from 10-5.

Motion: To approve the request for closure of Oak Street from 15th to 17th on April 22, 2017, for the Oak Street Art Fair from 8 am to 6 pm.

Motion by Alderman McComb Second by Alderman Hughes

Alderman Bratton called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

Motion Carried

No public comment.

Alderman McComb opened the Public Improvement Committee Meeting.

There was no old or new business and no public comment.

Alderman Pierson opened the Public Works Committee Meeting.

Martin Schaldemose discussed the status of the Old Depot. He is putting in the windows and flower boxes. He will be putting on a new roof in warmer weather. He talked about pavers missing from the street. Alderman Bratton is looking for pavers for him. He would like to have the little building behind the Old Depot resided by Apple Festival. His plan is to have a business upstairs and a café/restaurant downstairs.

No public comment.

Alderman Brown opened the Public Safety Committee Meeting.

Ordinance amending possession of drug paraphernalia has the same parameters as cannabis. \$100 of the fee goes to the police and \$80 to the city.

Motion: To approve the ordinance amending possession of drug paraphernalia.

Motion by Alderman McComb Second by Alderman Erbes
Ayes: Barb Hughes, Linda Porter-Smith, Russell Brown, Herb Voss, Gary McComb,
Bill Pierson, Danny Bratton, John Erbes, Gloria Campos

Nays: None

Motion carried.

A citizen commented that more lighting is needed on Shoemaker Drive. Mayor Stephens stated we would take a look at it.

Alderman Hughes opened the Personnel Committee Meeting.

New health insurance plan is needed because of the 55% increase on the old policy. We will stay with Blue Cross Blue Shield with a higher deductible. This change will result in a \$53,000 a year savings.

Motion: To approve the new Health Insurance Plan effective January 1, 2017.

Motion by Alderman Brown Second by Alderman Bratton
Alderman Hughes called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

Motion carried.

No public comment.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Nothing on the agenda this time.

ALDERMEN ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS

- Barb Hughes Nothing
- Linda Porter-Smith Nothing
- Russell Brown Nothing.
- Herb Voss Nothing
- Gary McComb Thanks Joe for having faith in our community.

Bill Pierson Pray and think about Alderman Hughes who is having surgery next week.

Danny Bratton Mr. Edwards said his last pay request on the sewer plant was October and he turned it in on December 1st.to the general contractor. Bill Center stated apparently the general contractor has not turned it in to J.T. Blankenship.

John Erbes Nothing.

Gloria Campos Nothing.

Mr. Brasil addressed the council regarding a code letter he received about limbs being moved by this Friday but the dump is not open until the 2nd and 4th. He was told we would open the dump.

DEPARTMENT HEAD ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS

Ed Heller He received a letter from John Hoffman regarding the city's seal. Our seal with this particular photo is trademarked by John A. Logan College. They will allow us to use it as a seal but only that way. We could use another picture of John A. Logan and be in compliance. A new photo will be acquired.

Sandra Ripley Nothing

Bill Center Nothing

Steve Swafford He discussed the fire department summary. This is a 2016 review of training hours, over time fire call summary, etc

Chad Roberts He discussed the police department summary. This is an annual report which is an overview and comparison of years.

Eric Kennedy Nothing

Brain Manwaring Nothing

Darrin Mills Nothing

Jim Stewart In the next round of bills there will be hefty chemical bills; they are budgeted. This is not a monthly thing.

Motion: To adjourn

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

Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.