Murphysboro City Council Meeting March 27, 2018

The Murphysboro, Illinois, City Council met in regular session, pursuant to its ordinances, on the 27th day of March, 2018. Mayor Stephens called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and invited Pastor Troy Humphries 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 Hunziker to call the roll. The roll was called with the following:

Present: Jance Curry-Witzman, Herb Voss, Gary McComb, John Erbes, Dan

Bratton, Mike Bastien, W. J. Pittman.

Absent: Barb Hughes, Russell Brown, Gloria Campos.

Presentation of Police Chief Certification to Police Chief Chad Roberts by Ed Wojcicki of the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police.

Alderman Erbes noted 2 corrections to the March 13, 2018, minutes: page 3, next to last paragraph, off should be office and page 5 Ms. Craig's last name was misspelled.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the March 13, 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 Bratton inquired as to the labor bill register 659 page 7- installation of a laptop stand. Also asked what the bill was for in register 660 page 2 – floorboard for the water department truck.

Aldermen McComb and Erbes inquired as to register 659 bottom of page 2 for First Bank & Trust – new CD's.

Motion: To approve the accounts payable, registers #659 & #660 through March 27, 2018. All aldermen received a copy of the accounts payable, accounts receivable and payroll for their review, prior to the meeting.

Motion by Alderman Bratton Second by Alderman Bastien

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

Motion Carried

COMMITTEE/COMMISSION REPORTS

Alderman Pittman opened discussion for Budget & Finance related items.

Mayor Stephens and Alderman McComb will be working on the Senior Citizens Center Repairs/Contracts. Tabled.

Financial Reports were presented by Scott Evans. Sales Tax and Home Rule Tax Report – are at their highest yet. Income Tax receipts for February and March are higher than normal. General fund – have spent more than budgeted due to 3 payrolls in January and checks for police contracts. Revenues are greater so we are on track. Payroll is over due to catch up and overtime. Alderman Bratton inquired as to how rehabilitation money may be spent – no external restrictions. Also asked if it may be used on the rehab of the Community Works building – can be done.

No public comment.

Alderman McComb opened discussion for Building and Grounds related items.

Attorney Heller provided a status update on the North 23rd Street and Union Pacific Railroad issue. The lawsuit has been drafted, is being reviewed a final time and then will be filed.

Mayor Stephens reviewed the Senior Citizens Roof Options dealing with the new requirement. Per Alderman Bratton there are new laws regarding insulation that have to be met. We have code update coverage but it has to be the same product. Per Attorney Heller since the new requirement was after the contract had been awarded, a change order can be done.

Motion: To authorize the Mayor and contractor to negotiate with the insurance to get payment for the other insulation method. If insurance will not agree, will go with the original bid and do a change order.

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

Motion Carried

Received three bids to consider for the Mowing of City-owned Cemeteries. Bid #1 from Darryl Murphy was for \$300/mowing of the City Cemetery and \$1700/mowing of Tower Grove Cemetery. Bid #2 from Heartland Lawn Care was for \$300/mowing

of the City Cemetery and \$1400/mowing of Tower Grove Cemetery. Bid #3 from William Russell was for \$400/mowing of the City Cemetery and \$2050/mowing of Tower Grove Cemetery.

Motion: To accept the bid from Heartland Lawn Care for \$300 per mowing of the City Cemetery and \$1400 per mowing of Tower Grove Cemetery.

Motion by Alderman Bratton Second by Alderman Voss

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

Motion Carried

No public comment.

Alderman Erbes opened discussion for Community Relations Committee related items.

Request for consideration for use of the Daum Building parking lot by the Crimson Express on Saturday, April 28th, from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm for their flower sale fundraiser.

Motion: To approve the request by the Crimson Express for use of the Daum Builidng parking lot on April 28th from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Motion by Alderman McComb Second by Alderman Pittman

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

Motion Carried

Request for consideration from MHS Class of 1998 for street closure on Friday, May 25th, from 3:00 pm to 11:00 pm on Chestnut Street between 11th and 12th Streets for their class reunion.

Motion: To approve the request for the street closure of Chestnut Street between 11th and 12th Streets on May 25th from 3:00 pm to 11:00 pm from the Class of 1998 for their class reunion.

Motion by Alderman Bratton Second by Alderman McComb

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

Motion Carried

Consideration of grant opportunity for sidewalks and crosswalks was presented by Jackson County Board member Andrew Erbes. Presented information on the Safe Routes to School program that has grant money available for installation of sidewalks within 2 miles of a school. Suggested request be submitted for sidewalks and crosswalks to be installed from RollnUp Liquor, south edge of Route 13, by Hardees, new hotel and south side of new bridge. The grant would provide approximately 70% of the funding, with the city providing approximately \$40,000 of seed money to get the project started. This would be in Fiscal Year 2019. Mr. Erbes would be willing to meet with all interested in applying for this grant. Also gave an update that IDOT will be starting on the multi-use bike path from Airport Road to the new path across from Gold's Gym. Has heard about the safety concerns at 21st Street, will check into possible money from the same grant for a crossing guard.

