

**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, AUGUST 3, 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, August 3, 2015.

**PRESENT:** Alderman Phillip Peterson, 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:** Alderman David Aceberg.

**APPROVAL OF THE 7/20/15 MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING:**

Alderman Randy Schoon made a motion to accept the minutes of the 7/20/15 regular city council meeting as presented, seconded by Alderperson Cheryl Galor. Ayes 5, nays 0. The motion carried by voice vote.

**APPROVAL OF THE 7/20/15 MINUTES OF THE CLOSED SESSION MEETING:**

Alderperson Cheryl Galor made a motion to accept the minutes of the 7/20/15 city council closed session meeting as presented, seconded by Alderman Randy Schoon. Ayes 5, nays 0. The motion carried by voice vote.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

A note of appreciation was received from the Open Bible Church for the assistance given with barricades and a street closure for the 2015 Vacation Bible School.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Streets and Sidewalks:**

In the absence of Alderman David Aceberg, Alderman Randy Schoon reported that Civil Contractors will be starting seal coating this week on Wednesday.

**Finance & Ordinances:**

Alderman Phillip Peterson reported the City will hold a Zoning Board of Appeals Hearing on August 11, 2015 at 7pm in city hall to consider a text amendment to the Polo Code of Ordinance to Chapter 152.140, Variations, Section D. This would be for a possible variance to apply for the height of private garages.

**Buildings and Grounds:**

Alderman Jim Busser reported building permits were issued for a demolition of a house and a swimming pool permit.

**Police:**

None.

**Sanitation:**

None.

**Parks & Pool:**

Alderson Cheryl Galor reported the Park Board met last week. This is the first year for evaluations for life guards and the manager's, which went smoothly. The pool manager did a second in-service with the Polo Ambulance to aid in getting out of the water with the proper board and off the life guard chair for a save along with a fully clothed victim. Discussions have been held concerning the resurfacing of the basketball court, but no quotes have been received yet, hopefully this will be addressed at the next board meeting. Mr. Loomis reported the baseball and softball leagues had a good turnout for the season. Alderson Galor extended thanks to the coaches and all the volunteers. Soccer registration is underway and anyone interested can contact Mr. Loomis. August 9<sup>th</sup> at 4pm a ribbon cutting will be held at the pool for the bath house project and improvements at the pool.

**Water & Sewer:**

Alderman Randy Schoon reported the City received a check in the amount of \$7,560.00 on July 20, 2015 from our insurance carrier CCMSI for the damage to well #4 with the power surge that occurred on May 30, 2015. The City paid Lyons Well Drilling Company \$8,060.00 for the replacement with a new 75Hp high efficiency electric motor and has a \$500.00 deductible with our insurance company. A claim was also filed with ComEd, but on June 26, 2015 they denied to assist in this matter.

**City Clerk's Report:**

None.

**Police Chief's Report:**

None.

**SAFETY AND ACCIDENT REPORTS:**

None.

**COMMENTS & QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

None.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

### **A. Consideration & Possible Action on the USDA Rural Development Project Scope, (Lift Station, Sanitary Sewer, Sludge Beds).**

Alderman Randy Schoon stated they are having a meeting with the department heads and plan to go over this project on Thursday. He would like to discuss the flat sewer rate raise this evening and decide what and how long we want to do the increase. He feels we need to do something under our streets with improvements. Alderman Schoon asked the council members if we want an increase and for ten, fifteen or twenty years or something more. Mayor Knapp replied he likes the \$0.50 cents a month increase for ten years. Alderman Schoon stated we have watched our spending, but if a well goes down we will be in trouble. After lengthy discussions consensus is to go \$0.50 cents starting October 1<sup>st</sup> then another \$0.50 increase May 1, 2016, then every year on May 1<sup>st</sup> for a total of ten years. Attorney Suits will draft an ordinance for the next meeting.

### **B. Consideration & Possible Action on Ordinance 15-11, an Amendment to the Code of Ordinance to Chapter 50.16 Fees. Section (A), Single Family Residence.**

Alderman Randy Schoon made a motion to accept Ordinance 15-11, an amendment to the Code of Ordinance to Chapter 50.16, garbage fees, section (A), single family residence as presented, seconded by Alderperson Cheryl Galor. Mayor Knapp requested the City Clerk call roll on the motion; Alderman David Ackeberg absent, Alderman Phillip Peterson yes, Alderman Jim Busser yes, Alderman Troy Boothe no, Alderperson Cheryl Galor yes, Alderman Randy Schoon yes. The motion carried.

City Clerk Corbitt reported this as a \$0.20 increase on residential billing only, which will take affect with the September 2015 garbage billing.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **A. Consideration & Possible Action on the City of Polo Health, Dental & Life Insurance Renewal.**

Mr. Stephen Lafferty was present to explain the health insurance increase for this year which is 13.2% with Humana Health, dental & life insurance or \$1,849.05 per month increase if no changes in the plan are done. Mr. Brian Lampe was introduced and currently working with Mr. Lafferty.

