

DANVILLE CITY COUNCIL
JULY 21, 2020

#1....THE REGULAR MEETING of the City Council of the City of Danville was called to order at 6:07 p.m. by Mayor Rickey Williams, Jr. at the Robert E. Jones Municipal Building, 17 W. Main Street, Danville, Illinois.

[Due to Coronavirus, COVID-19 the meeting was conducted in a combination of in person and virtual attendance via Zoom audio to maintain social distancing as required per the Governor's Executive Order 2020-10.]

THE ROLL CALL was answered by Mayor Rickey Williams, Jr. *[physically present]*. Elected Officials Present via Teleconference were Vice Mayor Bob Iverson, Aldermen Brenda Brown, Dan Duncheon, Steve Foster, Michael O'Kane, Sherry Pickering, James Poshard, Michael Puhr, Tom Stone, Rick Strebing, and Aaron Troglia. Aldermen R.J. Davis, Sharon McMahan, and Robert Williams were absent. A quorum was present.

Staff Members Physically Present: Deputy City Clerk Megan Mudd, Information Technology Administrator Agnel DSilva, and Information Technology Assistant Administrator Aaron Weaver.

Staff Members Present via Teleconference: City Comptroller Ashlyn Massey, City Engineer Sam Cole, Corporation Counsel Charles Mockbee IV, Grants & Planning Manager Logan Cronk, Fire Chief Don McMasters, Public Transportation Director Lisa Beith and Public Works Director Carl Carpenter.

Various members of the public and media joined the electronic meeting via YouTube live audio streaming.

#2....INVOCATION was given by Alderman Brenda Brown, followed by

#3....THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Mayor Williams.

#4....THE MINUTES of the regular meeting held, July 7, 2020, having been published and distributed, were presented. Alderman Duncheon moved for approval as presented, seconded by Alderman Stone. On the voice vote, all ayes, no nays; the motion so ordered.

#5....THE AGENDA for the evening was presented. Alderman Pickering moved for approval, seconded by Alderman Puhr. On the voice vote, all ayes, no nays; the motion so ordered.

#6....MAYOR'S REPORT

#6-A...Proclamations – None

#6-B...Board/Committee Appointments

Mayor Williams announced the reappointment of City Clerk Lisa Monson as member to the Fire Pension Board of Trustees, term to expire April, 2024 2023. Alderman Brown moved to concur, seconded by Alderman Strebing. There being no questions, on the voice vote, all ayes, no nays; the motion so ordered.

#6-C...Reports of Boards, Agencies, Commissions – None

#6-D...Items of Information

Mayor Williams announced that unfortunately we will not be able to have the Crimestoppers presentation at this time, but he spoke with former Alderman Frank Hoskins who is on their board and we are going to mail the check to them since they could really use it to help with some of the awards they have pending. Then we will do a presentation with a certificate when we are able to meet

together again. Mayor Williams also thanked City staff at the pool for positive feedback he has received. They are also continuing with special cleaning protocols right now to ensure we are as safe as possible.

#7...PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AUDIENCE COMMENTS - None

#8...ZONING PETITIONS – None

#9...PAYROLL

Mayor Williams presented the Payrolls, having been published, posted, and distributed, for run of June 26, 2020, of \$74,246.41, for run of July 10, 2020, of \$83,621.37, and for run of July 17, 2020, of \$571,843.13. Alderman O’Kane moved to dispense with the readings and asked for approval as presented, seconded by Alderman Troglia. Alderman Duncheon questioned that total payroll seems to run about 10% in overtime, and the Fire Department seems to have about 20% in over time. Are the new firefighters hired going to alleviate any of this or did they just have a bad two-week period, or has this been standard this year, or is this above average. Mayor Williams responded that it is higher than normal and there were callbacks for the Fireworks for the Fourth of July and seems like we’ve have had a couple of fires that were larger where we had to call staff back, so I would say no this is not standard. Also there are a couple of firefighters that have retired unexpectedly that have triggered some callbacks. There being no further questions or discussion, the roll call vote being:

Ayes: Aldermen Troglia, Pickering, O’Kane, Iverson, Strebing, Puhr, Foster, Brown, Poshard, Stone

Nays: None

Abstain: Alderman Duncheon

Absent: Aldermen Davis, McMahan, Williams

Motion carried 10 to 0 with 3 absent, and 1 abstention.

