

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LEXINGTON CITY COUNCIL

December 13, 2010

The regular meeting of the Lexington City Council was called to order by Mayor Mohr at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Lexington City Hall.

Roll call was taken, finding the following physically present: Mayor Mohr, Alderman Brill, Alderman Cole, Alderman Fiero, Alderman Miller, Alderman Revelle and Alderman Revelle. Members of the staff and public present were: Mike Beard, Billy DuBois, Chief Schneider and Melanie Kunkel.

It was moved by Alderman Brill and seconded by Alderman Miller to accept the minutes of the November 22, 2010 council meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Alderman Winterland and seconded by Alderman Revelle to accept the Treasurer's Report and authorize payment of bills in the amount of \$30,898.96. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Input: None

Police Chief's Report: Chief Schneider reported a quiet month with the following activity: 22 calls for service; 7 assists from other agencies; 1 assist to another agency; 9 fire and rescue assists; no arrests; 18 verbal traffic warnings; 6 traffic citations; no parking violations; 381 business checks; 1456 patrol miles logged and no ordinance violations issued.

Old Business:

Koch TIF Request – Mr. Koch's total request is for \$40,000. He is planning on adding on to the Red Barn Auction House at 105 S. Vine St. He needs money for site preparation, and for façade improvement. His business regularly brings 70-90 people to town on Friday nights, and he would like to have space to get merchandise inside, provide restrooms and a snack bar. Alderman Winterland will investigate setback requirements in the concentrated business district, obtain the current EAV for the property, and talk to Dan Walker of the Economic Development Group to get input on what constitutes new construction in a TIF District. He will report back on December 27.

House at South and Pine St – Mayor Mohr will contact Dave Jenkins, as Alderman Winterland reports that he hasn't had any response to phone calls and emails regarding this property. Beard also reported hearing complaints about lack of returned calls by Jenkins.

Hardman Annexation – Butch and Carol Hardman, of 403 N West St, had submitted a petition for annexation over 2 years ago, but it has been sitting waiting for paperwork for getting Johansen's home annexed as well as settle the ownership of the piece of West St. that extends to these parcels. Also, the petition requested R-1 zoning, but Code dictates that annexed property come in as Open Land and then be zoned by the Planning Commission process. That group, along with the Zoning Board of Appeals, is already scheduled to meet on January 31, 2011, so this request will be heard at that time. After discussion, it was moved by Alderman Winterland and seconded by Alderman Revelle to adopt **Annexation Ordinance 2010-11-Annexing the Hardman Property**. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business:

Schreiber Family Trust Annexation - The Schreiber Family Trust has presented a petition to annex property at 405 N. West St. The same situation exists with this request as was the case with the above Hardman petition. The zoning classification request will be heard by the Planning Commission on January 31, 2011. It was then moved by Alderman Fiero and seconded by Alderman Revelle to adopt **Annexation Ordinance 2010-12-Annexing the Schreiber Family Trust Property**. Motion carried unanimously.

Review Chapter 300-46, Article X-City of Lexington Code – Alderman Revelle would like the council to revisit the newly adopted zoning code, which limits accessory buildings to 750 square feet. He feels, in the light of his own recent experience, that the limit is too restrictive. As long as a property owner has the space, a three-car garage is becoming the "norm", and so he would like to see that limit set higher at 960 square feet, single story, and of frame construction. After discussion, Mayor Mohr will look into what process is required to change the code, and report back.

Winter Social/Volunteer Recognition/End of Year Bonuses: Mayor Mohr referred to the Winter Social, held the last 2 years in place of a Christmas Dinner. It has been a nice event at a more convenient time and has been a platform for recognizing employees. However he feels this last year has been an extraordinary one for all the departments, in terms of tasks that have been accomplished over and above the regular job requirements. He listed these as: Research and time required to switch to a new health insurance plan for Margaret; Chief Schneider working with a reduced staff and dealing with the collective bargaining issues; Mike taking on all the sewer construction supervision, while Billy assumed more of the water duties; Bill working extra to help design the drainage plan to resolve long-standing drainage issues; and the public works crews doing all the extra locates and GPS work. In light of all these, he would like to propose making a one-time employee award of \$750. He would also like to make the same award to the volunteers Sue Vincent and Skip Schott. He would be willing to eliminate the Winter Social to make these awards, although there are unused funds in the Economic Development line item. After discussion, it was moved by Alderman Cole and seconded by Alderman Winterland to approve these awards, making the amount enough for the employee to net the \$750 after withholdings, and keeping the Winter Social as a way to include spouses. Motion carried unanimously.

Also discussed was the City's memorial to Ollie Myers, who passed away recently. (Myers) Brandt employees would like to see a drinking fountain on the Ollie and Dorothy Myers Walking Trail. The City could make their contribution by doing the work required to install and maintain the fountain, once it has been selected. Mayor Mohr will bring this up at the next Bikeway meeting, and report at a later date.

Committee Reports:

Mayor: Contractor's Meeting –The meeting was very beneficial in helping the City determine how best to get the connections done and be able to finance this portion of the sewer project. A spreadsheet of data is being compiled for contractors to use in submitting proposals. Mayor Mohr is also looking into financing options. **Center Pivot Grant through Illinois State University** – Paperwork has been submitted to the college to apply for a grant to help pay for a portion of the City sewer system's irrigation equipment. The equipment will then be used to conduct a renewable energy and water quality project on the irrigation site. Treated effluent will be applied to a biomass crop, which will then be used in a methane digester at a nearby dairy farm to generate electricity. The research project will be required to meet the requirements of the EPA and the landowner with respect to land application of effluent. The grant is estimated at \$150,000. **ICOP Proposal** – The City has not received a response to the part-time officer wage proposal sent several weeks ago. **Benedict Property** – Though there has been no change in the scheduled January hearing date, Ms. Benedict is apparently in the process of having the barn demolished. **Sewer Sub-contractors complaints** –Farnsworth Group has been working with contractors and subcontractors to frame a process which will insure all subcontractors are being paid in a timely fashion. One Contractor is asking for a Certificate of Substantial Completion, which will only be issued after pressure tests are completed satisfactorily. **Finance Committee** – Mayor Mohr would like to set up a meeting in January with the Finance Committee to do some long range planning in advance of the budget work for 2011-12 beginning. Alderman Cole reminded the council that the sale of the Morris St. shed needs to be completed soon as well.

Police Committee: None

Building/Insurance: Alderman Miller reported on meeting with Michael VanGilder at the former Wooden Hare building at 117 N Vine St. this weekend. Mr. VanGilder is seeking a site for commercial use.

Finance/TIF: None

Water: None

Sanitation: None

Streets/Alleys: Sewer construction-related manholes have caused a few problems while City plows remove snow, but the problem ones are now located so they can be avoided.

There being no further business, it was moved by Alderman Winterland and seconded by Alderman Miller to adjourn at 9:00 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted:

Margaret Quinley, City Clerk

Approved: 12-27-10