

PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MAY 24, 2016

#1 CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Nichols called the Public Services Committee meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. at the Robert E. Jones Municipal Building, 17 W. Main St., Danville, Illinois.

Roll Call was answered by Chairman Steve Nichols, Vice Chairman Steve Foster, Aldermen Brenda Brown, R.J. Davis, Sharon McMahan, and Tom Stone. Absent was Alderman Dan Duncheon. A quorum was present. Alderman Duncheon arrived at 6:20 p.m.

Others Present were Mayor Scott Eisenhauer, Aldermen Mike O'Kane and Sharon Pickering, Assistant Corporation Counsel Bethany Nystrom, City Clerk Lisa Monson, City Comptroller Gayle Lewis, Corporation Counsel Dave Wesner, Human Relations Administrator Sandra Finch, Information Technology Administrator Agnel DSilva, Planning Technician Ross Hilleary, Public Safety Director Larry Thomason, Risk Manager Kathy Courson, Urban Services Property Compliance Manager Samantha McCoy, 8 audience members and 2 news media.

#2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Nichols presented the Minutes of the regular meeting of April 27, 2016. Alderman Stone moved to dispense with the readings and asked for approval as presented, seconded by Alderman McMahan. On the voice vote, all ayes, no nays; the motion so ordered.

#3 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Nichols presented the agenda, there being no changes, Alderman Brown moved for approval as amended, seconded by Alderman McMahan. On the voice vote, all ayes, no nays; the motion so ordered.

#4 AUDIENCE COMMENTS

- Lynn McClinden of Danville spoke regarding the Vermilion County Land Bank and questioned if the new language would have to be passed by Georgetown and Tilton and questioned if the agent designated to serve was not reliable.
- Vince Koers of Danville spoke regarding the Vermilion County Land Bank and questioned the need for one entity tweaking the language, why there has be an inter-governmental agreement; not just City, and what exactly can a land bank do for the City.

#5 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS - None

#6 APPROVAL OF PAYROLLS

Chairman Nichols presented Payrolls for May 20, 2016 of \$75,961.09. Vice Chairman Foster moved to dispense with the reading and asked for approval, seconded by Alderman Brown. There being no questions, the roll call vote being:

Ayes: Aldermen Brown, Davis, McMahan, Stone, Foster, Nichols

Nays: None

Absent: Alderman Duncheon

Motion carried 6 to 0 with 1 absent.

#7 APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS PAYABLE

Chairman Nichols presented Schedule of Vouchers Payable for regular run for May 24, 2016 of \$242,537.10. Alderman Stone moved to dispense with the reading and asked for approval, seconded by Alderman McMahan. There being no questions, the roll call vote being:

Ayes: Aldermen Davis, McMahan, Stone, Foster, Brown, Nichols

Nays: None



Absent: Alderman Duncheon
Motion carried 6 to 0 with 1 absent.

#8 CITY CLERK'S REPORT – Lisa Monson, City Clerk

- Staff is continuing work on business license training and conversion.
- Annual liquor license renewals were sent out.

#9 FINANCE– Gayle Lewis, Comptroller

#9-A..Chairman Nichols presented a resolution authorizing a Line of Credit for Danville Mass Transit to authorize the Comptroller to seek a line of credit from Danville banks in the amount of \$500,000.00 with funds to pay back the line of credit to come from Federal funds allocated to the Richard Brazda Bus Transfer Zone Project through grant number CAP-14-1035-IL. Alderman Stone moved to dispense with the reading and asked for approval, seconded by Alderman Brown. Comptroller Lewis stated the need for the resolution is simply for cash flow purposes. There being no further discussion, the roll call vote being:

Ayes: Aldermen McMahon, Stone, Foster, Brown, Davis, Nichols

Nays: None

Absent: Alderman Duncheon

Motion carried 6 to 0 with 1 absent.

#9-B) ITEMS OF INFORMATION

#9-B-1) HUMAN RESOURCES MONTHLY REPORT – Bill Westphal, Human Resources Administrator

In the absence of Administrator Westphal, Mayor Eisenhauer presented the Personnel Report as of May 24, 2016, stating 245 fulltime and 46 part-time/seasonal employees, with no new hires, one separation, and two transfers. Applications are being accepted for Accountant/Auditor, Engineer, Code Enforcement Inspector, Planner, and Extra Board Bus Drivers are on-going. Mayor Eisenhauer reported there are three individuals applying for Assistant Chief level positions, six individuals applying for Captain level positions, and 13 individuals applying for Lieutenant level positions.