#10...SCHEDULE OF VOUCHERS PAYABLE

Mayor Williams presented the Schedule of Vouchers Payable, having been published, posted, and distributed, for run of July 14, 2020, of \$505,684.79 and for run of July 21, 2020, of \$234,834.68.

Alderman Duncheon moved to dispense with the readings and asked for approval as presented, seconded by Alderman Strebing. There being no questions or discussion, the roll call vote being:

Ayes: Aldermen Troglia, Pickering, O’Kane, Iverson, Strebing, Puhr, Foster, Brown, Duncheon, Poshard, Stone

Nays: None

Absent: Aldermen Davis, McMahan, Williams

Motion carried 11 to 0 with 3 absent.

#11... PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT

#11-A...Mayor Williams presented RESOLUTION NO. 2020-59 approving Professional Services Agreement with RJN Group, Inc. for Sanitary Sewer Flow Monitoring and Sanitary Sewer System Evaluations for the amount of \$104,744.00. The City has negotiated a scope of services and fee for professional services with RJN Group, Inc. to complete flow monitoring, perform certain system inspections and evaluations in the problem areas, and provide recommendations for next steps to resolve the issues. Alderman Puhr moved to dispense with the readings and asked for approval as presented, seconded by Alderman Stone. There being no questions or discussion, the roll call vote being:

Ayes: Aldermen Pickering, O’Kane, Iverson, Strebing, Puhr, Foster, Brown, Duncheon, Poshard, Stone, Troglia

Nays: None

Absent: Aldermen Davis, McMahan, Williams

Motion carried 11 to 0 with 3 absent.

#11-B...Mayor Williams presented RESOLUTION NO. 2020-60 rejecting Bid #655, 2020 Pavement Striping due to bids received exceed the allotted funds for the proposed work. Alderman Strebing moved to dispense with the readings and asked for approval as presented, seconded by Alderman Poshard. Mayor Williams added the bid came in substantially higher than what we had allocated for this year so we are going back to the drawing board to see how we can accomplish this. Engineer Cole stated that essentially the pricing came back at about 3 times what we had estimated the cost to put down the striping costs about the same amount as putting down pavement over the same surface area so at those numbers we can't afford to stripe that much. We are going to regroup and find a more cost effective way to proceed and we would certainly rather see the money go into pavement rather than stripes if the stripes are going to cost that much. Alderman Troglia asked what the cost has been before to stripe. Engineer Cole replied that years ago the City used to do the majority of the striping in house for reasons I'm not sure of, and I'm not suggesting we go back to doing the majority of the striping, but we do have the ability to do some handwork, which we are going to look in to. There being no further questions or discussion, the roll call vote being:

Ayes: Aldermen O'Kane, Iverson, Strebing, Puhr, Foster, Brown, Duncheon, Poshard, Stone, Troglia, Pickering

Nays: None

Absent: Aldermen Davis, McMahon, Williams

Motion carried 11 to 0 with 3 absent.

#11-C...Mayor Williams presented RESOLUTION NO. 2020-61 awarding the Contract for Bid #656, 2020 Sealcoat to Daniel L. Ribbe Trucking, Inc. in the amount of \$396,243.04, to be paid from Fund 103 (Motor Fuel Tax) budget line item 103-103-00-600GM (General Maintenance). Alderman Troglia moved to dispense with the readings and asked for approval as presented, seconded by Alderman Pickering. Alderman Poshard asked if the sealcoat is with the oil and white rock over the top. Engineer Cole stated we won't be using crushed white rock or limestone, we will be using washed and crushed river rock, which we believe holds up better to traffic and has less dust. It will also be a different rock than what you saw last year, which we experienced numerous problems with. There is one property on the list that we elected to pull off on Hillside Drive and the reason is there is a little more repair work to do to that one than what we were comfortable with sealcoating over it at this point. It may be on next year's program. We have a goal of sealcoating 20% of our oil and chip roads each year because the surface has about a 5 year life, and this is a little less than that but it's pretty close to what we're going to try and shoot for an annual program. Chairman Puhr asked when we will be starting this program. Engineer Cole replied the contractor can start as early as August 1st and has until the end of August to complete it. Engineer Cole also stated that people notice we are fixing roads that are in better shape to begin with than theirs and we are doing that consciously, not because we think those other people deserve a poor road, but we are taking a strategy where we focus on preservation techniques on roads that we are able to save so that we have adequate funds to completely reconstruct or rebuild roads that we can't save. This is really the first in our preservation process and that is going to evolve over a couple years so we just ask that people bare with us and our hope is to fit more projects in to the reconstruction category so that we are able to get those to a condition that we wouldn't otherwise be able to do. There being no further questions or discussion, the roll call vote being:

