

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE NORMAL TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, NORMAL CITY HALL, FOURTH FLOOR UPTOWN STATION, 11 UPTOWN CIRCLE, NORMAL, MCLEAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS – MONDAY, MAY 7, 2018.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Chris Koos called the regular meeting of the Normal Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m., Monday, May 7, 2018.

2. ROLL CALL:

The Clerk called the roll with the following persons physically

PRESENT: Mayor Chris Koos and Councilmembers Jeff Fritzen, R.C. McBride, Chamberly Cummings, Kathleen Lorenz, Scott Preston and Kevin McCarthy. Also present were City Manager Pamela Reece, Assistant City Manager Teri Legner, Corporation Counsel Brian Day, and Town Clerk Angie Huonker.

ABSENT: None.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Koos led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Zach Buckley addressed the Council regarding the proposed TIF extension.

Karen Dunton addressed the Council regarding the proposed TIF extension.

Rebecca Houtsman spoke in support of the Welcoming Ordinance.

Sonny Garcia spoke in support of the Welcoming Ordinance.

Richard Greenfield spoke in support of the Welcoming Ordinance.

Maura Toro-Morn spoke in support of the Welcoming Ordinance.

Ron Ulmer spoke against the Welcoming Ordinance.

Charlotte Alvarez spoke in support of the Welcoming Ordinance.

Tom Cullen spoke in support of the Welcoming Ordinance.

Dontae Latson spoke in support of the Welcoming Ordinance.

Kathy Nicholson spoke in support of the Welcoming Ordinance.

Robert Hathway spoke in support of the Welcoming Ordinance.

Carl Silva spoke against the Welcoming Ordinance.

Marcos Mendez spoke in support of the Welcoming Ordinance.

Cindy Alvarez spoke in support of the Welcoming Ordinance.

Dwight Hanson spoke against the Welcoming Ordinance.

Cinnamon Porter spoke in support of the Welcoming Ordinance.

Gail Stanek spoke in support of the Welcoming Ordinance.

Zach Buckley spoke in support of the Welcoming Ordinance.

5. OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA:

Mayor Koos read aloud the items to be considered by the Omnibus Vote Agenda.

- A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 16, 2018:
- B. APPROVAL OF TOWN OF NORMAL EXPENDITURES FOR PAYMENT AS OF MAY 2, 2018:
- C. RESOLUTION WAIVING THE FORMAL BIDDING PROCEDURE AND AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF FOUR (4) REFUSE COLLECTION TRUCKS FROM CUMBERLAND SERVICE CENTER, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,271,428: Resolution No. 5556:
- D. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO STARK EXCAVATING INCORPORATED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$34,184.73 FOR EMERGENCY SEWER REPAIRS ON SAMANTHA STREET: Resolution No. 5557:
- E. RESOLUTION WAIVING THE FORMAL BIDDING PROCESS AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO CONSTRUCTION AND SERVICE AGREEMENTS WITH CIRBN, LLC TO INSTALL FIBER OPTIC INFRASTRUCTURE AT THREE ELEVATED WATER STORAGE TANKS: Resolution No. 5558:
- F. RESOLUTION WAIVING THE FORMAL BIDDING PROCESS AND ACCEPTING A QUOTE FROM FERGUSON WATER WORKS TO REPLACE REMAINING WATER METERS AND READERS AND APPROVAL OF THE NECESSARY BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS:
- G. MOTION TO REJECT BIDS FOR THE ROUTE 66 TRAIL CONNECTION CONSTITUTION TRAIL EXTENSION FROM THE TOWANDA AVENUE/SHELBOURNE DRIVE INTERSECTION TO THE BEECH STREET/PINE STREET INTERSECTION:

Items F and G were removed from the Omnibus Vote Agenda.

MOTION:

Councilmember McBride moved, seconded by Councilmember McCarthy, the Council Approve the Omnibus Vote Agenda.

AYES: Fritzen, McBride, Cummings, Lorenz, Preston, McCarthy, Koos.

NAYS: None.

Motion declared carried.

Items A, B, C, D, and E were approved by the Omnibus Vote.

6. ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA:

- F. RESOLUTION WAIVING THE FORMAL BIDDING PROCESS AND ACCEPTING A QUOTE FROM FERGUSON WATER WORKS TO REPLACE REMAINING WATER METERS AND READERS AND APPROVAL OF THE NECESSARY BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS: Resolution No. 5559:

MOTION:

Councilmember Fritzen moved, seconded by Councilmember Preston the Council Approve a Resolution Waiving the Formal Bidding Process and Accepting a Quote from Ferguson Water Works to Replace Remaining Water Meters and Readers and Approval of the necessary Budget Adjustment.

AYES: McBride, Cummings, McCarthy, Koos.

