

City of Utica
Regular Council Meeting
December 10, 2013

The City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Noonan at 6:37 p.m.

Members present: Barthelmeh, Sikora, Osladil, Terenzi, Montag, Cuddington, Noonan

Absent: None

Executive Session

Motion by Osladil, seconded by Barthelmeh, to recess to executive session to discuss personnel matters. Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

The City Council meeting was reconvened by Mayor Noonan, who led the pledge of allegiance at 7:42 p.m.

Fire Department Swearing In

Mayor Noonan administered the oath of office for the 4 new hires: Justin Hill, Michael Littlefield, Michael Ryan, Jason Seitz.

Minutes of 11/12 & 11/19/13

Motion by Barthelmeh, seconded by Osladil, to approve the minutes of 11/12 & 11/19/13. Voting all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

Unfinished Business

Election Law Amendment

Concerns were mentioned on the City losing its identity with the even year change. The big benefit would be in cost savings of up to \$5,000. Mayor Noonan received two comments against it, Barb Montag received one comment for it and Macomb County Elections recommends the change. Motion by Sikora, seconded by Barthelmeh, to approve the resolution changing the date on which the City holds its regular election for local offices to the November even year election date. Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

Consent Business

None.

Correspondence

Motion by Barthelmeh, seconded by Montag, to receive and file the correspondence from: Michael Pacholke and Celia Todd, (thank yous); Terri Kowal and Bryan Barnett, positive compliment and Michael Pingle, water bill comments. Voting all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

New Business

Department Reports

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Mayor Noonan

Monthly Utility Billing

An ad-hoc committee consisting of B. Lang, B. Osladil, P. Paternoster and Mayor Noonan will review changing to City wide monthly billing and report back with their findings by the March 2014 council meeting.

Clinton River Watershed Council

Mayor Noonan explained the support, services and programs that benefit the City from the CRWC.

Motion by Montag, seconded by Sikora, to approve the renewal of membership to the Clinton River Watershed Council, at a cost of \$500.00. Voting all ayes, motion

CARRIED.

Cafeteria Plan

Motion by Barthelmeh, seconded by Montag, to approve the City entering into a Cafeteria Plan for active employees. Voting all ayes, motion **CARRIED.**

Council Reports

Mayor Noonan thanked the DPW for decorating, FD for hosting, PD and Admin. For their help with the Annual Tree Lighting event. Barb Montag also thanked the following for their help:

Bill & Cathy McGrail, Jim McGrail, Nancy, Jennifer & Jeff Carter, Joe Azar, James Brown, Fred Gibson, Paul Nowacki, Ann Reeves of Liberty Tax, Tim Horton's of Utica, Utica High School Chieftain Band, and Director Mike Sauer, Russell Barthelmeh, William Osladil, Charles Cuddington.

Russ Barthelmeh wished all happy holidays.

Assessing- Nancy Strehl, Assessor

No report.

Building- Jerry Owczarzak

No report.

Fire- Kevin Wilseck, Chief

Chief Wilseck reported that the service contract for the Lifepak units is being reviewed by the City Attorney.

Police- Dave Faber, Chief

POAM Contract

This item was tabled.

DPW- Bill Lang, Superintendent

Bill Lang, Superintendent, thanked Dr. Jesse Cardellio for the donation of the Christmas tree. Also we are working with Macomb County Road Commission concerning a grade crossing for the northern portion of the Bike Path.

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Treasurer- Philip Paternoster

Phil Paternoster, Treasurer, reported that the winter tax bills have been mailed and the printing company mailed them with an incorrect return envelope.

Administration- Beth Ricketts, City Clerk

MML Property & Liability Pool

Beth Ricketts, City Clerk, reported that the renewal premium for our property & liability insurance has slightly increased. Mayor Noonan reminded us that the MML board voted to refund a portion of fees back to members.

Election Audit

The first post-election audit was done and we passed with a few minor corrections to be made on the next election.

2014 Calendars

The Council Meeting and Office Closing calendars were distributed to members, no action necessary.

Library- Marsha Doege, Director

New Hours for 2014

Marsha Doege, Director, report that the Library Board voted to reduce the hours of operation for the Library due to reductions in funding. New hours will be Monday-closed, Tues. & Thurs.- 11:00 to 7:00, Wed. 11:00 to 8:00 and Friday & Sat. 11:00 to 4:00.

Mary Figurski Library Board Appointment

Motion by Montag, seconded by Barthelmeh, to approve the appointment of Mary Figurski to the Library Board. This is a five year term. Voting all ayes, motion **CARRIED.**

Library Bake Sale 12/14/13

The Library's Annual Bake Sale will be on Saturday, 12/14/13 from 10:00 to 1:00 in the Gibbing Room

Utica Heritage Association

Marsha Doege, Director, thanked the Utica Heritage Association for their donation of funds to keep the Overdrive electronic book program running. Also there is a new program for down loading free magazines through the Library with the Zinio program.

Parks and Recreation Commission

A reminder was given that the Ice Festival will be held on February 7, 8, and 9 of 2014 with a theme of Enchantment.

Historic District Commission

No report.

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City Attorney- James McGrail

Jim McGrail, City Attorney, explained a required resolution to allow elected officials the option to purchase health insurance with the City's carrier, at their cost. Motion by Barthelmeh, seconded by Osladil, to approve the resolution to allow elected officials the option to purchase health insurance, at their cost. Voting by roll, all ayes (one abstain, Terenzi), motion **CARRIED**.

Planning Commission

Sign Ordinance Amendment

This item was tabled and the necessary public hearing will be held at the January 8 Planning Commission meeting

Senior Housing Steering Committee

No report.

Brownfield Redevelopment Authority

No report.

Bills Payable

Motion by Sikora, seconded by Cuddington, to approve the payment of all bills as presented. Voting all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

Bill Roney Memorial Run/Walk 3/22/14

Sonia Hansen was present to request permission to hold the annual Bill Roney Memorial run/walk on city streets, on 3/22/14. The route and set up is the same as last year. Motion by Sikora, seconded by Barthelmeh, to approve the request to hold the Bill Roney Memorial Run/Walk on 3/22/14, utilizing city streets. Voting all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

Communication from the Public

None.

Adjournment

As there were no further comments from the public, motion by Barthelmeh, seconded by Osladil, to adjourn the meeting. Voting all ayes, motion **CARRIED**. Meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Beth Ricketts
CITY OF UTICA
City Clerk