

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LEXINGTON CITY COUNCIL

January 23, 2012

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

Roll call was taken to find the following physically present: Mayor Mohr, Alderman Cole, Alderman Miller, Alderman Brill, Alderman Fiero, Alderman Revelle and Alderman Winterland. Members of the staff and public present were: Melanie Kunkel, Don Cavallini, Mike Beard, Jane Foster and Dave Jenkins.

It was moved by Alderman Fiero and second by Alderman Brill to approve the January 9, 2012 council meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Alderman Winterland and seconded by Alderman Revelle to approve the Treasurer's Report and authorize payment of bills in the sum of \$347,062.57. This amount includes a WWTP site payoff of \$203,000 and \$120,000 to Mid Illinois Mechanical for sewer connections. The WWTP payoff is approximately \$50,000 less than was originally anticipated. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Input- State's attorney candidate, Jane Foster, addressed the council regarding her candidacy.

Old Business:

Code Violations: Mayor Mohr and city code enforcement officer, Dave Jenkins discussed various buildings within the city that are in major disrepair. Dave provided his recommendations on how the city can proceed with abatement processes for these properties.

Oak Street Property- Dave Jenkins and Mike Beard met with property owner, Virginia Grady, regarding the condition of her property and were allowed to tour the inside. All three agreed the home is so deteriorated the only option is demolition. Motion by Alderman Brill and second by Alderman Cole to proceed with another meeting between the code compliance officer and Ms. Grady introducing the second abatement letter declaring that demolition is the required next step. Motion carries unanimously.

Old Jaycee Building-Dave reported that this building's exterior is in disrepair citing foliage overgrowth, failed mortar joints, the metal stairs for the back egress are falling apart and the electric service is ungrounded. Dave's recommendation is to inspect the inside of the building either by invitation by the owner or by administrative search warrant. He is also trying to turn the electricity off as the ungrounded meter is a fire hazard and, in his opinion, is an emergency. Motion by Alderman Winterland and second by Alderman Fiero to conduct a title search and then an inspection of the interior of the building, first by invitation or second by administrative search warrant. Motion carries unanimously.

Tropic Tan Building-Dave Jenkins reported that the back deck on the second story of this building should be condemned. He also noted that Ameren's power lines run beneath that deck. The property is currently in foreclosure but the current tenants may be interested in purchasing the building and maintaining it. Motion by Alderman Brill and second by Alderman Revelle for our code compliance office to contact the bank and the tenant to determine the status of the building since foreclosure proceedings have begun.

Dave commented that with the downturn of the market, it is exciting to report two new home starts in Lexington as well as the preliminary subdivision proposal.

New Business:

Budget Planning: Melanie Kunkel reminded council members to meet with their committees and work on the 2013 budget.

Chaney Preliminary Subdivision Plan: Subsequent to the January 19, 2012 Planning Commission meeting, it is Mayor Mohr and the Planning Commission's recommendation to accept the Chaney preliminary subdivision plan. Motion by Alderman Winterland and second by Alderman Brill to accept the Chaney Preliminary Subdivision Plan. Motion carries unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Mayor: - Illinois Council of Police has called back with a final draft of the contract for part-time police officers. Mayor Mohr is going to recommending that it not be retroactive but effective on approval by the Council. City attorney, Mike Tibbs, is working on some modifications to the City code that would prohibit the sale of drugs, drug look-a-like substances and smoking paraphernalia. Mike Tibbs is also drafting a revision to the City Alcoholic Beverage code prohibiting the sale of alcohol bottles smaller than 1 pint. As of January 19th, 389 homes have been connected to the city's sewer system. The project is ahead of schedule. Mayor reported that Margaret Quinley has plans to retire on or about November 2012.

Police: - None

Building/Insurance- Alderman Miller reported that the one year lease for the rental of the old Wooden Hare building to Mr. and Mrs. Ryan is coming due. Alderman Miller will speak with the Ryan's to see if they are interested in renewing the lease.

Finance/TIF- Alderman Winterland issued a reminder that the new deadline for TIF applications is January 31st.

Water- None

Sanitation- None

Streets/Allys- None

There being no further business, it was moved by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Winterland to adjourn at 9:10 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Kunkel, City Clerk

Approved: 2/27/2012