

**Murphysboro City Council Meeting
July 11, 2017**

The Murphysboro, Illinois, City Council met in regular session, pursuant to its ordinances, on the 11th day of July 2017. Mayor Stephens called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and 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, Jance Curry-Witzman, Russell Brown, Herb Voss, Gary McComb, John Erbes, Danny Bratton, Mike Bastien, Gloria Campos, W. J. Pittman

Absent:

Motion: To approve the minutes of the June 27, 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 #688 and #689 through July 11, 2017, accounts receivable through July 11, 2017 and payroll through July 11, 2017. All aldermen received a copy of the accounts payable, accounts receivable and payroll for their review, prior to the meeting.

Motion by Alderman Erbes

Second by Alderman Bratton

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

Motion Carried

COMMITTEE/COMMISSION REPORTS

Alderman Pittman opened the Budget & Finance Meeting.

Mayor Stephens stated a meeting regarding Senior Citizens was set up for 4 p.m. this Thursday with Joe Balsano, Alderman Pittman and himself to present an offer from Jackson County Mass Transit. Mayor Stephens will reach out to a representative from Jackson County Mass Transit to attend the meeting as well.

Part time grant writer was discussed. Mayor Stephens will have more at our next meeting. Brian Hollo is sending him a fee structure based upon reward, which he wants to present to us. Alderman Pittman also wants a fee structure included to pay a grant writer.

There is no additional information on infrastructure solutions/revenue.

No public comment.

Alderman McComb opened the Building and Grounds Meeting.

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

Alderman Erbes opened the Community Relations Committee Meeting.

There was much discussion regarding the consideration of an ordinance to add territory to the Enterprise Zone. Alderman Bratton thought we should go over the proposal and vote at the next meeting.

Motion: To approve to hold this issue and go over the proposal and vote at the next meeting.

Motion by Alderman Bratton

Second by Alderman McComb

Ayes: Alderman McComb, Alderman Erbes, Alderman Bratton, Alderman Bastien

Nays: Alderman Hughes, Alderman Curry-Witzman, Alderman Brown, Alderman Voss, Alderman Campos, Alderman Pittman

Motion Failed

Motion: To approve the ordinance to add territory to the Enterprise Zone.

Motion by Alderman Hughes

Second by Alderman Bastien

Ayes: Alderman Hughes, Alderman Curry-Witzman, Alderman Brown, Alderman Voss, Alderman McComb, Alderman Erbes, Alderman Bastien, Alderman Campos, Alderman Pittman

Nays: Alderman Bratton

Motion Carried

Mayor Stephens wants to speak to One Hot Cookie about annexing inside the city limits.

No public comment.

associated costs. Question was raised if there was a lawsuit pending. The answer was yes so we should not drop it until the demolition is complete.

Motion: To approve the offer by the owner of 301 Rogers Street to demolish the residence and pay costs and waive attorney fees and associated costs and hold further action on the pending court case until the demolition is complete.

Motion by Alderman McComb

Second by Alderman Voss

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

Motion Carried

Mayor Stephens opened the bids for the replacement of approximately 60' of 36" drain pipe located off of North 22nd Street. Bids as follows: Samron \$38,507 and A&W Plumbing \$34,868.

Motion: To approve the bid of A&W Plumbing in the amount of \$34,868 for the replacement of approximately 60' of 36" drain pipe located off of North 22nd Street.

Motion by Alderman Campos

Second by Alderman Brown

Ayes: Alderman Hughes, Alderman Curry-Witzman, Alderman Brown, Alderman Voss, Alderman Erbes, Alderman Bratton, Alderman Bastien, Alderman Campos, Alderman Pittman

Nays: Alderman McComb

Motion Carried

Billboard placements were discussed. Alderman Pittman stated that the ordinance says no business can advertise for other businesses but we are doing that now. He thinks we should look at it again. He wants to allow Chris Grither to do it. Alderman Erbes inquired if we open it up now how do we close it. Attorney Heller stated that those billboards were grandfathered in prior to this ordinance. It was decided to leave the ordinance as is.

