

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY OF POLO HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 115 S. FRANKLIN AVE., POLO, ILLINOIS, FEBRUARY 17, 2015.

INVOCATION:

Mayor Doug Knapp gave invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Knapp led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Knapp called the regular meeting of the Polo City Council to order at 7:00p.m. on Tuesday, February 17, 2015.

PRESENT: Alderman David Ackeberg, Alderperson Louise Hall, Alderman Jim Busser, Alderman Troy Boothe, Alderperson Cheryl Galor and Alderman Randy Schoon. Also present was Mayor Doug Knapp, City Attorney Tom Suits and City Clerk Susie Corbitt.

ABSENT: None.

APPROVAL OF THE 2/04/15 MINUTES OF THE RESCHEDULED REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING:

Alderman Randy Schoon made a motion to accept the minutes of the 2/04/15 rescheduled regular city council meeting as presented, seconded by Alderperson Cheryl Galor. Ayes 6, nays 0. The motion carried by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 2015 TREASURER'S REPORT TO FILE FOR AUDIT:

Alderperson Louise Hall made a motion to accept the January 2015 treasurer's report as presented to file for audit, seconded by Alderman Randy Schoon. Ayes 6, nays 0. The motion carried by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF THE LIST OF BILLS:

Mayor Knapp asked if there were any bills to add to the list of bills; Alderman Dave Ackeberg added a bill in the amount of \$498.77 to Thompson Truck and Trailer and ComEd in the amount of \$16.29 both for the street department and Alderman Randy Schoon added a bill to Constellation in the amount of \$1,958.38 for the sewer department. Alderman Dave Ackeberg made a motion to accept the list of bills as amended, seconded by Alderman Randy Schoon. Mayor Knapp requested the City Clerk call roll on the motion; Alderman Randy Schoon yes, Alderman David Ackeberg yes, Alderperson Louise Hall yes, Alderman Jim Busser yes, Alderman Troy Boothe yes, Alderperson Cheryl Galor yes. The motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Streets and Sidewalks:

None.

Finance & Ordinances:

Aldersperson Louise Hall reported the city cashed in two CD's at the First State Bank Shannon Polo and deposited the funds into the Enterprise checking for the IEPA WWTP low interest loan repayment. CD # 17592 in the amount of \$80,844.72 and CD # 18340 in the amount of \$100,236.99 was both used for the Sewer IEPA Loan payment.

The PD & Ordinance Committees will meet in city hall on February 23, 2015 at 8am. to discuss possibly allowing golf carts and UTV's on public streets.

Police:

None.

Sanitation:

None.

Buildings and Grounds:

None.

Parks & Pool:

Aldersperson Cheryl Galor reported the Park Board meeting will be held next week on Wednesday at 7pm.

Water & Sewer:

Alderman Randy Schoon reported Mike Mumford, Cale Fry and Tim Merrell received a Certificate of Achievement for attending a one day training session on 9177-Distribution System Operation and Maintenance held on February 5, 2015 in Freeport put on by the Illinois Rural Water Association.

City Clerk's Report:

City Clerk Corbitt reported she, Kendall Kyker and Tim Rockwood will be in Dixon for a seminar tomorrow all day put on by I. D.O.T.

Police Chief's Report:

None.

SAFETY AND ACCIDENT REPORTS:

None.

COMMENTS & QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Consideration & Possible Action on a Request from the Polo Area Community Theatre for the Use of the Louise D. Quick Park on July 17, 18 and 19 with Rain Dates of July 25 and 26, 2015 for the Performance of “Rules of Comedy.”

Donna Baumann was present and said this is the same request as last year for the use of the Louise D. Quick Park on July 17, 18 and 19th with rain dates of July 25 and 26, 2015 and to close Franklin Avenue from Mason to the Post office alley. Mayor Knapp thanked them for their time and energy providing these theatre performances and stated it is just a pleasure to have them in our community.

Consensus of the City Council is to allow this request.

