MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF 12 SEPTEMBER 2022

22C-0340 – 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 September 2022.

22C-0341 – ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following members were present: Bernstein, Hahn, Kieffer, McCoy, Westemeier, Wienen, Renner

22C-0342 – ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

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

22C-0343 – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge was recited.

22C-0344 - REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEE

No reports.

22C-0345 – CITIZENS COMMENTS

James Boho, 1477 Rocky Hill Road – See attachment.

CONSENT AGENDA CA22-17

22C-0346 – APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF AUGUST 22, 2022

22C-0347 – APPROVAL OF A REQUEST BY THE GALENA PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT FOR LITFEST PERFORMANCES IN THE GRANT PARK PAVILION, MAY 21, 2023

22C-0348 – APPROVAL OF THE OPEN SPACE LAND ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT (OSLAD) GRANT PROGRAM RESOLUTION OF AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SPLASH PAD PROJECT

22C-0349 – APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF A NEW COMMAND TRUCK FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT FROM RICHARDSON MOTORS

Motion: Kieffer moved, seconded by Wienen, to approve Consent Agenda CA22-17.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: McCoy, Westemeier, Bernstein, Hahn, Kieffer, Wienen, Renner
NAYS: None

The motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

22C-0329 – SECOND READING AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN ANNEXATION AGREEMENT WITH THE RICHARD FAMILY PROPERTIES (BEN RICHARDS) FOR 3.1 ACRES KNOWN AS THE GUY'S TRUCK AND TRACTOR SUBDIVISION IN THE GALENA INDUSTRIAL PARK

Motion: McCoy moved, seconded by Bernstein, to approve the second reading of an ordinance authorizing the execution of an annexation agreement with the Richards Family Properties (Ben Richards) for 3.1 acres known as the Guy's Truck and Tractor Subdivision in the Galena Industrial Park, with the abatement of taxes for five years, starting when the building has been assessed and amended to include not paying the $11,560 for the infrastructure, 22C-0329.

Discussion: McCoy stated that he likes the idea that Guys Trucking is expanding, and the city is stepping forward by allowing them to enter into a five-year tax abatement. Kieffer agreed stating a 20-year abatement is too long.

Hahn suggested doing 10 years. He felt by doing so it would promote business growth.

Wienen was in favor of 5 years for the tax abatement with no infrastructure build out.

Amended
Motion: Wienen moved, seconded by Kieffer, to amend the motion to include not paying the $11,560 for the infrastructure.

Discussion: None

Main Motion
Roll Call: AYES: Kieffer, McCoy, Westemeier, Bernstein, Wienen, Renner
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: Hahn

The motion carried.

Amended Motion
Roll Call: AYES: Kieffer, McCoy, Westemeier, Bernstein, Wienen, Renner
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: Hahn

The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

22C-0350 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FINAL PLAT AND PLAN FOR GUY'S TRUCK AND TRACTOR SUBDIVISION

Motion: McCoy moved, seconded by Westemeier, to approve the final plat and plan for Guy's Truck and Tractor Subdivision, 22C-0350.

Discussion: Renner questioned if the fire trucks would be able to access the parking lot.

Matt Oldenburg, City Engineer, advised a new hydrant will be installed at the end of the street. There will be driveway access to the site. The fire truck will be able to turn around on the new road.

Roll Call: AYES: Westemeier, Bernstein, Hahn, Kieffer, McCoy, Wienen, Renner
NAYS: None

The motion carried.

22C-0351 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON A RECOMMENDATION FROM THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION TO APPLY FOR A CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANT

Motion: Kieffer moved, seconded by McCoy, to deny the request to apply for a Certified Local Government Grant, 22C-0351.

Discussion: Kieffer stated he feels the local historic ordinance is working fine and feels, if it needs to be updated, the council can fix it without the use of an outside consultant. McCoy agreed. McCoy voiced concern with the presentation being open ended with no dollar amount and the city being obligated to fund 30 percent and not knowing the results or outcome.

McCoy stated he is very happy with the Historic Preservation Commission who has taken care of it for the past 35 years. The City of Galena is number one in the State of Illinois in historic preservation.

Wienen suggested the group come back next year with more data regarding the cost.

Lisa Sproule Vakharia, 702 Young Street spoked on behalf of the Galena Preservation Advocacy Organization. Vakharia advised the estimated cost would be $15,000 of which the city would be responsible for 30 percent.

Roll Call: AYES: Bernstein, Kieffer, McCoy, Wienen, Renner
NAYS: Hahn, Westemeier

The motion carried.

