

**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

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	7 th 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 16 th .
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.