

**CITY OF KNOXVILLE**  
**Regular Council Meeting**  
Knoxville Police Station, 215 N. Hebard St., Knoxville

**Monday, April 15, 2019, 7:00 PM**

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order:** Mayor Maurer called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at 7:00 PM. All rose to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call: Present:** Aldermen Benjamin, Eiker, Hillier, Heller, Mahar, Myers, Naslund; Mayor Maurer, Treasurer Bivens, Chief of Police Poyner, Attorney McCoy, Engineer Cooper, Water Superintendent Johnson, and Acting City Clerk Wilt. **Absent:** Alderman McGovern. Also in attendance: Mr. Charlie Gruner, Mr. Jared Poplett, Mr. Tom Poplett, Mr. Stan Bockewitz and Mr. Bill Oberg from Bock Inc, Mr. Keith Vaughn, Mr. John Newcomb, Mr. Ed Keith, Mr. and Mrs. Crump and one member of the press.

**Public Comments:** Mrs. Tracy Crump, 520 Newman St, had purchased a child safety sign for her yard, but was informed by the Police Department that she could not post it as she is in a school zone already. She would like to donate the sign to the City to be used as needed. Mayor Maurer thanked Mrs. Crump for her donation.

Mr. John Newcomb, owner of 108 S. Division St, informed the Council that there is an outstanding water bill of \$438.72 on the account at that address. The tenant left without making payment, and Mr. Newcomb does not feel he is responsible for this amount since he said he was not notified of the past balance for several months. Alderman Myers asked that the item be added to the next agenda, and that Account Specialist Tuthill provide an itemized account of the past due balance.

**Approval of Minutes:** Aldermen Myers moved to approve the Minutes of the April 1, 2019 City Council Meeting; Alderman Benjamin seconded the motion which passed by voice vote with one abstention.

**GENERAL REPORTS**

**Attorney Report:** No report.

**Engineer Report:** Engineer Cooper submitted a revised oil and chip map for consideration. After the original map was approved at the March 18, 2019 meeting, Department of Public Works Superintendent Rossell was concerned that the project would take most of the money in the account, not leaving anything for emergencies. The new map removes a couple of streets that could wait another year, saving about \$15,000.00. As there is more than enough money appropriated for the project, by general consensus, the street list was adjusted. Also, Engineer Cooper reported that the outside painting of the South Tower is completed, and that the interior painting of the North Tower is expected to start in a few days. There was discussion of waiting to complete the North Tower after the City of Galesburg completes their well rehabilitation this month, but no change was made as Galesburg's project is delayed due to waiting on the river water to recede following heavy spring rains.

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**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Bivens noted her monthly report was part of the packet.

**City Clerk's Report:** No report.

**Payment of City Bills:** Alderman **Hillier moved** to approve payment of the City Bills; Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion which **passed** with seven (7) Yes votes and one (1) Absent.

**Information Items:** Mayor Maurer noted the letter from the City of Galesburg outlining their well rehabilitation work. He also pointed out that the monthly departmental operating reports were available in the online Council packet.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- 1. Bock Inc Contract Extension:** Mayor Maurer reported that he and Alderman Mahar met with Stan Bockewitz and Bill Oberg of Bock Inc and that Bock presented a new five year contract for \$700,000.00 starting September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2024. This would be approximately \$1,600.00 per month more than the current contract. The 2014 contract was provided for review, and the new contract will be worded the same except for the price. Given the history of the partnership, Mayor Maurer strongly recommended approving the contract. Alderman **Mahar moved** to contract the Wastewater Treatment Plant management and supervision with Bock Inc for five years for \$700,000.00. Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion, which **passed** with seven (7) Yes votes and one (1) Absent.
- 2. James Knox Park Pavilion Roof Replacement:** Alderman Eiker presented a bid for \$6840.00 from Cozadd Construction to replace the existing roof on the large shelter at James Knox Park with a steel one. The shingles on the small shelter will be replaced at another time. Alderman **Eiker moved** to contract with Cozadd to roof the large park shelter. Alderman **Benjamin seconded** the motion, which **passed** with seven (7) Yes votes and one (1) Absent.
- 3. Proposed Liquor License Changes:** Following the April 1, 2019, there is interest in adding an additional event based liquor license classification for beer and wine only for events at St Mary's Chapel in both the Chapel and in a tent outside of the building. Mr. Keith Vaughn, Chapel owner, plans to put up a privacy fence along the east side of the property, plus would have a segregated area for serving and consuming liquor directly north of the Chapel. Attorney McCoy suggested licensing the Chapel with a CR license and have an add-on license for outside events. Also, Mayor Maurer reported that Elias Sahyouni says that the plans have fallen through for outside investors to open a grocery store at 218 E. Main St. As a result, the liquor ordinance needs to have the Class GS license rescinded. Alderman **Myers moved** to approve Ordinance 2019-04 Amending the Knoxville Municipal Code Regarding the Retail Sale of Alcohol at Grocery Stores. Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion, which **passed** with seven (7) Yes votes and one (1) Absent.