#9-B-2) RISK MANAGER MONTHLY REPORT – Kathy Courson, Risk Manager

April 2016 Statistics were presented stating Blue Cross/Blue Shield and Health Alliance Insurance Premiums for employees totaled \$322,243.00, for retirees \$40,984.80, and for Library employees \$11,457.00; April claims for Worker's Compensation totaled three, and there were two Liability claim submitted. The total cost of health premiums in April 2015 totaled \$388,018.60 with the total cost of health premiums for April 2016 totaled \$374,684.80. Manager Courson reported she is still working on some issues with Blue Cross/Blue Shield regarding the processing of claims.

[Alderman Duncheon arrived at 6:20 p.m. and took his seat at the dais. He apologized later in the meeting for his late arrival and mentioned the agenda stated a start time of 6:30 p.m.]

#9-B-3) ADDITIONAL ITEMS OF INFORMATION

- Comptroller Lewis reported the auditors began work on Monday, May 23.
- Work is continuing on the new software conversion for Human Resources, Business Licenses, and Fixed Assets.
- Completing Risk Assessments for auditors.
- Auditor position is still open.
- Staff has been fielding questions from citizens on increases in services for the Solid Waste fee, an increase of \$1.50 per month and Public Safety fee, increase of \$2.00 per month and will increase to \$2.25 next month for a total additional amount of \$3.75.

#10 URBAN SERVICES – David Schnelle, Director

#10-A-1) In the absence of Director Schnelle, Mayor Eisenhauer introduced Samantha McCoy, Property Compliance Manager, who gave a PowerPoint presentation on Our Danville software. Our Danville is a mobile and online application (app) that brings local government directly to the citizens. The app gives users a direct



connection to multiple city departments, city officials, public notifications, a community calendar, and more. The systems allows for any issue to be noted and sent to the correct department, and a resolution to be found. Manager McCoy thanked Ross Hilleary, Planning Technician for designing the Our Danville logo and stated there will be a marketing photo contest from May 27 to June 24 with a winner to be determined by July 5. The interactive application will be available to the public on July 5. The following four departments: Solid Waste, Streets, Sewers, and Code Enforcement are included in the launch application with Police, Fire, Parks, and Recreation to be included later. She also explained nearby requests, additional services, and upcoming updates which will be part of the app. Our Danville can be accessed on the web if a person does not have a smart phone.

#10-A) Items of Information

Mayor Eisenhauer stated Ross Hilleary, Planning Technician, did an excellent job promoting bicycle safety week and asked him to talk about the Ride with the Mayor Event. Mr. Hilleary reported the Ride with the Mayor event will take place Tuesday, May 31 beginning at City Hall and will be a 3-1/2 mile bicycle ride. He also asked everyone to take the bicycle safety quiz at bikesafetyquiz.com.

#11 FIRE- Larry Thomason, Public Safety Director

#11-A) Monthly Incident Report for April 19, 2016, through May 19, 2016, was presented, stating 105 total incidents recorded and total estimated loss in fires was \$20,975.00. There were 8 fire incidents, of those, six were structure fires. There were 67 rescue or EMS incidents which accounted for 63% of the service. Breaking that down, 31 were EMS calls, three rescue calls, and 33 medical assists.

#12 HUMAN RELATIONS – Sandra Finch, Administrator

Administrator Finch reported that for the period of April 19, 2016 through May 16, 2016 the office handled 40 complaints, which consisted of 15 police complaints, 17 employment complaints, 2 City employee complaints, 5 housing complaints, and 1 public accommodation complaints. Administrator Finch reported the deadline for turning in the police survey is May 27th.

#13 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – Agnel DSilva, Administrator

- Working on phone system request for proposal.
- Installing Our Danville equipment in trucks and making sure everything is operating correctly.

