

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 JUNE 15, 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 Monday, June 15, 2015.

PRESENT: Alderman David Ackeberg, Alderman Phillip Peterson, Alderman Jim Busser, Alderman Troy Boothe, Alderperson Cheryl Galor and Alderman Randy Schoon. Also present was Mayor Doug Knapp and City Clerk Susie Corbitt.

ABSENT: City Attorney Tom Suits.

APPROVAL OF THE 6/01/15 MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING:

Alderman Randy Schoon made a motion to accept the minutes of the 6/01/15 regular city council meeting as presented, seconded by Alderman Troy Boothe. Ayes 6, nays 0. The motion carried by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF THE 6/01/15 MINUTES OF THE CLOSES SESSION MEETING:

Alderman Troy Boothe made a motion to accept the minutes of the 6/01/15 city council closed session meeting as presented, seconded by Alderperson Cheryl Galor. Ayes 6, nays 0. The motion carried by voice vote.

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

Alderman Dave Ackeberg made a motion to accept the May 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; Alderperson Cheryl Galor added a bills in the amount of \$1,145.77 to Saunders Plumbing, Kayla Bergstrom in the amount of \$65.33 and Sherwin Williams in the amount of \$95.08 all for pool maintenance and Alderman Randy Schoon added bills to HD Supply Waterworks in the amount of \$335.73 for the water department and to Strand Associates in the amount of \$7,100.00 for the sewer department. Alderman Dave Ackeberg made a motion to accept the list of bills as amended, seconded by Alderperson Cheryl Galor. Mayor Knapp requested the City Clerk call roll on the motion; Alderman Randy Schoon yes, Alderman David Ackeberg yes, Alderman Phillip Peterson yes, Alderman Jim Busser yes, Alderman Troy Boothe yes, Alderperson Cheryl Galor yes. The motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:**Streets and Sidewalks:**

Alderman Dave Ackeberg reported the bid opening for the 2015 seal coating will be held at 10am in city hall on June 29th.

Finance & Ordinances:

Alderman Phillip Peterson reported today the City cashed in two CD's; General CD's 12157 in the amount of \$55,115.11 and CD 41499 in the amount of \$34,141.41 for a total of \$89,256.52, which was deposited into the General checking account for cash flow to pay the bills, which included the demolition of the old hotel.

Buildings and Grounds:

Alderman Jim Busser reported the city issued a building permit for a deck.

Police:

Alderman Troy Boothe reported the following Police Officers completed the 2015 Firearms Training Qualification for handguns: Chief Dennis Christen, Sergeant Shawn Knight, Officer Rob Jasper, Officer Troy Randall, Officer Wade Winekauf, Officer Clint Elmore and Officer Jim Haag.

Sanitation:

None.

Parks & Pool:

Alderman Cheryl Galor reported the Park Board meets on the 24th. The swimming pool opened Friday, looks nice, big thank you to all the volunteers, ad hoc committee and everyone, along with Kurt Cavanaugh and his wife Susie for cleaning and putting equipment together. Sold 63 pool passes. Mayor Knapp thanked Terry Jenkins for painting and getting everything done in order to open. Mark Scholl thanked the city for everything they have done stating it is very impressive. Alderman Galor thanked Mark Scholl for getting this started in forming the Bath House Ad Hoc Committee. Today a five or six year old could not get out of the water and the life guard had to jump in to save the child. Mayor Knapp thanked Park Board Committee Chair Mr. Larry Loomis for starting this project getting the first \$38,000 as a State of Illinois grant and expressed a special thank you to Mark Ebert for all he did. He went on to say we will have a ribbon cutting sometime.

Water & Sewer:

Alderman Randy Schoon reported we received an email from Mike Wallace of USDA Rural Development in Champaign. He reviewed the pre-application of the City of Polo with the USDA Rural Development. Mr. Wallace stated this appears to be a good project and recommends submitting the pre-application as soon as possible to determine eligibility. A few small items need to be done on the application. Loan funding is plentiful at this time, the interest

rates remain favorable and this project could still be funded this fiscal year according to Mr. Wallace.

City Clerk's Report:

City Clerk Corbitt reported she is meeting with Lorali Heintzelman of the USDA Rural Development concerning the sewer system balance sheets from the 2014 City of Polo audit.

Police Chief's Report:

None.

SAFETY AND ACCIDENT REPORTS:

Alderman Randy Schoon reported on May 30, 2015 there was a ComEd power outage at Well 4 which dropped a phase burning the motor out. The cost is \$8,060.00 for the type of motor we are replacing. A claim has been filed with not only the Illinois Municipal League Risk Management, but also ComEd. Water & Sewer Superintendent Mike Mumford reported the new pump was put in today by Lyons, which is a higher efficiency pump.