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**NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. Proclamation – Motorcycle Awareness Month:** Mayor Maurer read the Motorcycle Awareness Month Proclamation and presented it to Ed Keith with the Central Illinois ABATE.
- 2. Appointment of City Attorney, City Engineer, Auditor, and Building Administrator:** At the April 1, 2019 Administrative Committee meeting, the following recommendations were made: City Attorney – Robert McCoy of Miller, Hall, and Triggs LLC, City Engineer -- Kevan Cooper with Bruner, Cooper, and Zuck, Auditor – Ben Berglund of Blucker, Kneer, and Associates. Mayor Maurer would also like to appoint former Building Administrator Larry Rigg, whose health has improved and would like to retain his position. Alderman **Heller moved** to accept the slate of appointments. Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion, which **passed** with seven (7) Yes votes and one (1) Absent.
- 3. Employee Compensation:** At the April 1, 2019 Administrative Committee meeting, the following increases to employee compensation were recommended: \$0.50 increase for department heads, \$0.40 increase for full time employees, and \$0.30 increase for part time employees. State of Illinois minimum wage issues do not need to be addressed at this time. Alderman **Myers moved** to approve these increases for all filled and open positions beginning May 1, 2019. Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion, which **passed** with seven (7) Yes votes and one (1) Absent.
- 4. Estimates of Replacement Windows for Water Pump House:** After reviewing two bids, Alderman **Mahar moved** to contract with Glass Specialty Company to replace the windows at the water pump house for \$5803.67. Alderman **Heller seconded** the motion, which **passed** with seven (7) Yes votes and one (1) Absent.
- 5. Stamps Field Sign at James Knox Park:** The sign from the former Stamps Field at the high school was donated to the City by the school. Concrete has been poured at the east end of James Knox Park to display the refurbished sign at a cost of \$3000.00. Knox County Historic Sites will donate \$1000.00. Alderman **Eiker moved** to pay \$2000.00 from the park department fund for the sign. Alderman **Benjamin seconded** the motion, which **passed** with seven (7) Yes votes and one (1) Absent.

**Mayor’s Report:**

- Miller, Hall, & Triggs LLC is hosting their biennial law seminar on May 11, 2019.

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- An email was received from Service Line Warranties of America that as of March 13, 2019, there were 250 policies made with residents. Most were for water, but some were for sewer as well.
- The alley wall on the east of the library, owned by Dr. Mike Kotula, is in the process of being torn down. The City will take care of the overhang in the alley. Holes have been discovered in the roof.
- The next Council meeting will be on Monday, May 6, 2019 at 7:00 pm. The outgoing Council will convene, and then the new Council will be installed. There are still three open spots on the Council, which the Mayor will fill.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Administrative – Benjamin:** The trivia night benefitting the fireworks fund will be Jun 15, 2019 at the Knoxville American Legion.

**Cemetery – Hillier:** The zero-turn mower may need to be replaced.

**Community & Economic Development – McGovern:** None.

**Parks – Eiker:** None.

**Police – Myers:** None, but Alderman Myers enquired about halting demolition proceedings for 220 W. Ann St. An interested party is trying to purchase the property. If the property is purchased, the new owner would be expected to tear down the house. Demolition proceedings by the City will temporarily cease.

**Sanitation – Naslund:** None.

**Streets – Heller:** None.

**Water/Sewer – Mahar:** None.

**Adjourn:** At about 8:05 PM, Alderman **Hillier moved** to Adjourn the Meeting; Alderman **Heller seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

Submitted by:

Leslie Wilt, Acting City Clerk