

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY OF POLO
HELD IN THE CITY HALL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 115 S. FRANKLIN AVE.,
POLO, ILLINOIS, OCTOBER 19, 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, October 19, 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 Ackeberg.

APPROVAL OF THE 10/05/15 MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING:

Alderperson Cheryl Galor made a motion to accept the minutes of the 10/05/15 regular city council meeting as presented, seconded by Alderman Troy Boothe. Ayes 5, nays 0. The motion carried by voice vote.

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

Alderperson Cheryl Galor made a motion to accept the September 2015 treasurer's report to file for audit as presented, seconded by Alderman Randy Schoon. Ayes 5, 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 Randy Schoon added bills in the amount of \$300.00 to Rock River Ready Mix and one to Share Corporation in the amount of \$245.16 both for the street department and Alderman Troy Boothe added a bill to Dixon Ottawa in the amount of \$380.80 for the Polo PD department.

Alderman Troy Boothe 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 absent, 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:

None.

Finance & Ordinances:

Alderman Phillip Peterson reported the City invested a new 24 month CD at the First State Bank Shannon Polo on October 13, 2015 in the amount of \$150,000.00 for sewer equipment replacement.

On October 12, 2015 the city withdrew \$7,848.73 from the TIF Money Market deposited it into the TIF Developers Special Account, then wrote a check to Mr. Robert Miller, 107 East Dixon Polo LLC in the amount of \$7,848.73. This was the developer's payment with the City of Polo and the Dollar General TIF agreement which is paid annually according to the developers 80% share.

Buildings and Grounds:

Alderman Jim Busser reported a building permit issued for a shed.

Police:

Alderman Troy Boothe reported Chief Christen received an electronic copy of the Ogle County Emergency Plan. They are currently putting together a committee for those to work on the plan, trying to get a good representation from throughout our community.

Sanitation:

None.

Parks & Pool:

Alderman Cheryl Galor reported the Park Board will meet this Wednesday, which will be the last meeting for 2015, then will not meet again until February 2016.

Water & Sewer:

Alderman Randy Schoon reported we got on the 3 year testing with the IEPA for our radium levels before we would be required to test again. Discussion was held at length.

City Clerk's Report:

City Clerk Corbitt reported due to the New Year's Day holiday, we will be closed half a day on Thursday and all day on Friday January 1st, but 1/1/16 is the first payroll of 2016. She spoke with the Auditors concerning this being in a new calendar year, but they said it does not matter and it would be appropriate to issue that payroll on Thursday, December 31st since we are open until noon that day. This would be for a pay period actually worked in 2015, but paid on December 31, 2015.

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 Crossroads Church for Street Closure's and Electrical Hook Up's for their Trunk or Treat Event to be held on October 28, 2015.

The request is concerning their Trunk or Treat event on October 28th from 5:30pm to 8:00pm at Crossroads Community Church. They are requesting a Police officer patrol the area due to the large traffic flow expected and they would like barricades to block the church parking lot off. Mr. & Mrs. Jon Miller were present stating this is our fourth year. Chief Christen stated he will make sure someone is on duty the entire time. Consensus of the City Council is to allow this request from Crossroads Community Church.

B. Consideration & Possible Action on the Date & Hours for Polo Trick or Treating.

Polo Police Chief Dennis Christen recommendation for trick or treating is Saturday, October 31st from 5:00pm to 8:00pm. The Polo City Council consensus is to allow the Police Chief's recommendation for the 2015 trick or treat date and hours.

C. Consideration & Possible Action on the 2014/15 Annual Financial Statements from CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP.

Ms. Sandy Cook and Stacey Dunphy from CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP were present to discuss the 2014/15 annual financial statements. They have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information for the year end April 30, 2015. Significant audit findings that no transactions entered into by the entity during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus are included reporting all city of Polo significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period. Ms. Cook stated the material weaknesses; segregation of duties, audit adjustments and financial statements themselves is a clean report and that is what you want to see. The Governmental Fund is the general fund with the rest lumped together, with the Water, Sewer and Sanitation being the enterprise funds. All cash held at bank as of 4/30/15 were all covered at the bank and FDIC under the Federal coverage. The most major equipment was the digester cover for the sewer plant. One major change due to the

GASB 68 will result with new footnotes with the audit next year, recording of a pension liability will have to be done, this will be a significant change, but everyone is subject to that.