COMMENTS & QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Consideration & Possible Action on the Consideration & Possible Action Ordinance 15-08, the 2015 Prevailing Wage.

Alderman Randy Schoon made a motion to accept Ordinance 15-08, the 2015 prevailing wage ordinance as presented, seconded by Alderman Dave Ackeberg. Mayor Knapp requested the City Clerk call roll on the motion; Alderman David Ackeberg yes, Alderman Phillip Peterson yes, Alderman Jim Busser yes, Alderman Troy Boothe yes, Alderperson Cheryl Galor yes, Alderman Randy Schoon yes. The motion carried.

B. Consideration & Possible Action on Ordinance 15-09, Sale of City Property to Mr. J. Myron, "Mike" Scholl.

Alderman Randy Schoon made a motion to accept Ordinance 15-09, Sale of City Property to Mr. J. Myron, "Mike" Scholl as presented, seconded by Alderman Dave Ackeberg. Mayor Knapp requested the City Clerk call roll on the motion; Alderman Phillip Peterson yes, Alderman Jim Busser yes, Alderman Troy Boothe yes, Alderperson Cheryl Galor yes, Alderman Randy Schoon yes, Alderman David Ackeberg yes. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Consideration & Possible Action on the City of Polo and Polo Community Schools Work on the Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate/Escape (A.L.I.C.E.) Program.

Polo Community School Superintendent Chris Rademacher was present reporting on the A.L.I.C.E. program at the schools. Mr. Rademacher thanked the City of Polo for their direct along with indirect support over the years. He reported the schools are required to do yearly training, which starting in 2008. Kurt Cavanaugh and Shawn Knight along with the fire department have been very helpful to not only the school, but the community. He went on to state by the stuff they put in place with a teacher being killed in a car accident in the recent years

has been very helpful. They asked if they could use city hall if they would need be to be away from the news media when an emergency would occur which is appreciated. Crisis scenario was held with Sergeant Shawn Knight which has brought up a lot of information with the training. Active Shooter Training with Joe Drought from Rock Valley College was put on and went extremely well. Everything is locked in the buildings and now they have all the camera's activated. In November an evacuation was done including the water, sewer and street department's assistance along with the police, fire and ambulance. Kurt Cavanaugh and Sergeant Knight went to the ALICE training for two days, but felt the program put on by Joe Drought was much better. The juvenile program is five years out and Sergeant Knight was involved with starting this program. Mr. Rademacher reported the police do monitor the bus radio's which has been very helpful. He reported Sergeant Knight has put a lot of time into this program which is so beneficial to the community. Eight years ago Mark Scholl sat on the vision committee and then two years ago Matt McKeel sat on that committee. He went on to say PCHS uses the pool the first two weeks of school season every year. Several funeral visitations have been held at the school, the street department was so helpful to get ready for these visitations due to a snow fall. Mr. Rademacher thanked the City for all they do. Two of the things negative right now for the school system is the lower enrollment and lower state aid. He feels maybe at some time we should hold a joint meeting between the City and Polo School Board. Discussion held that it would be a great idea. Mr. Rademacher stated they are so fortunate that Kurt Cavanaugh retired and he is able to volunteer like he does for the schools. Mayor Knapp thanked Mr. Rademacher for coming and putting these programs into place.

B. Consideration & Possible Action on a Request for Input from the Polo City Council and Citizens for Interest in a Grocery Store in Polo from Mr. Ahmad Farraj.

Mr. Ahmad Farraj was present asking how much the city is interested in opening the grocery store is. Mayor Knapp asked if there is a type of questionnaire to put out to the citizens for their interest. Mr. Farraj asked what the city can do to assist. Alderman Boothe asked Mr. Farraj if he is asking for financial assistance or are you asking for getting input from the citizen's. Alderman Schoon stated we would like to help, Alderman Boothe stated in another matter the city may have a public meeting and we could also incorporate this in that meeting. Mayor Knapp stated he feels we need to discuss this with the Polo Economic Development Corporation (PEDC). Mark Scholl, chairman of the PEDC stated a grocery store is the highest priority to the PEDC; they have some funds available as low interest loans. Mayor Knapp stated we are interested, but not with the TIF funds and that he will sit down with Mr. Farraj again.

C. Consideration & Possible Action on Resolution 15-06, Maintenance of Streets for the 2015 Seal Coating.

Alderman Dave Aceberg made a motion to accept Resolution 15-06, Maintenance of Streets for the 2015 seal coating as presented, seconded by Alderperson Cheryl Galor. Mayor Knapp requested the City Clerk call roll on the motion; Alderman Jim Busser yes, Alderman Troy Boothe yes, Alderperson Cheryl Galor yes, Alderman Randy Schoon yes, Alderman David Aceberg yes, Alderman Phillip Peterson yes. The motion carried.