#14 LEGAL – Dave Wesner, Corporation Counsel

#14-A) Chairman Nichols presented a resolution approving an Intergovernmental Agreement for Creation of Vermilion County Land Bank Authority with Vermilion County as well as other units of local government to address blight and deterioration, and revitalize residential, industrial and commercial areas of the City and County. Vice Chairman Foster moved to dispense with the reading and asked for approval, seconded by Alderman Duncheon. Mayor Eisenhauer stated the only change is in Section 7.05, page 9 regarding Local Government Director Approval and Veto Authority. The second item that was mentioned was Vice Mayor Williams desire to include language that would require a vote by the City Council prior to any representative of this public body making a decision at a meeting of the land bank. He feels it is in the best interest is to move forward as the City of Danville is not the only government partnering with the County on a Land Bank Authority, is to have a separate resolution governing this municipal body to meet language requested by Vice Mayor Williams. Vermilion County is working with Tilton, Georgetown, and Rossville with the possibility of Hoopeston, Catlin, and Oakwood becoming partners of the Land Bank Authority. The language needs to be similar for all of the municipalities but each municipality will have different process for choosing their representatives to be a part of the Land Bank Authority board. It is inappropriate to put in this document a process on what the City of Danville would like to have so Corporation Counsel Wesner will work on a separate resolution to meet the language that Vice Mayor Williams proposes. Mayor Eisenhauer feels it is important to be a partner with other municipalities in our county to join in this land bank. Mayor Eisenhauer stated there is nothing in the City ordinance nor the Illinois State Statute that prohibits the ability to vote on the same ordinance that previously was voted down. Corporation Counsel Wesner stated language addition in Section 7.05 came from the County and was not a part of the ordinance when it was previously voted on. Mayor

Eisenhauer stated stripping of liens what does that cost us that number would be artificial even though we have vacated that lien the philosophy behind that is that property becomes more sellable or more easily purchased without that lien on it if someone purchases that property put that property back into use and put it on the tax rolls alternative leave the liens on the property and individuals are not longer interested in the property because they would have to pay off the liens so while we certainly could give you a number it would be an artificial number would have to be subtracted against whatever taxes we are losing land bank has the ability to strip the liens which is an advantage Corporation Counsel Wesner stated merely releasing a lien does not mean we are out of the ability to collect the debt as the person who owes that debt originally will continue to owe that debt. Also, over the years we have gained a good working relationship with the county trustee in terms of the tax auction on properties within the city as that process wipes off any lien that has been placed upon it so those liens do not benefit the City anyway so if those properties can be used for further development or other types of issues that are a positive for the City. Vice Chairman Foster asked Mayor Eisenhauer to briefly give an explanation of definition of the land bank is and how it will benefit the City. Mayor Eisenhauer stated the land bank gives the City the opportunity through a County wide organization, to take properties that are currently being left for either donation or acquisitions. For example, let's take a mortgage holder who decides they no longer have an interest in a property. The City is constantly getting phone calls wanting to know if we want certain properties donated to us from the mortgage company so they can write it off as a donation to a municipality and are underneath the obligations of that property. The City has put ourselves in a position not to accept those properties unless it furthers a project the City is already undertaking. The City does not have the time or ability or desire to simply start accepting every property because even though many of these may have an opportunity for renovation and resell we do not want to be contractors and with a land bank that is exactly what their purpose is, to accept the transfer of property either thru donation or acquisition of property they can either then identify being in a dilapidated state and move towards demolition then have that property available for future purposes or accept that donation of property, erase the liens on that property and then put renovation dollars into that property with the ability to be able to turn around and sell the property that gives them additional money they can put back into the land bank to go out and get more property to turn around to utilize. It is available for both residential and commercial properties. As a home rule municipality what is being suggested in a land bank is we can and in some cases have done before so the benefit to us directly participating in the County land bank is not as great as it is for other municipalities throughout the County who do not have home rule authority; however, what it does do is it gives us the ability, particularly in that mile and a half to three mile border that governs around the City limits, the ability to partner with an authority that can go in and now take some of those dilapidated properties and work toward demolition. The City would have the ability under this program is to then work with that land bank to take those steps and secure the border around our corporate limits. Corporation Counsel Wesner stated the benefit as was potentially suggested in audience comments city has authority to do it on its own, we all understand we take responsibility and liabilities for those pieces of properties and having a land bank would take that on and be willing to relieve us of that burden in a lot of circumstances. Alderman McMahon questioned the borrowing authority if they take a risk and borrow and it does not pan out who is responsible for paying back that money and Mayor Eisenhauer stated it would be up to the authority of the land bank to cover those costs now whether they would come and ask the membership for funds that would up to them and that would be up to our representatives to vote on whether or not that is the direction or path to take, but understand the concept behind the land bank is while there may need to be some initial participation from involved municipalities in the land bank the idea is for this to be a self sustaining entity. Alderman McMahon asked if there is there going to be some kind of initial contribution and Mayor Eisenhauer stated there have been discussions about the fact there needs to be some up front investment by the municipalities, but that has not been decided or determined at this point as to what that level will be and right now the County alone is funding the initial costs, but we all agreed as a partner in the program there should be some initial investment made, but that will be discussed by the board once the board is created Alderman McMahon asked if it would then that would come back as a request to the Council and Mayor Eisenhauer responded "yes.". Chairman Nichols asked how much the County put into the program and Mayor Eisenhauer stated the County's initial investment is \$50,000.00. Alderman Duncheon asked what are the disadvantages and Mayor Eisenhauer stated Vice Mayor Williams reported that he was not against the concept of a land bank what he opposed at the time was there was not sufficient veto language in the resolution, but we have adjusted here and he was not comfortable with the idea that it would

