

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF 23 NOVEMBER 2015**

**15C-0437 – CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Pro Tem Lincoln called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Chambers at 101 Green Street on 23 November 2015.

**15C-0438– ROLL CALL**

Upon roll call the following members were present: Bernstein, Fach, Hahn, Kieffer, Lincoln, and Westemeier

Absent: Renner

**15C-0439– ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

Mayor Pro Tem Lincoln announced a quorum of Board members present to conduct City business.

**15C-0440 – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge was recited.

**15C-0441 - REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

None.

**15C-0442 – PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Kathy Gereau, 219 S. High Street** – Gereau voiced concern with the proposed changes to the Street Performers Ordinance. Gereau feels to restrict a performer to perform at a single public location for a maximum of four hours per day would be difficult to regulate and an unnecessary restriction. The limitation on the hours for performing is included in the current ordinances (10 am to 8 pm) and mirrors those from other municipalities, including Chicago. Requiring a four-hour limit is unreasonable as it would disrupt each performer, jeopardize one's ability to continue to perform and most significantly, adversely impact our tourist's ability to find a performer as they become a moving target every four hours. Gereau feels a start and end time is sufficient.

Gereau concurs that space shall not be reserved. She noted it does require some preparation to set up before 10:00 a.m. She feels restricting the transporting of performance items is an unnecessary provision.

Gereau advised a sign is integral to their ability to perform; otherwise they are just two ladies sitting in a park. The sign identifies them, is not intrusive, and without it, they would be lost in the crowd. Gereau noted the sign was approved by City Hall in 2003.

Gereau advised they need a table to lay out cards, chairs for them and the person they are reading to sit, and even with a sign they get people who have trouble finding them. She advised they have received no complaints in the past 12 years using chairs, tables and signage therefore, she questions the need for all of these changes and additional restrictions.

Gereau stated most visitors are aware of the standard musician case for a donation. Over the twelve years they have worked with the city, there has been no complaints from our visitors about using a suggested donation (which was also approved by the city in 2003) to inform visitors of the value of a reading.

Gereau believes the current ordinances, with minimal clarifications, are sufficient to ensure the safety and well-being of all, have worked well for many years, and the proposed changes will severely and adversely impact their ability to perform in Galena.

**Rick Pariser, 113 S. High Street** – Pariser voiced concern with recent action with regard to the tax levy. While it doesn't affect him that much, it does affect the aging community. Elderly people on Social Security aren't going to get any adjustment. He feels the City could have held the tax limit. He has been hearing a lot of commentary about this since the action was taken.

Pariser also commented with regard to the Deer Committee recommendation. A year ago Councilman Fach suggested asking the people. He was scolded badly. Pariser felt it was a good idea then and is still a good idea. He feels they are headed in the right direction.

**Don Gereau, 219 S. High Street** – Gereau noted when his wife Kathy started this business she went to City Hall. Suzanne Hollingsworth approved the signage. She advised a donation was fine. For 12 years they have been following that same system. They go down there religiously. The proposed changes include four or five points that would stop them from doing business (i.e., no table, chairs and half day). Three years ago this ordinance came up and it was voted to make no changes. He stated when you have two women from the community doing this for so long, it would be great to have the support of the City Council.

### **CONSENT AGENDA CA15-21**

#### **15C-0443 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 9, 2015**

#### **15C-0444 – APPROVAL OF STRAY DOG CONTRACT WITH THE JO DAVIESS COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL DEPARTMENT**

**Motion:** Kieffer moved, seconded by Hahn, to approve Consent Agenda CA15-21.

**Discussion:** None.

**Roll Call:** AYES: Fach, Hahn, Kieffer, Westemeier, Bernstein  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Renner

The motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **15C-0445 – STORM WATER AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PROJECT PRESENTATION BY UNIVERSITY OF PLATTEVILLE STUDENTS**

University of Wisconsin engineering students studied the following areas:

1. Elk and Hickory Street Watershed
2. Storm water along Franklin Street corridor
3. Storm water along Field Street corridor

Cassie Elmer, Chelsea Morgan and Trevor Moen made a presentation on their findings for the areas studied and provided recommendations for future improvements to water quality, reduction of storm run-off and traffic calming measures.

#### **15C-0446 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON MEMBERSHIP PROPOSAL BY THE TRI-COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE**

Lisa McCarthy, Executive Director, Tri-County Economic Development Alliance (TCEDA) made a presentation detailing TCEDA accomplishments in 2015. The plan for 2016 is to continue to expand on the foundation built in 2015.

McCarthy asked the Council for support of \$7,500 per year for the next three years.

No action was taken.

#### **15C-0447 – ANNUAL REPORT BY VISITGALENA.ORG**

Chris Hamilton presented the annual report for VisitGalena.org.

#### **15C-448 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON A RECOMMENDATION FROM THE DEER COMMITTEE FOR AN ADVISORY REFERENDUM**

John Cox, Chairman of the 2015 Deer Committee noted all agendas and minutes for their meetings are on the city website. They held their first meeting on October 21<sup>st</sup>. At that time they discussed the structure, how to proceed and what they were hoping to obtain from the committee. Cox advised he worked with the Mayor to develop a plan of action for the committee.

When reviewing, the committee ended up discussing the information obtained that a citizens group was investigating what would be required to put a referendum on the ballot. The Committee discussed and agreed if an entity is going to be advised by a referendum, then the entity should be the one asking the question. There is no cost to the city for the referendum to be on the ballot. The questions would be required to be submitted to the County Clerk by the end of December. The Deer Committee voted in favor of adding the recommendation of a referendum to the plan of action structure. The vote was 3-2. Two committee members felt if citizens wanted to have input they should come to the meetings and provide information. The motion passed to bring this recommendation to the City Council.

