

Minutes of the Regular Arcola City Council Meeting

Tuesday, February 17, 2004

Mayor Manna called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Members present were Alderpersons Ferguson, Wheeler, Gentry, Lampe, Kile and Williams. City Attorney Moore, City Foreman Jack Logan, Police Chief Mike Phillips and Zoning Officer Byron Joergens were also present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Alderman Ferguson led the Council and the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment at this time.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 17, 2004 MINUTES Mayor Manna commended whoever wrote the minutes on a job well done. Alderman Williams said he would like added to the minutes that 2 floodlights were to be installed at Moore Park in addition to the decorative street lights. Alderman Williams moved to approve the February 17, 2004 Council Minutes with the addition as stated and was seconded by Alderwoman Kile. Roll call vote, Ferguson, aye; Wheeler, aye; Gentry, aye; Lampe, aye; Kile, aye; Williams, aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 31, 2004 – FEBRUARY 13, 2004 BILLS Alderwoman Kile and Alderman Ferguson questioned a bill from Kemper CPA Group in the amount of \$851.70. City Clerk Dill said it was for accounting/payroll support and also for a program update and training. Alderwoman Kile felt that was an extremely high bill. Mayor Manna agreed with Kile. Council asked that an itemized bill be presented before Council approved payment. City Clerk Dill said she would get a copy of the itemized bill from Kemper for approval at the next Council Meeting. Alderwoman Kile moved to approve all bills except the bill from Kemper CPA Group in the amount of \$851.70 and was seconded by Alderman Ferguson. Roll call vote, Ferguson, aye; Wheeler, aye; Gentry, aye; Lampe, aye; Kile, aye; Williams, aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY TREASURER'S REPORT Alderman Ferguson moved to approve the January Treasurer's Report and was seconded by Alderman Wheeler. Roll call vote, Ferguson, aye; Wheeler, aye; Gentry, aye; Lampe, aye; Kile, aye; Williams, aye. Motion carried.

WAIVE FEE FOR RENTAL OF ARCOLA CENTER – ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH Alderwoman Kile reported that the Building & Grounds Committee would like to recommend the Council waive the rental fee to the Arcola Center for the St. John's Catholic Church while they are using it due to their church being renovated. After some discussion, Alderwoman Kile moved to waive the fee for St. John's Catholic Church and was seconded by Alderman Wheeler. Roll call vote, Ferguson, aye; Wheeler, aye; Gentry, aye; Lampe, aye; Kile, aye; Williams, aye. Motion carried.

Council members asked if there was a church using the Council Chambers. City Clerk Dill said that the Preacher at the Free Methodist Church had left that church and was starting his own church and that they had been using the Council room on Sunday's for a fee that was determined by the Building and Grounds Committee several months ago. Alderwoman Kile said the Committee felt that the room could be rented to small groups and the City would have a little income from the rental. Alderman Ferguson felt the Aldermen should have been notified and that in the future use of the room for functions such as this should be on a case-by-case basis.

APPROVAL OF FINAL PAY ESTIMATE FOR BODINE ELECTRIC - RT. 133 FLASHING LIGHTS Alderman Ferguson moved to approve the final pay estimate from Bodine Electric for the Rt. 133/Moore Park Flashing lights in the amount of \$7,012.88 and was seconded by Alderman Williams. Roll call vote, Ferguson, aye; Wheeler, aye; Gentry, aye; Lampe, aye; Kile, aye; Williams, aye. Motion carried. Council discussed when the flashing lights could be turned on and City Foreman Jack Logan said he would check with IDOT to determine when they can be turned on.

APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 04-C-1, AMENDMENTS & ADDITIONS TO CHAPTER 3 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE Alderman Wheeler moved to approve Ordinance 04-C-1, An Ordinance amending Sections 3-6 and 3-23 and adding Sections 3-27 and 3-28 to Chapter 3 of the "Municipal Code, City of Arcola, Illinois." Adopted June 2, 1980, as amended and was seconded by Alderman Ferguson. Roll call vote, Ferguson, aye; Wheeler, aye; Gentry, aye; Lampe, aye; Kile, aye; Williams, aye. Motion carried. Attorney Moore said the Ordinance would now allow for a Special Event Retailer's License if requested. Attorney Moore said the Ordinance would also permit a Special Use Permit Liquor License.

Alderman Gentry asked if a party could sell alcohol at the Arcola Center without a liquor license. Council felt that "Selling alcohol from the Arcola Center is prohibited", should be added to the Arcola Center Rental Contract.

Mayor Manna said there has been a change in management at Casey's and he had been asked how long the new manager would have to move to the City to comply with the Liquor License Ordinance. After some discussion, Council felt Casey's should be given 60 days for a manager to locate in Arcola. Council regretted to hear that the previous manager Linda Wickersham was no longer there. Mayor Manna felt she had done a good job.