Aldersperson Cheryl Galor made a motion to accept the 2014/15 annual financial statements as presented, seconded by Alderman Randy Schoon. Mayor Knapp requested the City Clerk call roll on the motion; Alderman David Ackeborg absent, Alderman Phillip Peterson yes, Alderman Jim Busser yes, Alderman Troy Boothe yes, Aldersperson Cheryl Galor yes, Alderman Randy Schoon yes. The motion carried.

D. Consideration & Possible Action on the Zoning Board of Appeals Decision from the 10/13/15 Zoning Board of Appeals Hearing from a Request of Ms. Loni Slothower to Change the Zoning from Residential 1(R-1) to Residential 2 (R-2) at 511 North Franklin Avenue.

The Zoning Board of Appeals met on October 13th to hear a request from Ms. Loni Slothower to change the zoning from R-1 to R-2 at 511 N. Franklin Avenue. The Zoning Board of Appeals Decision is to allow this change. Alderman Jim Busser made a motion to accept the Zoning Board of Appeals Decision as presented, seconded by Alderman Troy Boothe. Ayes 5, nays 0. The motion carried.

E. Consideration on the Announcement of the 2015 Tax Levy Amount.

City Clerk Corbitt reported twenty days before the tax levy is passed the amount of the proposed tax levy has to be announced. The amount proposed is \$324,602.00 for the 2015 tax levy. This dollar amount can change up until the actual passage of the ordinance. Discussion was held that in 2016 and 2017 that Governor Rauner has placed a property tax freeze on all Illinois municipalities.

F. Consideration & Possible Action on an Ordinance to Address Blight Properties.

Alderman Troy Boothe stated he feels we need to draft an ordinance that gives us a little more leeway so we can enforce problems better with trash, garbage, inoperable vehicles on property and house fire situations that are not taken care of properly. He went on to say we have gotten phone calls after phone calls and it is frustrating that we cannot enforce anything at this time. Discussion that unkempt properties could drop your house value and how one person abides by the rules but the next door neighbor does nothing. Attorney Tom Suits asked Alderman Boothe if you need more than what we have on the books, with a reply of yes from Alderman Boothe requesting that Attorney Suits look into this. Attorney Suits stated he was not sure that's in the best interest of the city's dollar. Alderman Schoon agreed with Alderman Boothe and stated we need to be able to enforce this. Attorney Tom Suits stated he is willing to sit down with one or two Aldermen so as not to violate the Open Meetings Act to discuss this. Discussion held on maybe at the next police meeting it can be discussed.

G. Consideration & Possible Action on Ordinance 15-14 for the Celebration of Lieutenant General Lewis Burwell "Chesty" Puller's Birthday.

Attorney Suits questions what happens in the future if something happens to Joe Wilson or if he decides he does not want to do this event anymore. Attorney Suits stated we could repeal this ordinance if we need to.

The first reading of ordinance 15-14 was accepted by the Polo City Council.

H. Consideration & Possible Action on a Possible Pay Increase for a City Employee.

Mayor Knapp reported we will be going into closed session to discuss this matter.

OTHER BUSINESS:

None.

Alderman Randy Schoon made a motion to adjourn into closed session at 7:42pm to discuss: Personnel-Section 2(c) (1) Employee Hiring, Firing, Compensation, Discipline and Performance, seconded by Alderperson Cheryl Galor. 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 Aceberg absent, Alderman Phillip Peterson yes, Alderman Jim Busser yes. The motion carried.

At 8:00pm the Polo City Council returned from closed session into the regular City Council meeting with Mayor Knapp requesting roll call for those present;
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.

Alderman Randy Schoon made a motion to increase Water & Sewer Superintendent Mr. Mike Mumford salary to \$26.02 an hour and remove him from probation effective November 8, 2015, 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 Aceberg absent. The motion carried.

Alderman Jim Busser made a motion to adjourn at 8:03pm from the regular city council meeting, seconded by Alderperson Cheryl Galor. Ayes 5, nays 0. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Susie Corbitt, MMC