

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF 12 FEBRUARY 2018

18C-0046 – 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 12 February 2018.

18C-0047 – ROLL CALL

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

18C-0048 – ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

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

18C-0049– PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge was recited.

18C-0050 - REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Destination Marketing Organization – The Greater Galena Marketing Initiative is currently looking for a new director. Rose Noble has been appointed interim director until someone is found.

Turner Hall Committee – Committee minutes were shared. The next meeting is scheduled for March 1, 2018. At that time, Andy Lewis and Earl Thompson will be there to hammer out what is going to go on the fly loft exterior. Todd Lincoln may be there as well for the floor.

18C-0051 – PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CONSENT AGENDA CA18-03

18C-0052 – APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF JANUARY 22, 2018

18C-0053 – APPOINTMENT OF CHRIS ALLENDORF TO THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 24, 2018 (UNEXPIRED TERM OF LARRY WIEDENHEFT)

18C-0054 – ACCEPTANCE OF DECEMBER 2017 FINANCIAL REPORT

18C-0055 – APPROVAL OF DEPOT RENOVATION CHANGE ORDERS 4-6

Motion: Hahn moved, seconded by Bernstein, to approve Consent Agenda, CA18-03.

Discussion: Council was pleased to have a replacement for Larry Wiedenheft on the Historic Preservation Commission.

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

The motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

17C-0513 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON OCTOBER 27, 2018 HALF MARATHON AND 8K RACE ON THE GALENA RIVER TRAIL

Motion: Westemeier moved, seconded by Kieffer, to approve the 2018 Half Marathon and 8K Race on the Galena River Trail October 27, 2018, 17C-0513.

Discussion: None.

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

The motion carried.

18C-0031 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON KAYAK/CANOE STORAGE PROGRAM

Motion: Bernstein moved, seconded by Westemeier, to approve the kayak/canoe storage program, contingent upon the application being approved by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), 18C-0031.

Discussion: Fach voiced concern with the protruding bars. He questioned if there would be a way to have vertical bars welded on to the ends. A recommendation was made to add Styrofoam covers on the ends.

The intent of the agreement is that storage would be for residents with Galena addresses. It would not be restricted to within the city limits. There will be 8 slots available.

Kieffer voiced concern this might create problems with others wanting to put something else under the bridge. He is concerned with it becoming cluttered under there.

Council agreed covers should be added to the protruding bars.

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

The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

18C-0056 – REPORT FROM DEER COMMITTEE

John Cox, Deer Committee Chair, updated the council based on the most recent deer count.

Cox noted the deer count showed approximately twice as many deer than the IDNR Limit of 20 per square mile. The count was 151 deer. This is a clear statement we have too many deer in town.

Count - The committee recommends doing the helicopter count every other year and automobile counts on the off years. He noted the numbers found driving a car were significantly below the number counted by the helicopter. Cox stated he is not confident that counting by car was all that helpful in terms of indication of how many deer are in town. Since the numbers were so different, he is unsure of the value of the count by car.

Education – The committee struggled in terms of the turnout for the educational sessions. Generally speaking it is very hard to get people to come. He urged the council not to give up on education.

Deer Warning Signs – The Committee hasn't given up on the idea of deer warning signs on Spring Street. IDOT has denied them. Cox feels they don't understand what is going on. He will continue to try to seek approval.

Health of Deer – The health of deer needs to continue to be monitored. We don't have wasting disease at this point. The deer in town are pretty healthy.

Feeding of Deer – Cox stated as far as he knows only one arrest has been made under the new ordinance instructing against feeding deer within the city limits. He urged that to be carefully looked at and enforced to make sure it isn't continuing. Some information the committee has received it that it is continuing in some places.

Deer Management Program – The committee recommends reevaluation of the program every three years to see if it is working and helping with the deer situation.

The view of the committee is that some action needs to be taken to control the deer population in the city limits. There are twice as many deer than the highest level the Department of Natural Resources recommends in the county let alone where multiple people live.

The committee recommends culling with bow and arrow. They strongly urge no rifles in the city limits. Cox wanted to make it clear if a deer is shot with a bow and arrow it tends not to drop immediately. It will keep moving for a while. This could create problems of a deer ending up in someone's yard. Some citizen's might be angry enough to not allow the hunter to come in a remove the deer. This could be resolved by helping citizens understand that this will be occurring and in this specific time frame. Cox urged careful publicity with the public regarding the time period in which this would occur.

The committee recommends starting the process on lands owned by the city and lands in key areas where the count was the highest. The committee feels hunting in those areas could give a serious reduction. If sufficient numbers aren't gotten there it could then be expanded into neighborhoods.

