

Murphysboro City Council Meeting
January 23, 2018

The Murphysboro, Illinois, City Council met in regular session, pursuant to its ordinances, on the 23rd day of January, 2018. Mayor Stephens called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and invited Pastor Dean Akins to lead 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, Herb Voss, Gary McComb, John Erbes, Danny Bratton, Mike Bastien, Gloria Campos, W. J. Pittman

Absent: Russell Brown

Motion: To approve the minutes of the January 9, 2018 council meeting. All aldermen received a copy of the minutes, for their review, prior to the meeting.

Motion by Alderman McComb

Second by Alderman Erbes

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

Motion Carried

Alderman Pittman inquired about the duplicate billing amount of \$2385.62 to the Jackson County Sheriff's Office. We will check into this.

Motion: To approve the accounts payable, register #652 through January 23, 2018, accounts receivable through January 23, 2018 and payroll through January 23, 2018 with the exception of the \$4801.54 check to the Jackson County Sheriff's Office. 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 Hughes

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

Motion Carried

Motion: To approve the request by St. Peter's Church to use Smysor Plaza for Easter Sunrise Service.

Motion by Alderman Bratton

Second by Alderman McComb

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

Motion Carried

There was no public comment.

Alderman Bastien opened the Public Improvement Committee Meeting.

Fence dispute on Division Street and potential civil action was discussed. Court date on citation issued to Ms. Jacobs is February 2, 2018. Ticket issued was for violation of permit code. Alderman Bastien asked if we have to wait to begin action to have fence removed. Attorney Heller said no. Alderman Voss asked if we want to take down fence or have the civil court do it. Alderman Bastien stated we should send a letter to Ms. Jacobs and ask to remove fence within 30 days. City attorney should draft a letter to move the fence into compliance of property lines or remove within 30 days. Bring into compliance with ordinance and with survey. Attorney Heller needs a copy of the survey. Ms. Jones doing that.

Motion: To approve the city attorney to draft a letter to Ms. Jacobs to move fence into compliance of property line or remove within 30 days.

Motion by Alderman Voss

Second by Alderman Bratton

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

Motion Carried

No public comment.

Alderman Bratton opened the Public Works Committee Meeting.

Alderman Bratton stated that at the last meeting we voted to cut price to \$4,000 to Illini Asphalt. Alderman Bratton and Mayor Stephens met with Bill Simon and his daughter. They offered to settle for \$6,000 which is below their cost. We didn't blow cracks out and fill them before they did that process. Mayor thinks \$6,000 compromise is reasonable. Weather too bad to do prep work and if we waited then weather would have been too bad to do experimental work. We made decision to move forward. Alderman Erbes asked about stripping. It will be stripped, just not done because of the weather. Alderman Voss stated this is a good vendor for the city.

Alderman Bratton discussed North 12th Street in front of public works. Make 12th Street for one block running in front of public works into a one way street because someone coming up the hill has problems with vehicles pulling out, etc. One way going south would eliminate problems with pulling out and backing up. Think about it. Darrin doesn't want to go out by Auto Works. There have been no accidents either way.

No public comment.

Mayor Stephens opened the Public Safety Committee Meeting.

The ordinance amending the definition of peddle was discussed. Kirby Company lawyer had come up with a loophole in our ordinance that is why the new one.

Motion: To approve ordinance amending the definition of peddle.

Motion by Alderman Bratton

Second by Alderman Hughes

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

Motion Carried

No public comment.

Alderman Hughes opened the Personnel Committee Meeting.

Mark Brittingham had a copy of the new FOP contract. We had previously voted to approve with appropriate language. We need to sign and he needs three copies. Effective to April 30, 2020.

Alderman Hughes stated we had a new hire public works employee starting the 29th- Roy Phoenix.

No public comment.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor stated the following:

Taste of Chocolate is February 9th at Carbondale Civic Center. Eight tickets came with sponsorship so anyone wishing to go let him know. Starts 6 or 6:30 p.m.

Motion: To go into executive session at 7:05 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 and to discuss matters related to 5ILCS 120/2(c)(2) and to discuss real estate purchase.

Motion by Alderman Erbes

Second by Alderman Campos

Yeas: Alderman Hughes, Alderman Curry-Witzman, Alderman Voss, Alderman

McComb, Alderman Erbes, Alderman Bratton, Alderman Bastien, Alderman

Campos, Alderman Pittman

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Motion: To come out of executive session at 7:26 p.m.

Motion by Alderman Pittman

Second by Alderman Campos

Yeas: Alderman Hughes, Alderman Curry-Witzman, Alderman Voss, Alderman McComb, Alderman Erbes, Alderman Bratton, Alderman Bastien, Alderman Campos, Alderman Pittman

Nays: None

Motion Carried

No action taken.

ALDERMEN ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS
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|---------------------|---|
| Barb Hughes | Thank you Gloria, glad you had safe trip. |
| Jance Curry-Witzman | Nothing |
| Herb Voss | Nothing |
| Gary McComb | Remember Tim Lee in your prayers, he is in a fight. |
| John Erbes | Thank Chief Roberts on getting contract done. |
| Dan Bratton | Commend Chief Roberts on banquet for officers, very, very nice. |
| Mike Bastien | Nothing |
| Gloria Campos | Nothing |
| W. J. Pittman | Nothing |

DEPARTMENT HEAD ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS

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| Edward Heller | Nothing |
| Sandra Ripley | Nothing |
| Harold Sheffer | Nothing |
| Chad Roberts | Nothing |
| Scott Evans | Nothing |
| Eric Kennedy | Nothing |

Motion: To adjourn

Motion by Alderman McComb

Second by Alderman Bastien

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

Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.