

## MINUTES STREATOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

### **PROCEEDINGS OF THE STREATOR CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (WORKSHOP) MEETING OF OCTOBER 11, 2011, HELD AT THE CITY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 1:45 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Jimmie D. Lansford presiding.

**TIME:** The Committee of the Whole (Workshop) began at 1:45 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Members present: Benner, Brozak, Hart, Williamson and Mayor Lansford.

**OTHER CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:** City Manager, Paul C. Nicholson; City Engineer & Director of Community Development, Jeremy Palm; City Clerk, Pamela K. Leonard, Jeff Anderson, Police Chief, and David Fussell, Director of Public Works.

Mayor Lansford requested that Items #3 & #4 be removed from the agenda and addressed at the November Committee of the Whole.

#### **CONSIDERATIONS:**

##### **1.) DISCUSSION REGARDING 2011 TAX LEVY & 2012-2013 BUDGET PREPARATION PROCESS.**

Paul C. Nicholson reported on the upcoming process of the 2011 Tax Levy which will be payable in 2012-13 and starting the budget process. Mayor Lansford commented that he would like to look at budgeting for a two year period of time.

##### **2.) DISCUSSION REGARDING – CURRENT STATUS – VACANT BUILDING MATTERS**

David Fussell reported on this issue. Mayor Lansford requested a written “game plan” for code enforcement to be presented to the Council at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

Mayor Lansford commented that with the road improvements to Park and Bloomington Streets will require more monitoring of speeding by the Police Department. Councilman Williamson suggested that the City consider obtaining a portable speed detector or possibly borrowing the Ottawa Police Department’s for a short time. Council requested a recommendation from the Chief of Police.

##### **3.) DISCUSSION REGARDING – ANDERSON FIELD RATE STRUCTURE 2012 SEASON.**

Removed from agenda.

##### **4.) DISCUSSION REGARDING – ANDERSON FIELD TURF/GROUNDS MANAGEMENT 2012.**

Removed from agenda.

##### **5.) DISCUSSION REGARDING – SPRING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS.**

Nicholson requested the City Engineer, Jeremy Palm to update the Council regarding this item. Palm relayed the following:

- That the Kent Street project and Street Program were winding down
- Future sewer projects and updates that will be needed at the sewer treatment plant.

Councilman Hart suggested putting the 100 Block of South Vermillion Street and Jefferson Street on the 5 year street plan.

Mayor Lansford commented on the Missel property necessary for the Praefcke Addition detention pond project.

#### **6.) DISCUSSION REGARDING – VERMILION RIVERBANK STABILIZATION ISSUES.**

Palm updated Council on the project and stated that FEMA money has been received for Herwig's property.

#### **SHORT SELECTED SUBJECTS:**

##### **a. Trick or Treat Hours**

Mayor Lansford presented the item. Police Chief Anderson suggested that 2 hours was enough time for children to "trick or treat". Councilman Hart suggested and Council agreed that "trick or treating" hours be set to 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Halloween night. The resolution will be presented on October 19<sup>th</sup>.

##### **b. Zonta Club request to put ribbons on City poles regarding Against Domestic Violence.**

Nicholson reported to Council stating that the Zonta Clubs from Streator, LaSalle and Peru have combined and are asking permission to tie ribbons on city owned poles for ADV (Against Domestic Violence). It was the consensus of the Council to allow the request, but that whatever they put up they should take down.

##### **c. Paw Prints on Morrell Street - Policy**

Nicholson reported that he approved the painting of the "paw prints" on Morrell Street that lead to the high school football field. Councilman Hart stated that he would like to eliminate all spray painting on City sidewalks and streets.

At this point, Pamela K. Leonard, City Clerk left the meeting and Linda Underwood, Deputy City Clerk took over. Time 2:45 p.m.

Following further discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to have them request permission prior to any painting on City property.

Mayor Lansford questioned enforcement of the graffiti ordinance as opposed to this type.