Bow hunters have advised there would be no cost to the City for the hunting. They would pay for their own permits and pay for the processing of the meat. There are people who would like the meat that don't hunt as well. The City needs to be careful to get the right hunters out there to protect safety.

Mayor Renner thanked the committee for their work.

17C-0057 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE “AGREEMENT FOR FIRE PROTECTION SERVICE BETWEEN THE CITY OF GALENA AND THE GALENA RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Motion: Westemeier moved, seconded by Hahn, to approve the first amendment to the agreement for Fire Protection Service between the City of Galena and the Galena Rural Fire Protection District reducing the annual increase from 3% to 1% starting January 1, 2019, 18C-0057.

Discussion: Lincoln questioned how often this comes back to be looked at. He feels the City needs to sit down with the Fire Department and the rural trustees to review. He feels they are grossly underfunded. It should be based on call volume. The way it is currently being done is outdated. He would like to see the city initiate some discussion.

Moran advised prior to 2009 the Rural District was paying a pro rate share of insurance on the rural truck. They initiated a new levy in the rural district in 2009 bumping it up to \$20,000. This year it was just under \$27,000.

Fach questioned if it would be possible to get some kind of comparison from other communities.

Westemeier noted the rural district puts money away each year for a new truck. He feels one or two percent won't make that much of a difference.

Council agreed to approve the one percent this year. They would like to check into it more this year.

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

The motion carried.

18C-0058 – FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 111, “ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES” OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES TO PERMIT THE SALE OF BEER FOR ON PREMISES CONSUMPTION BY A CLASS H LIQUOR LICENSEE

Motion: Bernstein moved, seconded by Westemeier, to approve the first reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 111, “Alcoholic Beverages” of the Code of Ordinances to permit the sale of beer for on premises consumption by a Class H liquor licensee, 18C-0058.

Discussion: None.

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

The motion carried.

18C-0059 – FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE ENACTING AND ADOPTING A SUPPLEMENT TO THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF GALENA

Motion: Westemeier moved, seconded by Kieffer, 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, 18C-0059.

Discussion: None.

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

The motion carried.

18C-0060 – WARRANTS

Motion: Kieffer moved, seconded by Hahn, to approve the Warrants as presented, 18C-0060.

Discussion: Bernstein questioned what a knox box was. She was advised it is a lock box on the fire truck which holds a key to buildings.

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

The motion carried.

18C-0061 – ALDERPERSONS' COMMENTS

Bowling Alley – Fach stated the city needs a bowling alley.

Thank you – Hahn thanked the Public Works Department for their long hours dealing with the snow. They have done a fantastic job. Kieffer echoed those comments adding they are doing a “stellar” job plowing and removing snow.

Community Center – Bernstein stated the city needs a community center.

Northwest Illinois Criminal Justice – Westemeier advised he attended a recent meeting. There are slight adjustments coming in 2019 for each department. It will be raised about 5 percent. That is minimal for what we get out of it.

Water Shed Meeting – Westemeier stated he attended the recent water shed meeting with Alderperson Bernstein. It was interesting.

Turner Hall – Westemeier stated he recently checked out Turner Hall with Janelle Keeffer. Things are looking great up there. He thanked staff, the committee and the White's for doing a fine job.

Deer Count – Westemeier stated he is glad to finally have the count. Everyone knew there were a couple deer in town. He would like to see the City find a safe and cheap way to find spots within the city limits to hunt. We are on the right track and just need to get started.

18C-0062 – CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Deer Issue – Moran advised a survey was done of adjacent property owners to assess how much hunting was going on. He received 12 or 13 surveys back which covered almost 1900 acres just outside the City Limits that is already being hunted.

Budget – The budget is underway and will be distributed March 12, 2018. The first work session is scheduled for March 19.

Rotary Roundtable – Moran advised this year's Rotary Roundtable will be “Sustainability in Communities in rural America”. The City will be participating as a presenter and facilitator. The meeting will be held February 27. Moran asked any council members who wished to go to please let him know.

18C-0063 – MAYOR'S REPORT

Thank you – Mayor Renner thanked the Street Department for their fine work.

Basketball – Mayor Renner congratulated the girl's basketball team on a job well done and wished the boys luck in the upcoming regionals.

18C-0064 – MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: Lincoln moved, seconded by Kieffer, to recess to Executive Session to discuss the following:

- Sale or lease of public property, Section 2 (c) (6)
- Pending, probable or imminent litigation, Section 2 (c) (1)
- Review of Executive Session Minutes, Section 2 (c) (21)

Discussion: None.

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

The motion carried.

The meeting recessed at 7:10 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 7:50 p.m.

18C-0065 - ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Lincoln moved, seconded by Hahn, to adjourn.

Discussion: None.

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

The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Beth Hyde". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary Beth Hyde
City Clerk