Ayes: Aldermen Iverson, Strebing, Puhr, Foster, Brown, Duncheon, Poshard, Stone, Williams, Troglia, Pickering, O'Kane

Nays: None

Absent: Aldermen Davis, McMahon

Motion carried 12 to 0 with 2 absent.

[Alderman Williams joined the teleconference/zoom audio meeting at 6:25 p.m.]

#11-D... Mayor Williams presented ORDINANCE NO. 9268 vacating an E-W Alleyway near 216 S. Gilbert Street and Portion of Public Square for Petitioner K2 Enterprises, LLC. Alderman Puhr moved to dispense with the readings and asked for approval as presented, seconded by Alderman Troglia. Alderman Duncheon asked where this is located. Engineer Cole stated it just north of the Quicklube gas station on south Gilbert Street, just north of that, there's an alley that runs east-west there and there's a portion of an old town square that kind of looks like it's part of the lot already but it's technically right-of-way. There being no further questions or discussion, the roll call vote being:
Ayes: Aldermen Puhr, Foster, Brown, Duncheon, Poshard, Stone, Williams, Troglia, Pickering, O'Kane, Iverson
Nays: Strebing
Absent: Aldermen Davis, McMahan
Motion carried 11 to 1 with 2 absent.

#11-E... Mayor Williams presented ORDINANCE NO. 9269 approving the Acceptance of Right-of-Way and Easements for the Gilbert Street & Madison Street Intersection Improvements. The City of Danville passed Ordinance #9233 vacating streets and alleys filed by Carle Foundation Hospital as Petitioner, and as part of the streets and alleys to be vacated, is required to design and construct improvements for a signalized intersection at Gilbert and Madison Street. Alderman Strebing moved to dispense with the readings and asked for approval as presented, seconded by Alderman Poshard. There being no questions or discussion, the roll call vote being:
Ayes: Aldermen Puhr, Foster, Brown, Duncheon, Poshard, Stone, Williams, Troglia, Pickering, O'Kane, Iverson, Strebing
Nays: None
Absent: Aldermen Davis, McMahan
Motion carried 12 to 0 with 2 absent.

#11-F... Mayor Williams presented ORDINANCE NO. 9270 accepting Real Property, 513 W. Madison Street. Thomas L. Woods Sr., as Independent Administrator of the Estate of Anna P. Woods, desires to transfer the real property located at 513 W. Madison, Danville, Illinois to the City. Alderman Puhr moved to dispense with the readings and asked for approval as presented, seconded by Alderman Strebing. Mayor Williams stated we are still waiting on the final title work to make sure everything is clear and we will not purchase the property until we have the final paperwork. The preliminary review indicates that there is nothing owed however we are waiting for the final distribution. There being no questions or discussion, the roll call vote being:
Ayes: Aldermen Foster, Brown, Duncheon, Poshard, Stone, Williams, Troglia, Pickering, O'Kane, Iverson, Strebing, Puhr
Nays: None
Absent: Aldermen Davis, McMahan
Motion carried 12 to 0 with 2 absent.

#11-G... Mayor Williams presented ORDINANCE NO. 9271 amending Chapter 77, Schedule XV(A) Intersections at which "Stop" or "Yield" Signs affect Control and Direction of Control and amended as follows:

<u>Intersection</u>	<u>Intersection Control</u>	<u>Controlled Street</u>
Country Club Dr. & Denvale Dr. (south)	STOP	Country Club Dr.
Country Club Dr. & Denvale Dr. (north)	STOP	Denvale Dr.



