

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF GIBSON CITY  
Monday, March 28, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Daniel E. Dickey.

**Pledge of Allegiance** was led by members of Girl Scout Troop # 2548. .

**Roll Call:**

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| Ward #1   | Barb Yergler, present; Brandon Roderick, present |
| Ward #2   | Jan Hall, present; Nelda Jordan, present         |
| Ward #3   | John Carlson, present; Scott Davis, present      |
| Ward #4   | Dennis Pardick, present; Laura Miller, present   |
| Jr Alderman Jessalyn Davis, absent / arrived during new business discussion |  |

**Others present:** City Attorney Marc Miller, Admin.Assistant Peg Stalter, Police Chief Steve Cushman, Jeanne Noellsch (Ford County Record/News Gazette), Ross Brown (WGKY), City Superintendent Randy Stauffer, Marshall Blake, Jennifer Thomas, Frank Titus, Denny Houser (American Legion), Mike O’Grady, Greg Cook (Farnsworth), Tom Townsend, Tom Barrow, Michael Poor, Marc Petersen, Dayton Getty, Sean Widener, Anas Alrawi, Girl Scout Troop # 2548 members Ella Brake, Ellen Maxey, Wrigley Maxey, Kate and Lori Kristensen, and Lori Patton.

**Approval of Council Minutes:** Alderman Laura Miller corrected Tim Mueller’s name in the minutes, which was a typo. Alderman John Carlson motioned to approve the minutes of February 22, 2016; seconded by Alderman Dennis Pardick. MC 8-0.

**Mayor Dickey recognized visitors:** 1.) Marshall Blake addressed the council concerning this year’s Farmer’s Market stating that he would like to continue with 3 days a week (Tues. and Thurs 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm) and Saturday from 8:00 am to noon (or sell out) and plans to begin the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in April. He also suggested discontinuing the flea market and to keep the Farmer’s Market for items grown locally. He also requested a new sign as the old one is faded. Alderman Jan Hall volunteered to work with Mr. Blake and Dan Kearfott on the signage.2.) Anas Alrawi introduced himself as the new owner of the building located at 103 N Sangamon, who purchased the building with the intention of storage only new and used items that would be sold at another location. However, he is considering opening the store to local business. He asked assistance of the council in repairs to the building’s brick and rear foundation (approx. \$20,000.00), plus putting glass in the now-boarded upper windows and roof work for another \$20,000.00. Alderman Nelda Jordan said the City could provide a CDAP load of \$10,000.00 per employee at a low interest rate. Council recommended Mr. Alrawi consider a CDAP loan.

**Treasurer’s Report:** City Treasurer Scott Shull presented the Financial Report as of February, 2016.

**Administrative Report:** Admin Assistant Peg Stalter offered no report.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Ordinance Committee** –Alderman Jan Hall offered no report.

**Street and Alley** – Alderman John Carlson offered no report. Randy Stauffer reported that the Elementary School has requested replacement of the old and damaged concrete divider blocks, painting them white and allowing classes to paint them prior to Earth Day as in the past. Randy reported that the blocks cost approx. \$40.00 each (out of the street fund), but will check on a better quality divider before ordering.

**Police/Health, Light and Nuisance** – Alderman Brandon Roderick offered no report. Chief Cushman reported that his department office has been ‘cleaned up’ and the High School Students will be designing and painting a mural for the wall. He also commended Lt Rosendahl and his officers who participated in a recent arrest, stating that they all did a very good job in their investigation and arrest.

**Finance Committee** – Alderman Scott Davis offered no report.

**Personnel Committee** – Alderman Dennis Pardick offered no report.

**Water and Sewer** – Alderman Nelda Jordan offered no report.

**Parks and Buildings** –Alderman Barb Yergler reported that the committee needs to contact McNutt’s concerning cameras in the Parks. Bids for cleaning City Hall offices and the Parks, and mowing are being advertised.

**Economic and Industrial Development** – Alderman Laura Miller called a meeting for Monday, April 4 at 7:00 pm for the purpose of discussing other assistance options for Mr Alrawi as well as getting an update on the truck wash facility plans. .

**CDAP** –Admin Assist Peg Stalter referred council to the financial report for February. Alderman Jan Hall requested a detailed report of the account on occasion.

**Pool Board** –Alderman Barb Yergler offered no report.

**Recycling Board**– Alderman Nelda Jordan offered no report.

**Downtown Committee** – Alderman Barb Yergler offered no report. .

**Public Recreation/Fishing Committee-** Alderman Brandon Roderick offered no report and referred to new business items.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

## **APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

**TIF2 bills: One (1) TIF2 bill for \$ 295.50.** Alderman Jan Hall motioned to approve the one (1) TIF2 bill totaling \$ 295.50; seconded by Alderman Laura Miller. This amount is to reimburse the general fund for the fish purchased for the pond, since fish is not covered in the TIF. Alderman John Carlson abstained stating he owns property in the TIF. MC 7-0-1 abstain