B. Consideration & Possible Action on the 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 City Audit Provider.

City Clerk Corbitt reported CliftonLarsonAllen quote is for \$65,900 and Wifli is \$65,000 without including any possible single audit costs over a four year period of time. Mayor Knapp stated we have had good working relationships with Clifton and his opinion is to stay with CliftonLarsonAllen. City Clerk Corbitt stated the city’s auditor has been Clifton for the last twelve years and works very efficient with them knowing our accounting systems, but the City had the company that merged with Wifli previous to that do our audit and they also worked well together with them. City Clerk Corbitt made the statement it is the Council’s decision, however it never hurts to have fresh eyes to look at our accounting records.

Alderman Dave Aceberg made a motion to approve CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP as the auditors for the 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 years, seconded by Alderman Troy Boothe. Mayor Knapp requested the City Clerk call roll on the motion; Alderman David Aceberg yes, Alderperson Louise Hall yes, Alderman Jim Busser yes, Alderman Troy Boothe yes, Alderperson Cheryl Galor yes, Alderman Randy Schoon yes. The motion carried.

C. Consideration & Possible Action on the City of Polo Obtaining an Appraisal for the Old City Landfill, located at 2010 S. Galena Trail, Polo, IL.

City Clerk Corbitt has made several contacts with local commercial appraisers, but some cannot take this on due to this has been an old landfill and they do not have enough liability insurance to take on for their companies. She did make contact with Ogle County Assessor Jim Harrison who gave her a company out of Freeport with the John Hill & Associates. They will be getting back to her with an estimated cost to do this appraisal. She informed them that the land is land locked with the Burlington Northern railroad concerning access to the property.

Discussion held on the property being landlocked with the Polo Historical Society having permission to get the key from the Polo Police Chief for access to the Lime Kilm property. Mayor Knapp thought if Kenny Sheeley, owner of the quarry adjacent to this property could re-negotiate with the Polo Historical Society with the Bushman’s leasing his property then maybe Scholl’s could get access from there.

D. Consideration & Possible Actions on Procedures Needed for Possible Demolition of the Old Hotel Located at 208 E. Mason St.

Attorney Tom Suits reported on the steps needed to proceed with the demolition of the old hotel, with the first step is to give notice in which Building Inspector Casper Manheim and Attorney Suits sent certified letter’s to the owner to bring the property into a safe condition.

Attorney Suit stated he hesitates to go with the court order if the City is not going to demolition this property, but will proceed with permission to do so.

Attorney Suits reported the following steps to proceed:

1. Title search for ownership and any lien holder.
2. When the City files we have to give notice to the owner and all lien holders.
3. Draft a complaint for demolition, serve all owners and all lien holders and then we can get a court date, include all attorney cost, demolition costs, Memoranda of judgment is filed, city is superior other than a mortgage. Once a memorandum of judgment is filed when the property is sold all the proceeds is given to city.
4. With court ruling in hand the City can proceed with the demolition.
5. After demolition the city gets another judgment for all the costs.

Attorney Suits explained the demolition lien is superior to many, but mortgages take priority. He will need to check where the tax liens fall in the payment order if the property is sold.

Alderman Randy Schoon stated if we need to do this why not have local contractors do so with Scott Gray asking him about doing the work. Clerk Corbitt informed the Council all three local excavators have contacted her along with approximately twenty others from all over northern Illinois.

Consensus of the City Council is to authorize Attorney Suits to do a title search. Alderman Schoon asked if we have the right to go on the property, stating the wall is falling down. Attorney Suits replied if there is a real risk of safety and health he feels the Police Chief and the Building Inspector could go in the building. City Clerk Corbitt will get quotes for the inspections for aseptic and lead paint.

Alderman Schoon reported that Scott Gray had contacted him wondering why local excavators are not being used. City Clerk Corbitt reported three local excavators have contacted her along with approximately twenty others concerning doing this work. Alderman Schoon stated if the city is contracting the aseptic and lead paint certified inspectors and paying for it why not use local excavators. He went on to say previously the council thought the larger excavators would cover all of this, but it does not seem to be the case. Discussion was held to continue moving on this and hopefully we will have more to report at the March 2nd city council meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS:

None.

Alderman Dave Ackeborg made a motion to adjourn out of the regular City Council meeting at 7:34pm on February 17, 2015, seconded by Alderman Randy Schoon. Ayes 6, nays 0. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Susie Corbitt, MMC
City Clerk