Madison & Porter	STOP YIELD	Madison
Madison & Alexander	STOP YIELD	Madison
Madison & Beard	STOP YIELD	Beard
Madison & Harvey	STOP YIELD	Harvey

Alderman Stone moved to dispense with the readings and asked for approval as presented, seconded by Alderman Pickering. There being no questions or discussion, the roll call vote being:
Ayes: Aldermen Brown, Duncheon, Poshard, Stone, Williams, Troglia, Pickering, O'Kane, Iverson, Strebing, Puhr, Foster

Nays: None

Absent: Aldermen Davis, McMahan

Motion carried 12 to 0 with 2 absent.

#11-H... Mayor Williams presented ORDINANCE NO. 9272 approving the Purchase of Real Property for the Williams Street Re-Alignment Project, the proposed improvements will require the acquisition of land and demolition of structures at 513 Harmon Street. Alderman Strebing moved to dispense with the readings and asked for approval as presented, seconded by Alderman Stone. There being no questions or discussion, the roll call vote being:

Ayes: Aldermen Brown, Duncheon, Poshard, Stone, Williams, Troglia, Pickering, O'Kane, Iverson, Strebing, Puhr, Foster

Nays: None

Absent: Aldermen Davis, McMahan

Motion carried 12 to 0 with 2 absent.

#11-I... Mayor Williams presented ORDINANCE NO. 9273 approving Real Estate option Agreement for the Sale of Certain Real Property, the City and First Farmers Bank and Trust desire to enter into an agreement with the option to buy the property of 821 N. Vermilion Street for one-dollar (\$1.00). The City desires to utilize Brownfields grant funding to conduct ESA Phase I & II testing before purchasing the property and the City plans to enroll the site into an ESA Site Cleanup grant. Alderman Puhr moved to dispense with the readings and asked for approval as presented, seconded by Alderman Stone. Chairman Puhr asked if we owned the property to the east and south of that. Mayor Williams replied that we own the two lots to the south but we do not own to the east. To the east is owned I believe by Mr. Dean Carlton. The other two lots are empty are we are working with the owner of that to possibly secure something as well. There being no further questions or discussion, the roll call vote being:

Ayes: Aldermen Duncheon, Poshard, Stone, Williams, Troglia, Pickering, O'Kane, Iverson, Strebing, Puhr, Foster, Brown

Nays: None

Absent: Aldermen Davis, McMahan

Motion carried 12 to 0 with 2 absent.

#11-J... Mayor Williams presented ORDINANCE NO. 9274 authorizing Purchase of Real Property, the Vermilion County Trustee has acquired properties due to delinquent property taxes and City staff identified properties which they felt would be beneficial for the City to acquire. The properties being adjacent to other city-owned property or which would otherwise allow for future beautification or other projects. Alderman Strebing moved to dispense with the readings and asked for approval as presented, seconded by Alderman O'Kane. There being no questions or discussion, the roll call vote being:

Ayes: Aldermen Duncheon, Poshard, Stone, Williams, Troglia, Pickering, O'Kane, Iverson, Strebing, Puhr, Foster, Brown

Nays: None

Absent: Aldermen Davis, McMahon
Motion carried 12 to 0 with 2 absent.

#11-K... Items of Information

- Vice Mayor Iverson stated there have been some people opposed to the stop signs at Country Club and Denvale Drive and wanted some clarification on why they were needed. Director Carpenter replied they had some input from Chief Yates as well and he had expressed some concern about the dangers at that intersection. The north intersection had absolutely no signage on it at all which put a lot of liability on the City of Danville had there been an accident there. All intersections have to have some type of signage. The other south end where we actually installed the signs that has been a yield sign forever and if you actually drive that most people don't even yield and just race to the intersection. The stop signs will serve the purpose they are there for.
- Chairman Foster stated he also had received a number of phone calls and emails on that and the people he talked to about it only one person had an objection to the stop sign and everyone was either indifferent or didn't think they were that bad of an idea. However, they are concerned as well with the stumps that are still there after the trees got tore down a couple years ago. Mayor Williams added he believes we will be starting the sewer portion this fall of the project and then next year we should be working on the road portion.
- Alderman Troglia asked about Item #11-I stating if the bank just needs to be demolished if it cannot be salvaged. Director Carpenter replied the bank decided not to rebuild there because yes there is not enough business and it is cost prohibitive to rebuild that building completely. We are doing a Brownfield study on that because as you know when we tore down the old dry cleaners to the south of that it was contaminated land so that Brownfield grant money will take care of all that. We only have the option buy it. If it's going to be cost prohibitive to do anything with that lot then we will not purchase it. Then the bank will be responsible for everything. If we do purchase it for the \$1 then yes we will tear the building down and all likelihood leave the pavement there in the interim until that lot is sold to a developer. Those are the plans in a nutshell at this time.
- Mayor Williams stated he will be talking with Chairman Puhr and Chairman Foster and will keep everyone informed on if there will be a committee meeting next week and in the future. We are still waiting on test results on the exposed employee which we should have results back tomorrow and then he will be in touch with everyone.