D. Consideration & Possible Action on the Decision of the June 2, 2015 Zoning Board of Appeals Hearing for a Request of Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Ross of 602 E. King Street for a Variance to Place a Six Foot Fence on the Property Line.

Mayor Knapp reported that a Zoning Board of Appeals Hearing was held on June 2, 2015 to hear a request from Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Ross of 602 E. King Street for a variance to place a six foot fence on their property line. The Zoning Board of Appeals final decision was to not approve this request.

Mrs. Ross was present and stated for them it is a safety issue in that they have a four year old and more people are using the bus garage parking lot driving through. Mr. Dave Swowski his vehicles at his property so they let the trees grow. Alderman Busser stated the traffic would not be able to see if there was a six foot fence that blocks the traffic on King Street.

Mrs. Ross does not want to see Mr. Swowski cars and would appreciate to have the privacy with a six foot fence. Alderman Busser thought the ZBA wanted the fence brought back five foot from the lot line. Mrs. Ross stated the trees no matter what the final decision is will be coming down. They are considering getting the PVC type fence which will require no maintenance and have a contractor coming to take the old fence out. Alderman Busser stated he does not feel Mr. Swowski wants the fence on the lot line, due to moving snow and various other reasons. Alderman Schoon stated he feels we need to abide by what the Zoning Board of Appeals decision is. Mrs. Ross asked if they can place a four foot fence on the lot line, with being told it was fine. She replied they are going to fence in the entire property.

E. Consideration & Possible Action on the Possible Purchase of 113 E. Colden Street by the City of Polo.

No discussion held due to Mr. Haan did not return the phone calls to tour the building.

F. Consideration & Possible Action on Resolution 15-07, Release of Closed Session Minutes.

Alderman Randy Schoon made a motion to accept 15-07, release of closed session minutes as presented, seconded by Alderman Dave Ackeberg. Mayor Knapp requested the City Clerk call roll on the motion; Alderman Troy Boothe yes, Alderperson Cheryl Galor yes, Alderman Randy Schoon yes, Alderman David Ackeberg yes, Alderman Phillip Peterson yes, Alderman Jim Busser yes. The motion carried.

G. Consideration & Possible Action on the Hiring of a 5th Full Time Police Officer for the Polo PD.

Alderman Boothe reported Kurt Cavanaugh gave a proposal on where the police stand, with equipment, building and salaries, with a lot to be reviewed. One of the points is Chief Christen had no one on one time with his staff. Alderman Boothe stated if we hired a fifth officer full time then he could perform his administrative duties full time. This proposal is for a full time position so there are cost effects to this. Hopefully the City will hold a Public Open Forum at the fire station. We need to give notice to the newspapers, clear the date for the meeting with the fire department so no meeting or training's is going on. Alderman Ackeberg stated he is thinking not as an alderman, but as a citizen this is the way to go with a public meeting. He is on the fence, but being a citizen it has to carry a value to the citizens of Polo and they need to clearly understand everything. If that dollar value that is passed on to the citizen shows it's worth than we have done our job. Alderman Boothe replied value is a different

perspective to each individual. He went on to say; think about the money we just spent on the hotel demolition, swimming pool, the purchase of the end loader and we stew over hiring a fifth officer, he feels it is a good thing. We need to make sure we are upfront, transparent and have those costs ready. Alderman Ackeberg stated we may have a bunch of people who are for it, but we will not know until we present this to our community. Mayor Knapp stated his concern is people have to attend and it is important to attend before the City Council makes a decision on this matter. Mark Scholl was present stating we have had town meetings and the turnouts have been extremely poor. He stated there are a lot of special events going on in the next few weeks and the aldermen need to discuss this with people over the next few weeks. Discussion was held that maybe the city message is to recruit the people to get to that meeting.

Kurt Cavanaugh stated the Police Chief is doing 25% of administration which is mostly on his own time. He reported most chiefs had 90% doing functions. The issue he has is the matter not if but when something happens with an arrest when someone gets injured, or a squad car in an accident and an attorney get a hold of this. Discussion held on maybe the Chief could have regular office hours. Chief Christen responded that you cannot cut patrol out because people will know this, and people will know that they are not on duty at the same time each day. Mr. Cavanaugh reported he wants to make sure Dennis gets his administrative work done and has the time to do so. He needs to be inside doing policy, training and have some personal time with the staff.

OTHER BUSINESS:

None.

Alderman Dave Ackeberg made a motion to adjourn at 8:14pm, from the regular city council meeting, seconded by Alderman Randy Schoon. Ayes 6, nays 0. The motion carried by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Susie Corbitt, MMC