

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, NOVEMBER 21, 2016.

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, November 21, 2016.

PRESENT: Alderman Jim Busser, Alderman Phillip Peterson, Alderman Justin Grobe, Alderman Troy Boothe, Alderperson Cheryl Galor, Alderman Randy Schoon. Also present was Attorney Tom Suits, Mayor Doug Knapp and City Clerk Susie Corbitt.

ABSENT: None.

APPROVAL OF THE 11/07/16 MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING:

Alderman Randy Schoon made a motion to approve the November 7, 2016 minutes of the regular city council meeting, seconded by Alderperson Cheryl Galor. Ayes 6, nays 0. The motion carried by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 11/07/16 CLOSED SESSION MINUTES:

Alderman Jim Busser made a motion to approve the 11/07/16 closed session minutes as presented, seconded by Alderperson Cheryl Galor. Ayes 6, nays 0. The motion carried by voice vote.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE OCTOBER 2016 TREASURER REPORT TO FILE FOR AUDIT:

Alderman Randy Schoon made a motion to accept the October 2016 Treasurers report to file for audit as presented, seconded by Alderman Jim Busser. 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 Jim Busser added a bill from Superior Lamps in the amount of \$485.52 for the street department, Alderman Troy Boothe added a bill to Uniform Den East in the amount of \$1,026.70 for the PD and Alderman Randy Schoon added a bill in the amount of \$336.00 from Freeport Press, Inc. for the water and sewer departments. Alderman Randy Schoon made a motion to accept the list of bills as amended, seconded by Alderman Jim Busser. Mayor Knapp requested the City Clerk call roll on the motion; Alderman Jim Busser yes, Alderman Phillip Peterson yes, Alderman Justin Grobe yes, Alderman Troy Boothe yes, Alderperson Cheryl Galor yes, Alderman Randy Schoon yes. The motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Streets and Sidewalks:

None.

Finance & Ordinances:

None.

Buildings and Grounds:

Alderman Justin Grobe reported a building permits issued for an addition to a garage, deck, a shed and a fence.

Police:

None.

Sanitation:

None.

Parks & Pool:

Alderman Cheryl Galor reported she, Street Superintendent Kendall Kyker and Larry Loomis met at Community Park with Matt Hansen of Willett, Hofmann & Associates and an electrical service person they use to look at the electrical services in need of repair; Mr. Hansen will put together bid packets for the repairs; the girls softball diamond needs some electrical work also so it will be included.

Water & Sewer:

None.

City Clerk's Report:

None.

Police Chief's Report:

Chief Kurt Cavanaugh informed Mr. Marv Bushman who was present this evening that all the vehicles he spoke of previously have been addressed along with 1 cited for rubbish, 1 compliance, 1 requested an extension for one week, 3 are still within the due dates which is due on the 23rd. The police will follow up with the others. Chief Cavanaugh reported the ever going yard sale has diminished some but still needs to comply, and they will follow up. The Chief commended Mr. Bushman for coming forward with these violations and asked him to come to the PD with his concerns, so they can follow up as need be.

Chief Cavanaugh reported he asked Sergeant Christen if he knew of any programs when businesses go out of business that donates furniture to police departments. There was one going on at the time and they picked up a couple of new desks. The old furniture in the PD is from the 1950's, and he went on to say this is still a work in progress. He was asked if we can use 150 rolling desk chairs so he contacted the fire department, schools, library, PASS & Historical

Society who will be looking at them. What he cannot give out in Polo he will ask local PD's if they have a need.

SAFETY AND ACCIDENT REPORTS:

None.

COMMENTS & QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Consideration & Possible Action on Ordinance 16-10, the 2016 Tax Levy.

Alderman Troy Boothe made a motion to approve ordinance 16-10, the 2016 Tax Levy, seconded by Alderperson Cheryl Galor. Mayor Knapp requested the City Clerk call roll on the motion; Alderman Jim Busser yes, Alderman Phillip Peterson yes, Alderman Justin Grobe yes, Alderman Troy Boothe yes, Alderperson Cheryl Galor yes, Alderman Randy Schoon no. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Consideration & Possible Action on a Request from Wendy Mitchell for a Class A Liquor License to be Added to the Limitation of Numbers.

Wendy Mitchell was not present so discussion was not held. Alderman Schoon stated he feels we need to limit our numbers uptown for gaming and liquor licenses.