[The next Public Works Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.]

#12... PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

#12-A... Items of Information

Alderman Duncheon asked if we have a list of eligible potential hires for the Fire Department and when would that be. Mayor Williams replied that we do have people hired and they will go to the academy in September I believe. So we should have people on board by the end of the year. Some of the overtime from discussion earlier was for several large fires and the Fourth of July. .

[The next Public Services Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 28, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.]

#13... ITEMS OF INFORMATION

- Alderman Foster stated he has discussed this topic several times with previous administration regarding the possibility of providing each Alderman with their own laptop computer and/or iPad. The City would buy them for occasions such as this or if an Alderman is unable to attend the meeting physically for whatever reason but might be able to attend virtually in order to vote

on agenda items. I would like to put this up for a discussion at the meeting next week, whether on the phone or in person, but I don't think we can let this go any longer. It should have been done a long time ago. There is also a lot of paper wasted that could be saved. Mayor Williams stated that is something that we are looking into and we can definitely give you a report by the end of the month to let you know what we are looking at cost wise. If it's the pleasure of the Council we could bring forward a proposal or vote at the appropriate time if that sounds reasonable. Alderman Foster replied he would like to discuss it at the next Public Services Committee meeting. Administrator DSilva stated we are certainly looking into this and we will get some specs put together as well as some pricing. I will get back with you as soon as we have that ready. Chairman Puhr stated he has pulled up the agenda on his laptop and is able to view it that way during these zoom meetings and agrees that there is a lot of paper wasted and we could actually have a visual zoom meeting while we are conducting a meeting. Mayor Williams restated they will continue looking into this and pricing and will share it with everyone as soon as they have something put together so we can put it up for a vote. Alderman O'Kane suggested a survey amongst the Aldermen to make sure they have adequate Wi-Fi at home and knowledge to do some of this. I don't have a problem but some people might need some assistance with the Wi-Fi or computer hook up at home. Mayor Williams replied that in preparation for these meetings Administrator DSilva did do a preliminary survey. I don't think we have heard back from everyone yet but just be aware we may be following up with you yet again to see what your capacity is and what your systems can handle. That way we can all be on the same page as much as possible if we move forward with this.

- Alderman Brown stated that this week she spoke with the Mayor regarding the requirement of masks. Even though some of the stores and businesses require us to have them on as we enter, it has been brought to my attention more than once over the last few months, how does our Mayor feel about wearing the masks and will the Mayor make a statement to the community. There has been other communities and surrounding areas where their Mayor or Administrators have come out and made a statement and have asked their communities to wear their masks and it is required for our own safety or something to that effect. They haven't had that from the City of Danville and they ask what do the Aldermen think and some have asked me that. I did speak to the Mayor on this and I understand about trying to enforce it, and he mentioned to me that it's hard to enforce and I understand that. I wouldn't expect Police Officers to go around threatening people if they didn't have a mask on but I think it would be a good idea if our Mayor would make a statement just for the safety and health of all. I don't know what the other Aldermen think or if our Counselor should have any input on this on if our Mayor should or should not make a statement. Chairman Puhr stated doesn't the Governor already have an order out stating that masks are mandatory when you can't social distance. Mayor Williams replied yes he does. Alderman Brown stated she's not sure how the order is stated but even though he has said this if you listen to the news other areas I have heard Mayors from Peoria, Urbana, Champaign, Chicago and others down south their Mayors are offering something as the leader of their communities. I know our Governor has but I'm still asking about our Mayor. Alderman Williams stated he agrees with Alderman Brown and if we can get some sort of statement out of the Mayor it would help to alleviate a lot of the problems with people thinking they don't need to wear them. It's a proven fact that if they wear the masks it can prevent a lot of the infections being spread. Alderman Foster stated his thinking is the President wisely left the States up to their governors and most governors and have left it up to the Mayors of each City but really when you start taking those positions you are going to make someone mad and someone happy. Personally, if I were a Mayor I wouldn't stick my nose in that for nothing and I'll tell you why. The stores around here have wisely decided which ones you can shop in and which ones you can't. People are madder than hell down at Walmart because they are asking people to wear a mask. I went there this afternoon and its not easy to