22C-0352 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON A REQUEST BY AMERICAN LEGION POST 193 TO HONOR HENRY H. TAYLOR IN GRANT PARK

Motion: Westeimer moved, seconded by Hahn, to approve the request by American Legion Post 193 to honor Henry H. Taylor in Grant Park, 22C-0352.

Discussion: Westemeier stated it is a great thing having a statue placed at the north end of Grant Park overlooking the river.

Renner advised they are still awaiting approval from the Corp of Engineers to place the nine generals on the levy. If they do not receive that approval, their second choice would be placing them in Grant Park.

Jerry Howard, representative of the American Legion, stated the statues are going to be 7 ½ feet tall with a 4-foot base. The statutes will be bolted to make them sturdy.

Roll Call: AYES: Bernstein, Hahn, Kieffer, McCoy, Westemeier, Wienen, Renner.
NAYS: None

The motion carried.

22C-0353 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON CONTRACT FOR A COMMUNITY-WIDE SURVEILLANCE CAMERA SYSTEM

Motion: Westemeier moved, seconded by Bernstein, to deny the bids for the community wide surveillance camera system.

Discussion: Council explained that the bids were significantly over the budget for the project. They expressed interest in moving forward and suggested the City Administrator work with Sand Prairie to develop a new proposal for the project.

Roll Call: AYES: McCoy, Westemeier, Bernstein, Hahn, Kieffer, Wienen, Renner
NAYS: None

The motion carried.

22C-0354 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON A CONTRACT FOR PAINTING STORAGE BUILDINGS AT THE MEEKER STREET PARKING LOT

Company	Location	Cost
All Star Power Wash, Inc.	Benton, WI	$27,723
El Greco Painting, LLC	Chicago, IL	$24,500

Motion: McCoy moved, seconded by Bernstein, to approve a contract for painting the storage buildings at the Meeker Street parking lot with El Greco Painting, LLC in the amount of $24,500.

Discussion: McCoy stated he likes the idea that we are trying to preserve and maintain our buildings.

Wienen felt the Public Works Department should be the one maintaining the buildings and should paint them. Bernstein feels the Public Works Department already has a lot on their hands.

Roll Call: AYES: McCoy, Westemeier, Bernstein, Hahn, Kieffer, Renner
NAYS: Wienen

The motion carried.

22C-0355 – PRESENTATION OF 2022 ALICE T. VIRTUE YEAR-END POOL REPORT

Hillary Dickerson, Facilities Manager gave the year-end report. Dickerson stated she was pleased with her opening season given the nationwide lifeguard shortage.

Dickerson reported she had 23 new staff members of which 11 were new lifeguards. Two additional guards were certified at the end of the season. She advised we will need additional guards for the upcoming season.

Swimming lessons were steady. She advised she would also need instructors in the upcoming season.

Several facilities projects were completed prior to opening with additional projects being completed during the season. Public Works will work on several projects in the fall and winter. Spear Corporation will do work on the chemical system and will measure for new pool grates. All of the grates need replacement. The grate size will be a custom size and likely very costly.

Renner thanked Hillary and staff.

22C-0356 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON A CONTRACT FOR STREET PAVING

The following bid was received:

Contractor	Base Bid	Alternate Bid	Total Bid
Helm Civil	$250,690.60	-	$250,690.60

Motion: Hahn moved, seconded by Westemeier, to approve a contract for street paving with Helm Civil in the amount of $250,690.60.

Discussion: Hahn stated that all the streets need paving, and he hopes we are able to do more.

Roll Call: AYES: Bernstein, Hahn, Kieffer, McCoy, Westemeier, Wienen, Renner
NAYS: None

The motion carried.

22C-0357 – WARRANTS

Motion: Bernstein moved, seconded by McCoy, to approve the Warrants as presented, 22C-0357.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Bernstein, Hahn, Kieffer, McCoy, Westemeier, Wienen, Renner
NAYS: None

The motion carried.

22C-0336 – ALDERPERSONS' COMMENTS

Anniversary – McCoy stated he and his wife Michele celebrated 50 years, adding there is no place he'd rather be!

Congratulations – Hahn congratulated the McCoy's and added the town is clean and looking good.

Tourists – Kieffer noted the town is full of tourists.

Thank you – Bernstein thanked the Public Works Department and the Police Department for all that they do.

Condolences – Westemeier sends his condolences to Mary Beth.

Window Painting – Wienen stated the city's collaboration with the school to paint the windows for homecoming is a nice idea.

