

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF 22 DECEMBER 2014

14C-0502 – CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Renner called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Chambers at 101 Green Street on 22 December 2014.

14C-0503 – ROLL CALL

Upon roll call the following members were present: Bernstein, Fach, Greene, Kieffer, Lincoln, Renner

Absent: Painter

14C-0504 – ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Mayor Renner announced a quorum of Board members present to conduct City business.

14C-0505 – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge was recited.

14C-0506 - REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Turner Hall Committee – Fach reported the storm windows have been installed and things are moving along.

14C-0507 – PUBLIC COMMENTS

Amelia Roth, 1373 US Highway 20 – Roth advised she is here to request an item be placed on the next agenda with regard to tour companies that are currently running in Galena that are not being licensed. She advised this is taking business away from those who are being monitored and taxed. They are utilizing VisitGalena. Roth stated she was told Iowa Wine Tours was removed from the VisitGalena listing. That is not true. Countryside Tours is also using a false Galena address. They also park their vans which creates off premise signage.

Roth also noted there are lots of cigarette butts on the streets and sidewalks in the downtown. She recommended getting more cigarette butt containers.

Bill Grosshans, 418 Harrison Street – Grosshans stated he is against using tax payer dollars for the deer culling program. He sent a copy of his written objection to Mark Moran. He is stumped as to why the City didn't publish the DNR's decision in the paper prior to voting on this item. He feels the Council should spend taxpayer money the way they would their own. The cost is now projected to be over three times the amount originally stated because salaries were not included. He questioned if this would involve overtime or it would be done on regular shifts? He questioned what would suffer because of it? Grosshans recommended waiting until there is a full council present to vote on this controversial topic.

Krista Ginger, 418 Harrison Street - Ginger stated she is opposed to any tax dollars going to kill the deer in the city limits just because a few people complain. She questions what message this is sending to our kids? She would prefer to see \$9,000 or \$10,000 go towards repairing broken sidewalks. She urged the Council not to fund the proposal.

Lisa Prindle, 415 Gear Street – Prindle expressed her disappointment with the council's decision to go thru with the costly deer program. She would prefer to see them spend money more closely to what the general tax paying citizens would like such as streets, sidewalks or the ARC.

Anna Hemm, 226 S. High Street – Hemm stated she is against the deer culling. She is against taxpayer money going towards this at such a high price. It is a lot of money that could be used for a more constructive reason. Lots of people in the town struggle to pay their taxes. They are happy when it is done but know the following year they will pay more because we are spending more money. She urged the Council to stop spending and help more people in the city.

Eric Ahlvin, 245 Council Fire Circle – Ahlvin objects to spending taxpayer money for deer culling when we have crumbling streets and heaving sidewalks. This should not be a council type of activity. It should be up to the property owner. If they don't want deer in their yard they can put up a fence.

Dick Auman, 701 Young Street – Auman feels some of the Council thinks the deer culling needs to be done because some of the citizens are concerned. He feels this is the wrong thing to do. Auman advised he spent some time on the DNR website. He learned the deer harvest this year was 148,000 deer. If the State had to pay as much as the City is willing to pay for 25 deer in Galena, we would be in bad shape. The State puts a lot of the burden on the deer hunter. They have to take care of getting the meat taken care of. They have to prove to the State that they are deer that need to be harvested. He urged the Council to delay the voting on budgeting the money to do this. He suggested seeing if there is a way to meet the concerns but, more importantly, meet the concerns of the many more who don't want to see the deer killed. He recommended postponing this item.

Nikki Frank, 308 South Street – Frank stated she is opposed to the deer culling. She is concerned with using taxpayer money to shoot deer within the city limits where our children live. She noted Gear Street is in desperate need of repair. She questioned what was done to come up with the magic number? Was a helicopter fly over done? She stated she is appalled this is a priority for the City Council.

Mary Hartman, 510 Gear Street – Hartman agreed with the comments made. She questioned if the Police Officers can go hunting on their shift are we over staffed? She referred to an incident in Dubuque where a slug went through a business window. She questions if there would be any deer problem if the people who are in favor of this had to pay for it out of their pockets. She thinks not.

CONSENT AGENDA CA14-24

14C-0508 – APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF DECEMBER 8, 2014

14C-0509 – ACCEPTANCE OF OCTOBER 2014 FINANCIAL REPORTS

14C-0510 – APPROVAL OF BA14-05 FOR DEER POPULATION CONTROL PROGRAM

14C-0511 – APPROVAL OF REQUEST BY THE GALENA LIONS CLUB TO USE DEPOT PARK FOR OKTOBERFEST, OCTOBER 3, 2015

14C-0512 – APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT WITH COUNTRY FAIR INC. FOR THE USE OF GRANT PARK FOR COUNTRY FAIR, OCTOBER 8-11, 2015

14C-0513 – APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER #1 FOR TURNER YHALL FIRE ESCAPE AND ASSOCIATED IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

14C-0514 – APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH LOUIE'S TRENCHING SERVICE FOR EMERGENCY SNOW REMOVAL

Fach requested item 14C-0510 be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Motion: Fach moved, seconded by Lincoln, to approve Consent Agenda CA-14-24 as presented with the exception of item 14C-0510.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Fach, Greene, Kieffer, Lincoln, Bernstein, Renner
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Painter

The motion carried.

14C-0510 – APPROVAL OF BA14-05 FOR DEER POPULATION CONTROL PROGRAM

Motion: Fach moved, seconded by Bernstein, to table item 14C-0510, Approval of BA14-05 for Deer Population Control Program.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Lincoln, Bernstein, Fach
NAYS: Greene, Kieffer
ABSENT: Painter

The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

14C-0515 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT FOR USE OF CITY OWNED PROPERTY BETWEEN THE WISCONSIN INDEPENDENT NETWORK AND THE CITY OF GALENA

Motion: Lincoln moved, seconded by Greene, to approve the amendment to the agreement for use of city owned property between the Wisconsin Independent Network and the City of Galena.

Discussion: None

Roll Call: AYES: Kieffer, Lincoln, Bernstein, Fach, Greene, Renner
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Painter

14C-0516 – WARRANTS

Motion: Kieffer moved, seconded by Greene, to approve the Warrants as presented, item 14C-0516.

Discussion: None

Roll Call: AYES: Lincoln, Bernstein, Fach, Greene, Kieffer, Renner
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Painter

14C-0517 – ALDERPERSONS' COMMENTS

Alderman Fach wished all a Merry Christmas!

14C-0518 – CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

No report.

14C-0519 – MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Renner thanked all for sitting around this table during the good and the bad times. He wished all a “Merry Christmas” and a “Happy New Year”.

14C-0520 - ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Bernstein moved, seconded by Kieffer to adjourn.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Fach, Greene, Kieffer, Lincoln, Bernstein, Renner
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Painter

The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Beth Hyde
City Clerk