B. Consideration and Possible Action on Ordinance 16-11, an Ordinance Vacating City Property, which was Formerly Railroad Property East of 602 N. Adams St.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Busser and Mr. Charlie Schmidt have a request to vacate equally the old railroad property east of 602 N. Adams Avenue.

The Polo City Council accepted the first reading of Ordinance 16-11, an ordinance vacating city property which was formally railroad property east of 602 N. Adams St.

C. Consideration & Possible Action on a Follow Up with the Mr. Richard Hess Property Located at 506 West Fulton Street and Mr. Timothy Kyker Property at 604 N. Adams Ave.

Attorney Suits reported with the Hess property we have filed the complaint for demolition in court. We had to serve all lien holders including the mortgage company. The, the lender who has the mortgage, which is in default will foreclose and take title in court and then would have to take care of this. Consensus of the City Council is to wait longer on this property.

Mr. Tim Kyker was present reporting he has an estimate to tear down his property at 604 N. Adams Avenue. His father's personal property is in there and he is going through the court system stating he needs more time. He is afraid what the Judge who is saying protect it would do if he moves his father's property out of this building. Attorney Suits stated you can rent a storage facility that it would be better protected there than in a house with broken out windows. Consensus of the City Council is to give Mr. Kyker another 30 days to comply. He has the appraisal done on the farm and in ten days should get the final appraisal. He is going to try and settle with a cash settlement at the next court date.

Mr. Manheim will contact the Mr. Troy Clayton with a letter of compliance for the fire that destroyed his parent's house on East Mason Street. City Clerk Corbitt had a conversation

with Mr. Troy Clayton and he is in the process of cleaning out what they can salvage and has contracted an excavator to demolish the house.

D. Consideration & Possible Action on the Local Government Travel Expense Control Act (P.A. 99-604) for the City of Polo.

City Clerk Corbitt reported the Local Government Travel Expense Control Act (P.A. 99-604) requires formal approval for travel expenses as well as meal purchases. The law provides that local agencies regulate the reimbursement of all travel, meals and lodging expenses of officers and employees. A resolution or ordinance must be approved by the local public agency prior to March 1, 2017. If no ordinance or resolution is approved, no travel, meals or lodging expenses will be permitted to be paid by the local public agency.

City Clerk Corbitt has some sample resolutions and ordinances that other municipalities have passed that she will get to Attorney Suits to present a draft possibly at the second meeting of December.

E. Consideration & Possible Action on the City of Polo Gas Renewal Provider.

Rock River Energy Services has submitted fixed bids and also index bids for the city gas renewal. The City has been on the index program for NGI + \$.04 for a few years and the program has done well according to Rock River Energy Services. It currently has the largest savings over Nicor Gas. The program rate changes each month just like Nicor Gas, but historically offer the lower price. If the City does nothing then our current rate with Constellation Energy Service will renew at that rate.

Alderman Randy Schoon made a motion to continue with Constellation Energy for the gas provider for the city buildings, seconded by Alderperson Cheryl Galor. Mayor Knapp requested the City Clerk call roll on the motion; Alderman Phillip Peterson yes, Alderman Justin Grobe yes, Alderman Troy Boothe yes, Alderperson Cheryl Galor yes, Alderman Randy Schoon yes, Alderman Jim Busser yes. The motion carried.

F. Consideration & Possible Action on Possible Amendments to the Polo Employee Handbook.

Alderman Troy Boothe stated he would like to table this.

G. Consideration & Possible Action on Sergeant Dennis Christen Compensation.

Mayor Knapp reported that in the past when Dennis Christen was the Chief of Polo he was not salaried, but paid straight time for all hours worked. This City Council feels we need to pay his compensation for the overtime he worked in the past five year. The city has offered back pay for Dennis Christen to compensate him in the amount of \$5,000.00.

Alderman Troy Boothe made a motion to pay Dennis Christen \$5,000.00 in back pay, seconded by Alderman Randy Schoon. Mayor Knapp requested the City Clerk call roll on the motion; Alderman Justin Grobe yes, Alderman Troy Boothe yes, Alderperson Cheryl Galor yes, Alderman Randy Schoon yes, Alderman Jim Busser yes, Alderman Phillip Peterson yes. The motion carried.

H. Consideration & Possible Action on Appointing Mr. Tim Rockwood for the Vacancy of a Full Time Polo Officer Position.

Mayor Knapp reported he is appointing Mr. Tim Rockwood to fill the vacancy of a full time police officer position. He will be attending PTI training in Springfield through the Illinois State Police, starting January 8, 2017.