Mayor Stephens discussed the consideration of a new sidewalk program. Is there a better way to get to folks on this list? Darrin stated he has eight people on the list now and if he can get to them he could do those over two months. Mayor Stephens indicated we could just ditch the program and use the \$25,000 to fix sidewalks until the money is gone.

Alderman Bratton stated that Alderman McComb had gotten truck bids; \$21,000 for a ½ ton Ford truck out of Springfield. Bucket truck/van that needs to be red tagged. We need two trucks. Mayor Stephen stated that Bert Ozburn said Smysor Trust would soon be getting dollars to us for a truck. Mayor instructed Darrin to take the 95 truck to Humm's and see if it can be repaired and how much it costs to repair. Mayor Stephens instructed Darrin to take the van out of operation and he will contact the Jackson County Highway Department to see if we could use a truck to put-up banners.

Ms. Norton asked if we are talking about residential sidewalks or walks on Walnut Street. She stated she knew about the residential ordinance information.

Alderman Brown opened the Public Safety Committee Meeting.

Discussion regarding the Drone Ordinance was held. Alderman Hughes stated they have to call the airport now which is what the ordinance was saying. Airport said in the five mile radius from the airport no one is regulating this. Alderman Pittman stated that the airport ordinance is same as FAA. The purpose is so we have one uniform, identical ordinance.

Alderman Voss stated the airport is telling us that by adopting this ordinance we are taking safety measures.

Motion: To approve the Drone Ordinance as written.

Motion by Alderman Pittman

Second by Alderman Voss

Ayes: Alderman Curry-Witzman, Alderman Brown, Alderman Voss, Alderman Bratton, Alderman Bastien, Alderman Pittman

Nays: Alderman Hughes, Alderman McComb, Alderman Erbes, Alderman Campos

Motion Carried

Alderman Campos stated that we are not being prepared for the traffic for the eclipse event. We should schedule police heavier for those days at Air B&B, Nazarene Church, campsites. Police Chief Roberts stated he is meeting with the group planning events for the eclipse.

Public Comment: Do we have an ordinance about the city coming out to inspect a dwelling before the landlord can rent it?

Alderman Hughes opened the Personnel Committee Meeting.

Alderman Hughes stated this is informational. We have hired a 1,000 hour person for Darrin and he started Monday. Thanks to Darrin for handling Washington School.

Alderman Bastien asked about insurance and prescriptions. He was informed that this was going to happen anyway but because we switched it happened in October. In 2017 every plan changed and the co pay changed.

No public comment.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor stated that Brian Brewer's was completing his final day.

Mayor thanked Darrin and the street department crew and Tim in the water department- things have gotten done.

ALDERMEN ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS

Barb Hughes	Nothing
Jance Curry-Witzman	Nothing
Russell Brown	Complain about neighbor's property; how to get it cleaned up. Attorney Heller stated we can cite the guy who owns the property and then send in our crews to mow and collect dollars from citation fees. Mayor requested Attorney Heller to write a letter to the mortgage holder.
Herb Voss	Nothing
Gary McComb	Nothing.
John Erbes	He noticed the North 22 nd Street flags and asked if anyone knew who was responsible. Alderman Bastien stated it was Murphy Wall Bank that did that.
Dan Bratton	Stewart ordered two new pumps for the lift station and 2-3 weeks they will be in so we can install them. He has a problem with us having to pay for that when they were not big enough. Harold stated we should be addressing how to pump water away from the station. .
Mike Bastien	Nothing.
Gloria Campos	14 th Street sidewalk and \$25,000. She is just saying.
W. J. Pittman	Benefit for Sophie Webb. First Bank and Trust hosting fund raiser. It will be a fish fry and Trivia Night at the American Legion on Saturday.

DEPARTMENT HEAD ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS

Ed Heller	Nothing.
Sandra Ripley	Nothing
Harold Sheffer	Nothing
Steve Swafford	Nothing
Chad Roberts	There will be a retirement luncheon for Brewer, Reiman and Legere tomorrow at noon.
Eric Kennedy	Nothing
Tim Lee	Fountain parts are on back order.

Darrin Mills Nothing

Jim Stewart Nothing.

Don Gladden Library is an interesting appointment.

Motion: To adjourn

Motion by Alderman Bastien

Second by Alderman Bratton

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

Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.