##### **d. Wal Mart Grand Opening**

Mayor Lansford announced that at 7:30 this morning the grand opening ceremony for Wal Mart had taken place and the dedication ceremony of the Vin Fiz placque at Anderson Field Golf Course had taken place on October 10<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Lansford also stated that Wal Mart Company had donated \$1,000.00 to Streator for the proposed City Park Band Shelter. Councilman Benner commented that the City should request NCICOG to write a grant application to the State regarding the band shelter. Council discussed the estimated cost of the project to be somewhere between \$100,000 to \$300,000.

Councilman Williamson commented that the City had received \$400,000 from Com Ed in lieu of their building a footbridge over the Vermilion River and that he would rather see the monies received utilized in other ways; i.e.:

- the band shelter for City Park
- playground equipment for the parks
- the proposed Frisbee golf for Marilla Park
- Marilla Park generally

Councilman Williamson said that he believed these projects would be used by more citizens than a footbridge which would encumber the city with liability and maintenance issues.

The Council as a whole, agreed with Councilman Williamson. Mayor Lansford then asked for estimates of costs for the following projects:

- A formal proposal from the band shelter committee regarding the bandstand
- An estimate of costs for playground equipment from the Public Works Director
- An estimate of costs for a 9-hole Frisbee golf course

Mayor Lansford commented that the Boy Scouts have contacted him regarding once again hosting the Klondike camp-out at Marilla Park.

**e. Frisbee Golf**

This item was discussed in conjunction with Item d.

Mayor Lansford asked Council if there were any other items that they wished to comment on or discuss.

Councilman Hart stated that the City owned 2 houses and had several vacant lots that require maintenance and wished to see an effort made to sell them. Council agreed that they wished to work at selling the properties. Hart also requested that a letter from the City thanking IDOT for the improvements made to Park and Bloomington Streets be sent in the next 30 days.

Councilman Brozak commented that the City's entrance signs were being removed and refinished by the Painters Union at no cost to the City. Brozak also requested that with the opening of Wal Mart he felt that there would be increased traffic at 4<sup>th</sup> Street and North Shabbona and would like Council re-visit the 4-way stop issue again. Councilman Williamson stated that he thought that issue had been addressed enough and that his feelings regarding the stop remained the same. Councilman Benner stated that he felt the same as Councilman Williamson. It was the consensus of the Council to wait awhile to see what effect Wal Mart would have on traffic.

Councilman Benner stated he had a complaint and request for a stop sign at the east entrance of Marilla Park. The person requesting the stop sign stated that people were not stopping prior to pulling out on Marilla Park Road. Benner also stated he had a complaint from a resident on Murdock Street regarding dust coming from the City's Public Works yard.

Mayor Lansford thanked Toni Petit (audience member) and Jeff Anderson, Police Chief for their efforts with the Neighborhood Watch program.

**ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION [5 ILCS 120/2 (11)]:** Mayor Lansford requested a motion to adjourn the meeting to closed session.

**ROLL CALL:** Ayes: Benner, Brozak, Hart, Williamson, and Mayor Lansford.

**TIME ADJOURNED:** 3:20 p.m.

**RETURNED TO OPEN SESSION:** 3:34 p.m.

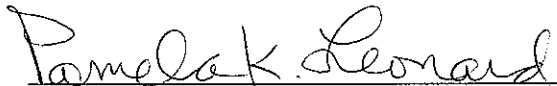
**ADJOURNMENT:** With no further items for discussion, Mayor Lansford called for a motion to adjourn.

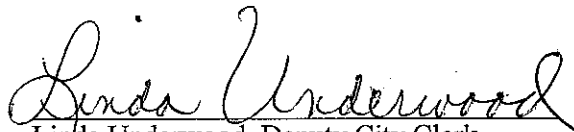
**MOTION:** Benner moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting, seconded by Brozak.

**ROLL CALL:** Ayes: Benner, Brozak, Hart, Williamson, and Mayor Lansford.

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Pamela K. Leonard, City Clerk

  
Linda Underwood, Deputy City Clerk