NAYS: Lorenz, Preston, Fritzen.

Councilmember Jeff Fritzen asked for additional information on this system given the significant cost difference.

City Manager Pamela Reece stated the current 3G network provider will no longer service the current system. Mrs. Reece stated the replacement process had begun and was planned to continue over a six-year period. Mrs. Reece indicated the new replacement schedule would be approximately 18 months.

Water Director John Burkhart spoke about the Water fund balance indicating there would be emergency funds available, despite the change to an 18-month replacement plan.

Councilmember Kathleen Lorenz asked Mr. Burkhart to elaborate on details presented in Alternative #2. Mr. Burkhart responded this alternative would require 2 separate visits to each residence.

- G. MOTION TO REJECT BIDS FOR THE ROUTE 66 TRAIL CONNECTION CONSTITUTION TRAIL EXTENSION FROM THE TOWANDA AVENUE/SHELBOURNE DRIVE INTERSECTION TO THE BEECH STREET/PINE STREET INTERSECTION:

MOTION:

Councilmember Cummings moved, seconded by Councilmember Fritzen, the Council

Approve a Motion to Reject Bids for the Route 66 Trail Connection Constitution Trail Extension from the Towanda Avenue/Shelbourne Drive Intersection to the Beech Street/Pine Street Intersection.

AYES: Cummings, Lorenz, Preston, McCarthy, Fritzen, McBride, Koos.

NAYS: None.

Councilmember Chemberly Cummings asked what the next steps would be if this bid is rejected.

City Manager Pamela Reece stated the project would be reevaluated. Mrs. Reece indicated there are other trail projects that could be completed this year, while the Route 66 project gets reviewed or redesigned.

Councilmember Jeff Fritzen questioned the lack of competitive bidders, and whether there were market issues.

City Engineer Gene Brown stated there was no indication the work would be hard to get completed. Mr. Brown also indicated a potential bidder would not submit a bid if local preference policy was in place. Mr. Brown stated there is a lot of asphalt work being done in the area currently. Mr. Brown stated there are multiple factors that could be the reason for a lack of bidders for the project.

Councilmember Kevin McCarthy commented the Town will continue to be committed to this project. Once reviewed it will be re-bid, possibly later this year.

GENERAL ORDERS:

There were no General Orders.

NEW BUSINESS:

7. ORDINANCE IN SUPPORT OF A WELCOMING COMMUNITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN INITIATIVES, SERVING AS A CATALYST TO CONNECT AND ENGAGE INCLUSIVELY WITH ALL RESIDENTS. Ordinance No. 5737:

MOTION:

Councilmember McCarthy moved, seconded by Councilmember McBride the Council Adopt an Ordinance in Support of a Welcoming Community in Accordance with Comprehensive Plan Initiatives, serving as a Catalyst to Connect and Engage Inclusively with All Residents.

AYES: Lorenz, McCarthy, McBride, Cummings, Koos.

NAYS: Preston, Fritzen.

City Manager Pamela Reece summarized the process the Town went through to come to this agreement, including multiple meetings with the Keeping Families Together Coalition. Mrs. Reece indicated that due to open dialogue and a collaborative attitude, those involved were able to support this Ordinance.

Chief of Police Rick Bleichner stated that Community Policing is about furthering community conversation. Chief Bleichner stated the Ordinance is a way of memorializing the current practices of his department. Chief Bleichner indicated it would add a level of transparency between the Police Department and the citizens, helping to eliminate mistrust while continuing to recognize the importance of public safety.

Mayor Koos stated this is a divisive issue. He stated there is a lot of noise in the world and a lot of misinformation. Mayor Koos stated this Ordinance guarantees that any resident of our community will get public safety services and emergency services without question. Mayor Koos indicated his hope the Ordinance will allay fears in citizens, students, workers, and others within the immigrant community.

Councilmember Chamberly Cummings thanked all the commenters for sharing their thoughts. Mrs. Cummings stated it's important to have something on paper that can improve the quality of life of our residents and ensure safety for all.

Councilmember R.C. McBride stated there is a lot of misinformation and disinformation in the community. Mr. McBride stated this is a small step in ensuring vibrancy and diversity in our community. This Ordinance is a shining example of what can happen when people come together using honest, open and respectful dialogue to solve a problem.

Councilmember Kathleen Lorenz stated its important to be reminded the Council serves at-large members for the Town and are also non-partisan. Mrs. Lorenz stated this issue can be very partisan. Mrs. Lorenz asked if the Police Department staff was in support of this Ordinance.

Chief Bleichner responded that through the work of his staff and their engagement with the public, this Ordinance and the conversations that formed it were possible.

Mrs. Lorenz then asked if these policies are already in place, why is it an Ordinance and not a Resolution.