Humana Health cost currently is \$12,759.00 per month with the 2015/16 renewal with Humana at \$14,532.00. Mr. Lafferty went on to say the first year with his company he was able to get a 0% increase for the city, then last year at 4.2% increase. We are not currently under the Affordable Compliance Plan, but will be in October of 2017. A lot of the plans have much higher out of pocket cost with the affordable health care plans and goes up from \$3,500.000 to \$4,500.00 out of pocket for employees. When we go into 2017 the plan strictly counts your age and if you smoke, not on health experience as in the past. When we transfer over the city will probably see at least a 23% premium increase, probably cost higher to the employees and benefits will not be as good. Mr. Lafferty reported a lot of insurance companies are merging due to the Affordable Health Care Act. Our current plan has an annual increase of a little over \$21,000.00 a year. Discussion on the ACA Cadillac Tax, which will affect the tax year 2018, with anything over \$10,200.00 for an individual or \$27,500.00 for a family then the employer will pay 40% tax on premiums over these amounts.

Alderman Troy Boothe made a motion to accept the renewal with the same insurance coverage as presented from Humana Health Insurance, seconded by Alderperson Cheryl Galor. 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 Ackeborg absent. The motion carried.

B. Consideration & Possible Action on Changes to the ICC Codes.

City of Polo Building Inspector Casper Manheim was present explaining changes to the International Building Codes that will affect Illinois municipalities. He was contacted by Winnebago and Rockford due to new ICC codes that come down every three years. As far as builders go they do not know which year's code is in effect with most municipalities having adopted codes from various different years. There are twenty nine towns looking at this from Galena to DeKalb and everyone there is going to adopt the 2015 ICC Codes with numerous meetings held. This has involved fire departments, police departments, and building and code enforcement individuals along with county boards. Mr. Manheim stated he is here to give the information out, and ask consideration of this city council for the possible adoption of the 2015 ICC Code. The biggest change is with sprinkler which is only for new construction, not when you add an addition. Sprinklers for new construction does not include residential or duplexes, but any residential with three living areas and above. Electrical code changes are coming from the fire departments and police department's recommendations.

Mr. Manheim stated he will come to the Council when they are closer to adopting this and he can bring Andrew Perry the Rockford Building Code Enforcement Officer, who is putting an ordinance together that Attorney Suits would need to review before any adoption. This would be in place for six years with the cost of approximately \$700 for the books that have to be in city hall.

Mr. Manheim reported training sessions will be available in Dixon, Rockford and other areas for all contractors which will be free training. The big cities have all adopted these already so this way everyone is adopting the same codes across the area. There is an administrative section and enforcement provisions that will need to be adopted. Mr. Manheim said this evening is just to share information only.

C. Consideration & Possible Action on a Purchase from Holland & Sons, Inc for a John Deere Z950Z Commercial Zero Turn Mower, with a Trade In of the 2011 John Deere Z950 A Mower.

Holland & Sons, Inc. presented a quote for the purchase of a John Deere Z950Z Commercial Zero Turn Mower in the amount of \$13,936.00, with a Trade In of the 2011 John Deere Z950 a Mower of \$7,436.00, which leaves a balance of \$6,500.00.

Mayor Knapp explained the only thing that has gone wrong is with the deck on the 2011 John Deere, but if we keep it we would have to pay \$1,000.00 for repair of the deck alone for the hydraulic motor that raises the deck.

Holland & Sons is offering \$7,436.00 in trade in without fixing the 2011 John Deere. A list of areas that the City mows was presented to the council at this time. Discussion on the current hours on the 2011 was held and since we did not have that information this will be placed on the next meeting agenda.

D. Consideration & Possible Action on the Hiring of a 5<sup>th</sup> Full Time Police Officer for the Polo Police Department.

Alderman Tory Boothe stated if we have conversations that were done after the town hall meeting we can share them right now. Alderman Randy Schoon stated no one was going to stand up at the meeting, but after the meeting three people came up to him and said they do not feel we need an additional officer. Alderman Jim Busser stated the officers we have should be able to make the coverage so the Chief can do more administrative duties. Alderman Boothe stated he had a person who complained about performance and he or any other alderman can address that when it occurs. Mr. Andy Dewy was present stating he does not feel it is a performance issue with the police, but a perception issue. Alderman Boothe stated it boils down to what we can do to improve the department and training and be concerned of a possible litigation action that could occur. He went on to say if it is only dollar issues we still need more presence in the schools and one on one with the Chief and his staff with Alderman Boothe stating he believes in it but he cannot brow beat people. Discussion was held on why they sit out on Rt. 26 or outside the corporate limits and people want to know why and what are they doing according to Alderman Schoon. Alderman Boothe stated a person sometimes wants to just complain, but they need to bring it to us to look at. Alderman Boothe stated let's leave it on the agenda and if we speak with others who want to talk please give the information to Alderman Boothe and give his contact information out.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

None.

Alderman Jim Busser made a motion to adjourn at 8:07pm, seconded by Alderman Troy Boothe.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susie Corbitt, MMC