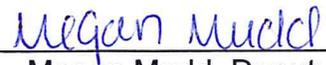
wear these masks for an extended time but I don't think it's about discomfort with some people it's more of an attitude. I think we should leave it up to the stores and businesses. There's no end to this and you will be called on to make continuous statements. It will create further division and that is what's killing our country and economy. Further discussion ensued. Mayor Williams stated that whoever has been saying he has not addressed the safety regarding COVID-19 clearly hasn't read any of the statements I've made in the paper or my many Facebook posts where I have encouraged people to follow CDC guidelines and to follow the guidelines that are put out by the Illinois Department of Public Health. So to say that I have not said anything on the subject is just not true. They may not have heard it or seen it but to say that I've said nothing is completely inaccurate. First of all I'm never going to feel pressured publicly or any other way into making any kind of statement one way or the other unless it's something I agree with. I respect you all a great deal and I respect your opinions and I also have my own and I've made many statements regarding safety. I was the person who said after June 26th that I was not going to wear a mask indoors, I was tired and frustrated but guess what. Unless I'm eating or dining indoors I wear my mask when I'm out in any kind of public facility. I even go so far as to wear my mask until I get to the car in case someone says oh look there's the Mayor he's not even trying to keep people safe and he doesn't care. So I was a person that said I wasn't going to however I do now. I can tell you I will not be wearing a mask outside ever; that is just not going to happen nor would I expect other people to. If people can medically do so then they should but I'm not going to be forced into making any kind of statement. I have said my piece about keeping people safe and I've done everything I can to make sure we keep people safe. My actions show that I care very much about the City of Danville, I encourage people to wear a mask, if they don't that's their choice and that's their right.

- Alderman Foster stated that the Chief of Police's father passed away and he was very close to him. Mayor Williams added that we do please keep Chief Yates and his entire family in our prayers at this time and thank you for the reminder.
- Mayor Williams stated that once we knew we had a possible exposure here at City Hall our staff made calls to all the Aldermen and in talking with a number of you many expressed the position that you would prefer we continue to meet like this for a while, given the spike in recent COVID-19 cases in Vermillion County. I'm going to do a quick straw poll and ask if you prefer to meet in person for meetings or if you prefer for a short while to continue via teleconference. Alderman Williams stated he wasn't aware of the switch of this meeting from in-person to teleconference and that he wasn't notified and wants to make sure they are all notified of meeting changes in the future. Mayor Williams replied that he himself, along with the Deputy Clerk and his Assistant called and emailed each Aldermen ahead of the meeting, so you were in fact notified. You may not have received it but you were contacted. Further discussion ensued among the Aldermen regarding their opinions on how future meetings will be held and various meetings throughout the City. Mayor Williams called upon the Deputy Clerk to take a straw-poll vote amongst the Aldermen. If you would prefer to continue with teleconferences, please say "teleconference" or if you would prefer to meet in-person please state "in-person". The results of the straw-poll vote were as follows:
In favor of "Teleconference" meetings: Aldermen Iverson, Strebing, Puhr, Foster, Brown, Duncheon, Poshard, Stone
In favor of "In-Person" meetings: Aldermen Williams, Troglia, Pickering, O'Kane
Absent: Aldermen Davis, McMahan

#14...CLOSED SESSION was not needed.

#15...ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 7:33 p.m. following a motion by Alderman Puhr and a second by Alderman Troglia.



Megan Mudd, Deputy City Clerk

Approved: 08/18/20

Posted Publicly: 08/19/20