City Manager Pamela Reece responded, stating an Ordinance makes a public statement in terms of what is expected. Corporation Counsel Brian Day elaborated, stating a Resolution is intended to expire when the body expires, and an Ordinance goes beyond that expiration, giving it a longer life span.

Mayor Koos stated that for the group that worked on this and for the community, it is important to memorialize with an Ordinance.

Councilmember Jeff Fritzen indicated he was surprised by the number of whereas clauses within the Ordinance. He stated he hoped for something simpler. Mr. Fritzen referenced the Comprehensive Plan, stating he sees it as a guide and not a blueprint. Mr. Fritzen went on to say he feels the Comprehensive Plan is being used as a blueprint, using it as a foundational principal behind some of the language in the Ordinance. Mr. Fritzen went on to discuss his concerns over what is or needs to be policy versus what is a current practice for the Police Department. Chief Bleichner responded.

Councilmember Scott Preston thanked the speakers and groups involved this evening. Mr. Preston stated his concern with the concept of operations versus policy. Mr. Preston

questioned whether the Police Department should not or could not operate under the proposed guideline without the Ordinance. City Manager Pamela Reece responded the Ordinance articulates some items that are included in the Police Policy. Mrs. Reece also stated the purpose of the proposed Ordinance is to make a public statement based on the stakeholder feedback.

Councilmember Kevin McCarthy thanked the commenters for the respectful nature of their comments. Mr. McCarthy went on to state that he values the separation of policy versus operation, indicating he believes a separation is being maintained regarding the proposed Ordinance. Mr. McCarthy also stated this is an important community issue and although he believes in maintaining a separation of policy and operations, he also believes that policy informs operation.

Councilmember Kathleen Lorenz asked for clarification on the Trust Act that is framing the proposed Ordinance. Corporation Counsel Brian Day responded.

At 9:12 pm Mayor Koos called for a ten-minute break before resuming with the next agenda item.

8. RESOLUTION REQUESTING LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL OF A 12-YEAR EXTENSION TO THE UPTOWN REDEVELOPMENT PLAN AND PROJECT AREA AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A RELATED INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT: Resolution No. 5560:

MOTION:

Councilmember Fritzen moved, seconded by Councilmember Preston the Council Approve a Resolution Requesting Legislative Approval of a 12-Year Extension to the Uptown Redevelopment Plan and Project Area and Authorizing the Execution of a Related Intergovernmental Agreement.

AYES: Preston, McCarthy, Fritzen, McBride, Cummings, Lorenz, Koos.
NAYS: None.

At 9:24 pm Mayor Koos resumed the regular scheduled meeting of the Normal Town Council.

Economic Development Director Sally Heffernan gave a brief overview of TIF, showed TIF comparisons and reviewed the history of TIF.

City Manager Pamela Reece summarized the need for the proposed TIF extension. Mrs. Heffernan reviewed the TIF options being proposed. Mrs. Reece then discussed the review of the presented options, recommending option number five.

Mayor Chris Koos spoke about affordable housing in the Uptown area and how the Uptown 2.0 plan identifies the need for that type of housing, but not something TIF will address.

Councilmember Scott Preston commented on the lack of affordable housing within the proposed TIF extension.

Councilmember Kathleen Lorenz asked for clarification on the TIF parcels and surplus funds. Mrs. Heffernan responded.

Councilmember Jeff Fritzen noted the importance of the extension and being able to leverage what has already happened in the Uptown area.

Councilmember Chamberly Cummings expressed her thoughts on the need for economically diverse housing, although not addressed in the TIF extension, it is something that needs to be discussed moving forward.

Councilmember Scott Preston noted the area south of the railroad tracks is not in the TIF. Mrs. Reece stated there is nothing immediately on the horizon for that area but can be reviewed later if something presents itself.

Councilmember Kevin McCarthy noted his support and commitment to affordable housing.

Councilmember R.C. McBride acknowledged that housing diversity has been a problem in the community.

CONCERNS:

Councilmember R.C. McBride stated it was great to see Mayor Koos back and in good health and spirits after his brief absence. Mr. McBride also spoke about the recent trip to Rivian Headquarters in Michigan, saying he is very excited about what they are up to.

ADJOURNMENT:

7. MOTION TO ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Koos called for a Motion to Adjourn.

MOTION:

Councilmember McCarthy moved, seconded by Councilmember Lorenz, the Council accept a Motion to Adjourn.

AYES: McCarthy, Fritzen, McBride, Cummings, Lorenz, Preston, Koos.

NAYS: None.

Motion declared carried.

Mayor Koos adjourned the regular meeting of the Normal Town Council at 10:10 p.m., Monday, May 7, 2018.