Motion: For Mr. Erbes to pursue a feasibility study with city officials concerning applying for funds from the Safe Routes to School Grant Program.

Motion by Alderman McComb Second by Alderman Voss

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

Motion Carried

No public comment.

Alderman Bastien opened discussion for Public Improvement related items.

Update on the fence issue on Division Street – Candace Jacobs has paid the \$100 fine and the court fine of \$156. The fence is going to be moved and will need another pemit issued for that.

No public comment.

Alderman Bratton opened discussion for Public Works related items.

Potential streets submitted for the 2018 Street Maintenance Program are: Shomaker from Elks entrance to 20th Street, Hanson from 7th to 8th, Fiddler Ridge Road, 16th Street, Illinois from 9th to 11th, Watson Road and streets adjacent to the John A Logan Museum. Mr. Sheffer will get some bids and projected costs for these. Darrin stated that buses are not supposed to run on Watson Road but they do anyway. Maybe have some patrols at beginning and end of school day. Alderman McComb asked if a dead end could be placed in the middle of Watson Road where the culverts are at. Comment was made that parents who pick up their children use that route. Alderman Bastien asked if there was a plan for where the street caved in on N. 22nd Street between Hortense and Gartside? Darrin will take a look at it. Tabled until next meeting.

Consideration of Motor Fuel Resolution for Oil and chip of North 23rd Street – would be for the north and south sides, at a cost of \$5108.40. Will be submitting the primary design and ROW for the 7th Street project.

Motion: To approve the request for consideration of Motor Fuel Resolution for Oil & Chip of North 23rd Street.

Motion by Alderman Bastien Second by Alderman Pittman Alderman Bratton called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

Motion Carried

Consideration of repair of storm drain at 22nd & Hortense Street was discussed. Will cost approximately \$5700 for material and can be done in-house. It is on Jim Wright's property and he was the one who brought it to our attention.

Motion: To approve the request to repair the storm drain at Hortense and 22nd Street.

Motion by Alderman McComb

Second by Alderman Bastien

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

Motion Carried

Alderman McComb mentioned South 20th Street, need to look at lining or replacing to Division Street. Jim stated that it will happen again, is serious and needs to be fixed. Mr. Shaffer stated it needs to have the camera put down there. Alderman Bratton will talk to Tim concerning the cost. Mayor Stephens is concerned with other places where the sewer is not in good shape and how that will affect the sewer plant. Jim stated that 20th Street would send a large amount of debris and mud to the sewer plant, which would eventually have to be dredged out. Alderman Bratton requested that Tina Drive also be looked at.

No public comment.

Mayor Stephens opened discussion for Public Safety related items.

Huck's Consideration of Request for video gaming will be removed from the agenda until we hear from one of their representatives.

Update on concerns with No Parking approved on North 10th and Locust Street. The corner is not handicap accessible. Darrin will be contacting someone in the Disabilities Department to gather information for the next meeting. Ms. Craig did request that we mark lines for the parking spots.

Chief Roberts presented information concerning consideration of a Taser Replacement Plan. There is safety grant money through IPRF. We have 16 that need to be replaced. Through the Taser 60 Plan all 16 can be replaced with a 5-year warranty, at a cost of \$3728.85 per year for a total of \$18,000.00. IPRF encourages this type of use for Safety Grant money. Life expectancy for the tasers varies. Asked if there are other funds that can be used for this, Chief Roberts stated that as of July 1st, all drug asset seizures will go the State Police and they will distribute those funds.

Motion: To move forward with the Taser Replacement Program as suggested by Chief Roberts.

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

Motion Carried

No public comment.

Mayor Stephens opened discussion for Personnel related items.

Nothing at this time.

No public comment.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor stated the following:

Drove to Waterloo for the Four County meeting that is attempting to expand Highway 127 to four lanes. Area Representatives Schimpf and Costello were also in attendance. They will be getting a proposal together to submit at the state level.

ALDERMEN ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS

Barb Hughes Absent

Jance Curry-Witzman Nothing

Russell Brown Absent

Herb Voss Nothing

Gary McComb Nice to hear all the requests for road repairs.

John Erbes Progress on Curwood – slow but steady. Asked if the County

Shred and Medication Flyer could be included with the water

bill newsletter.

Dan Bratton 7th Street money is programmed for ROW, has cleared

environmental. Sewer Plant road is still on the environmental. Have we heard from the grant writer? Supposed to update each quarter. Would like a letter sent to Mr. Hollo requesting

an update on what grants are being looked at and any

progress.

Mike Bastien Nothing

Gloria Campos Absent

W. J. Pittman Nothing

DEPARTMENT HEAD ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS

Ed Heller Nothing

Sandra Ripley We have auditors in house, will be here for two weeks starting

April 16th.

Harold Sheffer Nothing

Steve Swafford Will be testing hydrants when it dries up.

Chad Roberts Commended Officers Harper and Wunderlich on logging

evidence, went online Saturday. Finished a grant last week for

money from the state for body and car cameras.

Scott Evans Nothing

Eric Kennedy Nothing

Brian Manwaring Nothing

Darrin Mills Nothing

Jim Stewart 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 7:45 p.m.