DISCUSS CHECK SIGNERS ORDINANCE FOR CITY Alderman Ferguson said when the Finance/Budget Committee met with the auditor, she suggested that the check signers for the City be amended. She suggested that the bookkeeper not be a check signer. Alderman Ferguson moved to instruct Attorney Moore to draft an Ordinance that would authorize two signatures on all checks being two of the following: Mayor, City Clerk, Treasurer, Deputy Clerk or Water Billing Clerk and was seconded by Alderwoman Lampe. Roll call vote, Ferguson, aye; Wheeler, aye; Gentry, aye; Lampe, aye; Kile, aye; Williams, aye. Motion carried.

REPORT FROM CITY'S TOURISM COMMITTEE Mayor Manna reported that a City of Arcola Tourism Committee Meeting had been held and he asked Alderwoman Kile to give the report since Chairman Mike Lindenmeyer could not be present tonight. Alderwoman Kile referenced the report that was written by Mike Lindenmeyer of which copies had been previously given to Council members. The report stated that there was \$29,668.37 in the Hotel/Motel accounts as of 02/03/04. The Tourism Committee reported to the Council that there were requests for a total of \$53,001.57 of reimbursements but the Committee would like to recommend to the City Council that \$29,561.23 of the requested funding be granted. After some discussion Alderwoman Kile moved to approve \$29,561.23 of funding from the Hotel/Motel Tax Fund as presented and was seconded by Alderman Ferguson. Roll call vote, Ferguson, aye; Wheeler, aye; Gentry, aye; Lampe, aye; Kile, aye; Williams, aye. Motion carried.

CONSIDER NEW LIFE INSURANCE PLAN FOR FULL TIME CITY EMPLOYEE'S Mayor Manna said he had attended a 3 hour meeting to discuss Life Insurance for City Employee's and he would like for Chairman Alderman Gentry to report on that meeting. Alderman Gentry reported that at the meeting Larry Rollings presented a couple of options for Life Insurance and Lindenmeyer Insurance Agency had also presented a quote. Alderman Ferguson explained that current and future employee's would qualify for this insurance. The amount of the insurance is \$35,000.00 and also includes Accidental Death & Dismemberment. Ferguson said it is very economical to do this. After further discussion, Alderman Gentry moved to accept the proposal from Lindenmeyer Insurance for \$35,000.00 of Term Life Insurance which includes AD&D from Companion Life for each employee at a total monthly rate of \$180.00 per month and was seconded by Alderman Ferguson. Roll call vote, Ferguson, aye; Wheeler, aye; Gentry, aye; Lampe, abstained; Kile, aye; Williams, aye. Motion carried.

Alderwoman Lampe abstained due to her husband working for the City. Attorney Moore said he would have to research whether or not it would be a conflict for the Alderpersons, who had family working for the City, to abstain on votes such as this.

CONSIDER DISPOSITION OF EXISTING LIFE INSURANCE POLICIES Alderman Gentry reported the Committee had also discussed the disposition of the existing Life Insurance policies. He said they are Whole Life policies that belong to each employee and the committee felt they should be given to the employee to do what that wanted with. The employee would have the

option to continue with a payroll deduction, pay on their own or cash the policy in. After further discussion, Alderman Gentry moved to give the existing Whole Life Insurance Policies to the employee's and allow them to continue paying the premium themselves or cash in the policy Alderman Ferguson seconded the motion. Roll call vote, Ferguson, aye; Wheeler, abstained; Gentry, aye; Lampe, abstained; Kile, aye; Williams, aye. Motion carried.

DISCUSS SUMP PUMP SURVEY Alderman Williams reported that the City would be putting an ad in the paper that the City will be conducting a door to door survey of all residence to see if there are any illegal hook-ups of storm water going into the sanitary sewer. An example would be sump pumps hooked into the sanitary sewer. Williams said town meetings would also be held to educate the people and then an Intern could be hired to go door-to-door to actually inspect the residence. Williams said they felt someone from out of town would be the best to do the door-to-door survey. Williams said if the resident does not correct the problem then the City would take legal action. Williams said the engineers informed them that if 8 residences on the west side of town had sump pumps hooked into the sanitary sewer, that it could overload the sanitary sewer system. Council agreed that the survey was a good idea and authorized Alderman Williams to work with Clark Dietz, Inc. on the project.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Alderman Ferguson reported that the Ordinance & Enforcement Committee and Department Heads would be going over the Ordinance Book thoroughly and making changes as needed before the Ordinance book is re-printed. He said this would be started after the budget is done and would take time to do.

Alderman Ferguson asked that the first draft of the 2004-05 budgets be completed by March 1, 2004 if possible.