**Motion:** Hahn moved, seconded by Westemeier, to recommend putting an advisory referendum on the next general election coming up next year provided staff and legal counsel review the question.

**Discussion:** Council discussed. They were opposed to the suggested language and recommended staff come up with more appropriate language.

Staff will work on rewording the question and will bring it back to the next meeting in the form of a resolution.

**Roll Call:** AYES: Kieffer, Westemeier, Bernstein, Fach, Hahn  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Renner

The motion carried.

#### **15C-0449 – FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 110.39 “STREET PERFORMERS” OF THE GALENA CODE OF ORDINANCES**

**Motion:** Hahn moved, seconded by Kieffer, to defer the Ordinance amending Chapter 110.39 “Street Performers” of the Galena Code of Ordinances to the next meeting.

#### **15C-0450 – FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE AMOUNT OF PROPERTY TAXES TO BE LEVIED IN 2015 AND COLLECTED IN 2016**

**Motion:** Kieffer moved, seconded by Westemeier to approve the first reading of an Ordinance establishing the amount of property taxes to be levied in 2015 and collected in 2016 in the amount of \$1,357,868.

**Discussion:** Fach appreciates the fact that Mr. Pariser brought up the people on Social Security. As he has said before, he thinks the CPI that we use to figure out the multiplier should be the Social Security CPI and not the one they come up with out of the state. This year the Social Security CPI was nothing.

Lincoln stated he doesn't think we needed to do the increase. While it is only \$16,000 spread out, he feels sympathy for the elderly and others who are struggling.

**Roll Call:** AYES: Westemeier, Bernstein, Fach, Hahn, Kieffer  
NAYS: Lincoln  
ABSENT: Renner

The motion carried.

**15C-0451 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON A REQUEST BY SALVATORE ROMITA FOR AN EASEMENT FROM THE GALENA RIVER TRAIL TO HIS PROPERTY**

**Motion:** Hahn moved, seconded by Westemeier, to approve the request by Salvatore Romita for an easement from the Galena River Trail to his property subject to all costs be incurred by the owner, 15C-0451.

**Discussion:** Hahn advised this property is landlocked. This is the best way to allow them access without harming the trail.

**Roll Call:** AYES: Bernstein Fach, Hahn, Kieffer, Westemeier,  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Renner

The motion carried.

**15C-0452 – FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE ENACTING AND ADOPTING A SUPPLEMENT TO THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF GALENA**

**Motion:** Fach moved, seconded by Westemeier, to approve the first reading, and waive the second reading, of an ordinance enacting and adopting a supplement to the Code of Ordinances for the City of Galena.

**Discussion:** None.

**Roll Call:** AYES: Fach, Hahn, Kieffer, Westemeier, Bernstein  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Renner

The motion carried.

**15C-0453 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES**

Moran advised the final quote obtained from United Health Care was 63% higher. He recommended continuing with the BlueCross coverage.

**Motion:** Hahn moved, seconded by Fach, to approve continuing the remainder of the insurance year with the health insurance policies from BlueCross.

**Discussion:** None.

**Roll Call:** AYES: Hahn, Kieffer, Westemeier, Bernstein, Fach  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Renner

The motion carried.

#### **15C-0454 – WARRANTS**

**Motion:** Kieffer moved, seconded by Westemeier, to approve the Warrants as presented.

**Discussion:**

**Roll Call:** AYES: Kieffer, Westemeier, Bernstein, Fach  
NAYS: None  
ABSTAIN: Hahn  
ABSENT: Renner

The motion carried.

#### **15C-0455 – ALDERPERSONS' COMMENTS**

**Suggestion Box** – Bernstein stated she has been approached by someone who pointed out Dubuque has a kiosk near their food coop where people may make suggestions to city fathers. She feels the City may want to consider doing something similar.

**Snow** – Westemeier commended the Street Department for job well done with the recent snowfall. Hahn agreed.

**Thank you** – Hahn thanked Chris Hamilton for his report and the good job they do. He also thanked TCEDA, the Platteville students and John Cox for their presentations.

**Thank you** – Hahn thanked the Galena Fire Department, Fleege Electric and White's Lawn Care for hanging the Christmas wreaths.

**Thank you** – Fach thanked Mark Moran for putting the budget together.

**Bike Trail** – Fach noticed one of the Bollards was uprooted. He was surprised to see the concrete only goes about a foot deep. He is concerned it would very easy to bump them with a bumper and out it would come. He questioned if that was the specifications from the manufacturer. Moran advised it was added to during the train derailment. The rest of it is still in the ground.

#### **15C-0456 – CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

**Third & Rives** – Third and Rives residents are finally on public sewer. Nine residences were connected.

**Thank you** – Moran thanked Nat Ewers and the Junior Gardeners for putting the lights on the wreaths.

#### **15C-0457 – MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor pro tem Lincoln thanked TCEDA for their presentation. He would like to see the possibility of trying to fund some money. He would like to take a look at it around budget time.

**15C-0458 - ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:** Kieffer moved, seconded by Westemeier, to adjourn.

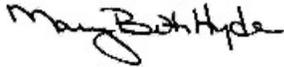
**Discussion:** None.

**Roll Call:** AYES: Lincoln, Westemeier, Bernstein, Fach, Hahn, Kieffer  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Renner

The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Beth Hyde  
City Clerk