**General Bills totaling \$67,656.02.** Alderman Scott Davis motioned to approve the general bills totaling \$67,656.02; seconded by Alderman Dennis Pardick. MC 8-0.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A.) Consideration and approval of the bid submitted by IPC (Iroquois Paving Corp, Watseka) for \$567,534.97 for the Lott Blvd. Construction.** Greg Cook explained the current total presented is for 5 blocks of Lott Blvd, as was originally planned and sent out for bid. 3 bids were received, with the low bid from ICP for \$567,534.97. Alderman John Carlson inquired if 5 blocks were to be done. Mr. Cook explained that the original IDOT bidding process included 5 blocks and that the 5<sup>th</sup> block can be removed with a change order, following approval of the bid, which will lower the final job cost by about \$65,000.00. Alderman John Carlson motioned to approve the IPC bid for \$567,534.97; seconded by Alderman Jan Hall. MC 8-0.
- B.) Consideration to award the project to IPC for the Lott Blvd. Construction.** Alderman Dennis Pardick motioned to award the Lott Blvd. Construction project to IPC; seconded by Alderman Brandon Roderick. MC 8-0.
- C.) Authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the contracts for the Lott Blvd. Project.** Alderman John Carlson motioned to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the contracts for the Lott Blvd. construction. MC. 8-0.
- D.) Consideration to authorize Farnsworth Group's Phase 3 construction engineering services for \$89,734.00 for the Lott Blvd. construction.** Alderman John Carlson motioned to approve Farnsworth Group for engineering services for the Lott Blvd. construction, not to exceed \$89,734.00; seconded by Alderman Brandon Roderick. MC 8-0
- E.) Consideration of Ordinance (2016-O-04, amending 'an ordinance describing and designating an area located partially within the City of Bloomington, the town of Normal and unincorporated McLean County as an Enterprise Zone'(Destihl Brewery).** Alderman Jan Hal motioned to approve Ordinance 2016-O-04 as stated; seconded by Alderman Dennis Pardick. MC. 8-0.
- F.) Discussion to consider the ITEP grant application and update on downtown revitalization.** Sean Widener, lighting engineer with Clark Dietz & Assoc, reported that the preliminary downtown work to improve the lighting would begin in May and June, with the work likely beginning after July 4<sup>th</sup> and be completed by early August. He also reported a new cycle for the ITEP grant and he would advise the council when those changes have been released. If the grant request is successful, it could help pay 80 percent of the next stage of downtown improvements, which includes changes to intersection layouts, pedestrian crosswalks, planter beds and other downtown plantings. Alderman Barb Yergler motioned to approve going forward with an ITEP grant application relating to downtown revitalization and spend an amount not to exceed \$7,500.00 for Clark Dietz engineers to perform work pursuant to its proposal dated March 28, 2016 which sets forth the scope of the project and authorize the mayor to execute the proposed letter; seconded by Alderman Laura Miller. MC 7-1. Alderman John Carlson voted against.
- G.) Presentation by Michael Poor, arborist, concerning Emerald Ash Borer.** Mr Poor reported that he and Tom Barrow had surveyed the city-owned trees and discovered that are approx 275 ash trees. He reported that the ash bore is already present in Gibson and ash trees are showing damage and would become a safety hazard as the trees die. Alderman Jan Hall requested a list of the trees, which will be supplies by Mr Poor and Mr. Barrow. No further council action was taken at this time.
- H.) Consideration of Girl Scout Troop 2548 request to add geocaches to the City Parks.** Members of Scout Troop 2548 requested permission to place geocache containers in public access areas like the Parks and add to a website listing. Enthusiasts can then use GPS location to find the container, write on its log and replace it. If a container is lost, the person or group who placed it must either replace it or take it off the website listing. Troop Leader Lori Patton commented that 'it's an outdoor, fun thing for kids and families to do'. Council approved allowing the Girl Scouts to use the city parks for this activity.
- I.) Consideration of fishing committee's budget for the pond.** Committee members presented their Fishing Pond budget to Alderman Scott Davis, chairman of the Finance Committee who discussed the budget with TIF advisors and discovered all but 4 items were eligible for TIF2 funding. Alderman John Carlson stated that he was surprised at the budget, thinking that the project would be spread over the next several years. The \$36,000.00 budget includes picnic tables, benches, a pavilion, trash receptacles, signage, docks, and plantings. Alderman Jan Hall motioned to approve the entire budget as presented; seconded by Alderman Dennis Pardick. MC 7-0/1 abstain. Alderman John Carlson abstained stating he owns property in the TIF area.
- J.) Consideration to building a bridge at the fishing pond for \$2,210.00.** Alderman Jan Hall motioned to approve building a bridge at the fishing pond for \$2,120.00, to be taken from TIF2; seconded by Alderman Brandon Roderick. MC 7-0/1 abstain. Alderman John Carlson owns property in the TIF area and abstained.
- K.) Consideration of 2016 Harvest Festival request.** Jennifer Thomas presented a list of requests for the 2016 Harvest Fest, which had been requested for Harvest Fest 2015, including access to Public Works and advice of the Police Department. She reported the committee was meeting to begin contacting downtown businesses for their interest and participation in the event. Alderman John

Carlson asked if better access was planned to the businesses located across from City Hall. Denny Houser of the American Legion stated that they would like to included in the event Marc Petersen of the Sand Trap is slated to serve alcohol again this year in the beer tent, with proper licensing. Mrs. Thomas also requested a city donation of \$1500.00, which matches last year’s city donation. Alderman Barb Yergler motioned to approve City participation in the 2016 Harvest Fest, with a donation of \$1500.00 from the Marketing Budget and provide access to Public Works for the event, under supervision.; seconded by Alderman Laura Miller. MC 8-0.

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Announcements: None.

**ADJOURN:** Alderman Brandon Roderick motioned to adjourn; seconded by Alderman Laura Miller. Council was poled with 8 ayes/ 0 objections.

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APPROVED

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ATTEST