Alderman Ferguson said he had received a message on his answering machine about burning at Dick Prout's residence on North Rt. 45. He said after checking they found that Prout's property was in the City limits, so Mr. Prout was warned. He said that Mr. Prout wrote a letter stating that since he was in the City limit's he would like to have City water and sewer brought to his property and possibly a fire hydrant. Mayor Manna asked Attorney Moore where this request should go. Attorney Moore said the request is a valid request and should be considered and a cost analysis should be made and Prout be notified of what the City is doing. Mayor Manna said he would write a letter to Dick Prout. After further discussion, it was determined that the triangle west of the curve on Rt. 133 and the property of Louis Turner on the Well House Road did not have City water and/or sewer. Alderwoman Kile moved to authorize Clark Dietz, Inc. to give the City cost estimates on extending water and sewer to the property of Dick Prout, Louis Turner and the triangle west of Rt. 133 and was seconded by Alderman Wheeler. Roll call vote, Ferguson, aye; Wheeler, aye; Gentry, aye; Lampe, aye; Kile, aye; Williams, aye. Motion carried. City Foreman Jack Logan said he thought the reason that water and sewer had not been ran to these properties was that the Ordinance stated it did not have to be if it was not economically feasible.

Alderman Ferguson said he still had questions on the January Financial Report line items, Miscellaneous Refunds and Revenues and Administration Other Expenses. He said he would like to see itemized numbers for those line items. City Clerk Dill said she would look it up for him.

Alderman Ferguson also questioned why the City gets reports from Berns, Clancy and Associates. He said he liked getting the reports and wanted to thank them.

Alderman Ferguson said that City Clerk Dill had prepared a project planner and sent it to him that was good. He said some adjustments would be made and copies would then be given to the Council. He said he was concerned about the Police Grant money that had not been received. City Clerk Dill said the money would be received when the correct PIN number was received. The money could then be drawn down. Dill said if she could not make any progress in getting the money by the end of February she would turn it over to Attorney Moore. Council felt a letter should be written by the Mayor, requesting the money. Mayor Manna said he would write the letter.

Alderman Wheeler reported that the Street & Alley Committee had met and would like to put on the March 1, 2004 Agenda, consider the purchase of a dump truck. Alderman Wheeler said the truck could be purchased through State bid for approximately \$65,440.00.

Alderman Gentry reported that the Employee Relations Committee had met and discussed some changes in the employee handbook. He said the Employee Relations Committee would meet March 15, 2004 to finalize the changes. He said the Committee had also considered getting a cost estimate on an Independent Consultant coming in and reviewing City Operations and re-writing job descriptions.

Alderwoman Lampe reported the Trash/Recycling Committee had met. She said they discussed the clean up of the old sewer plant, that is currently being done, and also having a clean-up weekend. She said the Committee would meet again the first meeting in April.

Alderwoman Kile reported that Clark Dietz, Inc. had drawn up specs for adding heating and air conditioning to Mike Butler's Office and the restrooms. She said Air King would be contacted for a cost estimate if the Council did not object. Council agreed to have Air King give the City a cost estimate. City Foreman Jack Logan said he would contact Air King.

Alderwoman Kile asked if the thermostat cover had been installed at the Arcola Center. City Foreman Jack Logan said it had been installed.

Alderman Williams had nothing to report at this time.

Mayoral Comments: Mayor Manna reported that Charlie Crist from Arcola had received the Congressional Medal of Honor and he would be presenting him a key to the City at a party to be held by his parents this coming Saturday.

Mayor Manna commented on the report from Berns. Clancy on the water rates in the area and said he would give it to Chris Slack, Arcola Record Herald for his information in case he wanted to put something in the newspaper.

Mayor Manna said the Phase III Plans from Libman Company had been received and would be in the office if anyone would like to look at them.

Mayor Manna said the ice and snow on the streets had melted pretty good, but that some salt could be put on the sidewalks.

Mayor Manna said he had received a complaint about the visibility when driving south on Oak St. at Main St. He said due to large vehicles being parked in front of Wilmer Otto's building, the driver's view is blocked. Other area's in town were also discussed where the driver's view is obstructed. It was discussed to make these area's handicapped parking only, but no decisions were made. The Street & Alley Committee and the Police Committee would discuss the problem further in committee.

Mayor Manna said there had been complaints on cooking in homes received from the Health Dept., which was being taken care of.

Mayor Manna commended the Employee Relations Committee for an excellent job done on the Life Insurance for City Employee's and felt the City Employee's should feel very fortunate.

As this concluded the business of the meeting, Alderwoman Lampe moved to adjourn and was seconded by Alderman Williams.

Adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Andrew A. Manna Sr., Mayor
Vickie Dill, City Clerk