Alderman Randy Schoon made a motion to accept Mayor Knapp's appointment of Mr. Tim Rockwood as a full time police officer, seconded by Alderman Jim Busser. Mayor Knapp requested the City Clerk call roll on the motion; Alderman Troy Boothe yes, Alderperson Cheryl Galor yes, Alderman Randy Schoon yes, Alderman Jim Busser yes, Alderman Phillip Peterson yes, Alderman Justin Grobe yes. The motion carried.

Mayor Knapp asked Chief Cavanaugh to come into closed session to discuss compensation and when this transfer will take place.

I. Consideration & Possible Action on Hiring the Replacement for the Vacancy of a Full Time Employee in the Street Department.

Mayor Knapp reported Alderman Busser and Street Superintendent Kyker held several interviews in the last week and will be making a recommendation. We will be going into closed session to discuss the hiring, pay and start date.

J. Consideration & Possible Action on the Hiring of Mr. Christian Ponall as a Part-Time Police Officer.

Alderman Jim Busser made a motion to hire Mr. Christian Ponall as a part time police officer, seconded by Alderman Randy Schoon. Mayor Knapp requested the City Clerk call roll on the motion; Alderman Randy Schoon yes, Alderman Jim Busser yes, Alderman Phillip Peterson yes, Alderman Justin Grobe yes, Alderman Troy Boothe yes, Alderperson Cheryl Galor yes. The motion carried.

K. Consideration & Possible Action on the Sale of City Property Located at 104 West Savanna Street.

Attorney Suits will put the ad together for the sale of city property located at 104 W. Savanna Street and give two weeks to get sealed bids, which have to be 80% of the assessed value. After discussion it was decided to present the sealed bids for opening the first meeting in January, then the bid awarding the same evening.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Alderperson Cheryl Galor asked the aldermen to consider putting a limit on the gaming machines allowed within the City of Polo. She reported that Freeport has limited 33 gaming machines, but others towns around do not limit this. She feels people are finding loop holes in the law and able to open these up too easily. Mayor Knapp replied he feels we have control by the limitation of numbers of liquor licenses, in that we do not ever leave an open liquor license available. He said we can consider this, but it is not a big priority. Mr. Joe Wilson was present stating he has a problem with someone buying a building and putting in five machines to just gamble and does not have a current restaurant or bar. This will be placed on the next agenda for discussion.

Alderman Randy Schoon made a motion to go into closed session to discuss Employee Hiring, Firing, Compensation, Discipline-Section 2 (c) (1) at 7:47pm, seconded by Alderperson Cheryl Galor. Mayor Knapp requested the City Clerk call roll on the motion; Alderman Jim Busser yes, Alderman Phillip Peterson yes, Alderman Justin Grobe yes Alderman Troy Boothe yes, Alderperson Cheryl Galor yes, Alderman Randy Schoon yes. The motion carried.

Mayor Knapp re-opened the regular city council meeting of the Polo City Council at 8:23pm

Mayor Knapp requested the City Clerk call roll for those present; Alderman Jim Busser, Alderman Phillip Peterson, Alderman Justin Grobe, Alderman Troy Boothe, Alderperson Cheryl Galor, Alderman Randy Schoon. Also present was Attorney Tom Suits, Mayor Doug Knapp and City Clerk Susie Corbitt.

ABSENT: None.

Alderperson Cheryl Galor made a motion to have Mr. Tim Rockwood transfer to the police department in two weeks or December 5, 2016 making \$18.00 an hour, seconded by Alderman Jim Busser. Mayor Knapp requested the City Clerk call roll on the motion; Alderman Troy Boothe yes, Alderperson Cheryl Galor yes, Alderman Randy Schoon yes, Alderman Jim Busser yes, Alderman Phillip Peterson yes, Alderman Justin Grobe yes. The motion carried.

Alderman Jim Busser made a motion to hire Mr. Scott VanKirk at \$16.50 an hour starting December 5, 2017 for the street department, seconded by Alderman Troy Boothe. Mayor Knapp requested the City Clerk call roll on the motion; Alderperson Cheryl Galor yes, Alderman Randy Schoon yes, Alderman Jim Busser yes, Alderman Phillip Peterson yes, Alderman Justin Grobe yes, Alderman Troy Boothe yes. The motion carried.

Alderman Randy Schoon made a motion to adjourn 8:27pm. seconded by Alderman Jim Busser. Ayes 6, nays 0. The motion carried by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susie Corbitt, MMC
City Clerk