be a mayoral appointment with the concurrence of this body to select the representatives to make the decisions on their own. That was his objection. I don't know who objects to the concept of a land bank or the theoretical practice of a land bank; only language that did not exist. Chairman Nichols stated some of the concerns might be in Section 9.04 and 9.05 based on the City's appointment would be able to approve a loan. Mayor stated no representative of this body has the ability to enter into a loan or borrow or and/or expend any financial resources above a certain dollar amount without the approval of the Danville City Council. Vice Chairman Foster asked where does Vermilion Advantage stand on this and where in the country the land bank worked or did not work and Mayor Eisenhower responded that Vermilion Advantage supports the land bank and there are only two other land banks in the State of Illinois, Cook County and South Suburban area. There has been opposition from the Illinois Realtors Association. Mayor Eisenhower and Chairman Marron met with the Danville Area Realtors Association and a representative of the State association to explain the land bank. There are no realtors here tonight in opposition and Mayor Eisenhower has not received any opposition from any realtors. After all questions were addressed and there being no further discussion, the roll call vote being:
Ayes: Aldermen Stone, Foster, Davis, Duncheon, McMahon, Nichols
Nays: Alderman Brown
Motion carried 6 to 1.

#14-B) Items of Information - None

#15 POLICE - Larry Thomason, Public Safety Director

#15-A) Danville Police Division Monthly Report from April 19, 2016 to May 19, 2016 was presented stating there were 3,324 calls for service by grid. Among those grids, the actual calls of service that could be classified as an offense were 3,256. There were 230 adults arrested and 35 juveniles detained and/or arrested. There were 179 traffic citations issued and 815 actual recorded offenses that were taken through the system.

#15-A-1) Items of Information

Director Thomason stated the resolution for the 2016 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Submission was included in the agenda packet as the budget narrative has to be posted on the website for citizens to review prior to the passage of the resolution on June 21, 2016. The total amount of the grant this year is \$30,040.00 with the City portion being \$16,823.00 and the County portion being \$13,217.00. The City funds will be used to pay for overtime costs for personnel to staff focused patrols in high crime areas where gang violence and gun violence have historically been known to occur.

Other Items of Information

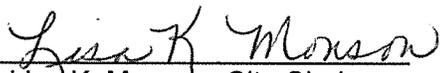
Chairman Nichols asked for an update on the body cameras and Director Thomason stated research is taking place on the pros and cons of having body cameras, but my opinion is we need to work towards that direction and it is a costly item to investigate. Vice Chairman Foster asked if there will be POP units again this summer. Director Thomason stated we continue to operate the POP unit as it operates year around and we have supplemental patrols in the summer. Vice Chairman Foster requested feedback on the NAACP marches and asked if there are other marches scheduled. Director Thomason feels the marches were positive and well received and there are marches schedule every Saturday at 6pm. Vice Chairman Foster suggested the possibility of a community meeting to share what the City has learned and see where we are with police relations and a time for ideas. Administrator Finch thinks the surveys will give us an idea of where we are with the community in police relations. Alderman Davis stated he heard a report that because of the marches in Danville, that someone from another city in Illinois has contacted Mr. Butler, local NAACP President requesting a group from Danville go to their city to tell them how they did it. Alderman Duncheon stated he was amazed at how many people joined the marches.

#16 CLOSED SESSION was not needed.

#17 COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS - None

#18 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Nichols at 7:29 p.m. following a motion by Alderman Stone and a second by Alderman McMahon.



Lisa K. Monson, City Clerk

Approved: 06/28/16
Posted Publicly: 06/29/16