22C-0337 – CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Audit – Moran advised O'Connor Brooks just completed the audit and everything went well. Moran thanked Jen Schmidt for her hard working helping them out. We should have a report back in a couple weeks.

Street Paving – Helm Civil will be ready to get started with street paving on Wednesday and should be done with Indian Ridge by Friday.

Spring Street Project – The contractor will begin working on Saturday mornings to make up for time they have lost as a result of weather and site conditions. The Saturday work is not ideal, but it is permitted by the IDOT contract. IDOT and the contractor believe the weekend work is needed to keep the project on schedule for a three-year completion.

22C-00338 – MAYOR'S REPORT

Renner expressed his concerns and condolences to Mary Beth Hyde and her family. God Bless them!

Renner also thanked the Police Department and staff!

22C-00339 – ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Hahn moved, seconded by Kieffer to adjourn.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Wienen, Hahn, Kieffer, McCoy, Westemeier, Bernstein, Renner
NAYS: None

The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Atibagos
Recording Secretary

September 12, 2022 Address to Galena City Council RE: The Parker

The Parker Project

Fourth Street and US 20 bears a Class A Critical Intersection Warning. Resources are numerous and readily available for review...Example: Illinois Intersections Chapter 34. My request was rejected when I asked to be added as an agenda item to speak on this issue. The Council continues to move forward, with no factual research or evidence, to support the usage of this intersection as intended by The Parker Project. I do not believe one can move forward against a state warning, backed up by Federal and citizen criteria. You are committing to add the traffic of thousands of vehicles a year to an intersection that has a Class A Critical Warning, with Federal, State and civilian statistics already tied to it. History of this intersection stands against increasing usage.

The Galena City Council continues to move forward against public safety and interests, risking the safety of Galenians, neighboring townships, school children, and visitors.

Your reasoning and explanations stated in previous meetings of the usage of Fourth Street and US 20, relating to the increase of traffic brought by The Parker Project, are not sound and hold no value.

One of the statements made was that the new traffic pattern would even out Summer to Winter traffic. There is more traffic in Spring, Summer and Fall than the Winter months. One can easily find a parking spot downtown during the Winter months.

Another statement was that every intersection entering Hwy 20 through town is dangerous. However, Fourth Street and Hwy 20 remains a Class A Critical.

Lights and Sirens on emergency vehicles come only after an accident and does nothing to prevent.

Another statement made was that trucks can navigate the intersection. However, they, as well as school busses, cannot without encroaching other oncoming lanes of traffic. This can be seen as the homes facing Fourth Street continue to park their vehicles on the sidewalk and their front lawns to avoid accidents.

Two other statements were "If I have to be honest". And another was "It's on us, it's on us".

Pertaining to Mr. Baranski's statement that he had meetings with the Police and Fire Departments, The Director of EMS, and The County Engineer. However, I find nothing in the minutes relating to the content of those meetings as presented to The Zoning Board and The Galena City Council. His statement was referring that they have no problem with the Parker Project. The Council has referred to this statement four times. None of these entities would recommend adding traffic to a Class A Critical Intersection. Period. None. Their Oath, their dedication is to safety first. The Council has the authority and responsibility, as elected officials, to request statements from each one regarding The State of Illinois warning on its Class A Critical rating of this intersection, relating to Council's decision of adding significantly to the traffic flow.

The current Comprehensive Plan did address the problem of this intersection and the new one, once finished, will address the State of Illinois Fourth Street and Hwy 20 as an A Critical Intersection, as this is the gateway to any expansion in that area.

I was the spokesperson for East Galena and Rice Township against the last project that intended to build a music festival venue on the Old Poor Farm Property. The two main reasons for the citizen unrest regarding that project were the increased traffic at Rt 20 and Fourth Street and amplified music. This project ended at the Zoning Board

with the applicant's realization that it was not a feasible project for the area. His initial request to address safety with the intersection was to hire off-duty Police Officers to tend to that intersection throughout entire events. 122 attended that meeting and many others, that couldn't attend, signed petitions.

Also, the 1993 Mariner's Hideaway proposed plans drawn up by Baranski, Freund-Architects, 201 S. Main Street, Galena (utilizing the Marine Hospital property for a similar, yet much smaller development than The Parker) was rejected. Please see The Galena Gazettes, July 30, 1993, September 10, 1993, and all the way back to May 20, 1987, all relating to Fourth Street and Highway 20 access. And to date, nothing has changed.

I bring these facts forward because your opinions and rulings have direct conflict with the safety and day to day life of the citizens of Rice and East Galena Townships. The Supervisor of Rice Township has submitted a letter of concern over these issues and to date, has received no response.