

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2016

#1 CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mike Puhr called the meeting of the Public Works Committee 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 Mike Puhr, Vice Chairman Jon Cooper, Aldermen Mike O'Kane Sherry Pickering, and Rick Strebing. Absent were Aldermen Lloyd Randle and Rickey Williams, Jr. A quorum was present. Alderman Williams arrived at 6:08 p.m. Chairman Puhr announced Alderman Randle was excused due to an emergency with a family member.

Others in attendance included Mayor Scott Eisenhauer, Aldermen Dan Duncheon and Tom Stone, City Clerk Lisa Monson, City Comptroller Gayle Lewis, Engineering & Urban Services Director David Schnelle, Public Transportation Director Lisa Beith, Public Works Director Doug Ahrens, 14 audience members, and 3 news media.

#2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Puhr presented Minutes of the regular meeting of August 9, 2016. Vice Chairman Cooper moved for approval as presented, seconded by Alderman Pickering. On the voice vote, all ayes, no nays; the motion so ordered. Chairman Puhr presented Minutes of the special meeting of September 6, 2016. Alderman Strebing moved for approval as presented, seconded by Vice Chairman Cooper. On the voice vote, all ayes, no nays; the motion so ordered.

#3 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Puhr presented the agenda. There being no changes, Alderman Strebing moved for approval as presented, seconded by Alderman Pickering. On the voice vote, all ayes, no nays; the motion so ordered.

#4 AUDIENCE COMMENTS

- Cyril Ostiguy of Danville questioned if the proposed increase to sales tax would be used for the riverfront project.
- Vince Koers of Danville questioned costs for demolitions using in house employees and stated if outside labor is used the City would not entail costs for salaries and benefits.
- Jerry Hawker of Danville voiced concern of the proposed sales tax increase, agrees with the Administration that dilapidated structures need to be torn down, but feels the best way to pay for demolitions is through a utility tax. He also spoke concern of three FOIA's (Freedom of Information Act) requests he recently submitted and feels more responses could have been provided.
- Ed Strahl and Gloria Bolden, both of Danville voiced opposition to the proposed sales tax increase.

#5 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Chairman Puhr announced Jim Monfredini, former principal of St. Paul's School, St. Mary's School, and Schlarman High School, passed away this week and asked everyone to keep his family in their thoughts and prayers.

#6 PAYROLL

Chairman Puhr presented Payroll for September 9, 2016 of \$74,618.41. Vice Chairman Cooper moved to dispense with the reading and asked for approval, seconded by Alderman Williams. There being no questions, the roll call vote being:

Ayes: Aldermen Williams, Cooper, O'Kane, Pickering, Strebing, Puhr

Nays: None

Absent: Alderman Randle

Motion carried 6 to 0 with 1 absent.

#7 VOUCHERS PAYABLE

Chairman Puhr presented the Schedule of Vouchers Payable for September 13, 2016 of \$320,474.19.

Alderman Strebing moved to dispense with the reading and asked for approval, seconded by Vice

Chairman Cooper. There being no questions, the roll call vote being:

Ayes: Aldermen Cooper, O'Kane, Pickering, Strebing, Williams, Puhr

Nays: None

Absent: Alderman Randle

Motion carried 6 to 0 with 1 absent.

#8 DANVILLE AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (DATS)

Director Schnelle reported the Request for Proposals for the Bowman Avenue Corridor Study were received by consultants on September 1st. The study would be a two fiscal year project, is a fairly extensive study and he hopes to run the selection through the DATS Committee structures and City Council for approval next month.

#9 PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION – Lisa Beith, Director

#9-A) Chairman Puhr presented a resolution awarding Bid 565 to RLI Insurance Company for Danville Mass Transit Fleet Liability Insurance, in the amount of \$157,946.00, for October 1, 2016 through

September 30, 2017. Alderman Strebing moved to dispense with the reading and asked for approval, seconded by Vice Chairman Cooper. Director Beith explained two bids were received, but the lowest

bidder did not comply with the specifications of the bid and RLI Insurance Company has been the carrier for the fleet liability insurance for the past five years. There being no questions or further

discussion, the roll call vote being:

Ayes: Aldermen O'Kane, Pickering, Strebing, Williams, Cooper, Puhr

Nays: None

Absent: Alderman Randle

Motion carried 6 to 0 with 1 absent.

#9-B-1) The Monthly Recap for August 2016, included Ridership Reports, Monthly Revenue Record, and Ridership History. The August fixed route ridership totaled 54,370. The July total ADA ridership was 768 rides with the August ADA ridership report to be given next month. The total revenue for the month of August was \$28,592.65 which includes Farebox and Subscription revenue at \$20,178.65; Ticket Sales at \$7,576.50, and Advertising at \$837.50.

#9-B) Items of Information

- No bids were received for the sale of buses. Bids will be put out online once more for a bid opening on October 6th.
- Bids for a CAD/AVL system for the bus fleet was sent out to seven vendors and posted to the City website. The bid opening will be held October 6th.
- Transfer zone project is still expected to be completed within the 2016 calendar year.

#10 PUBLIC WORKS – Doug Ahrens, Director

#10-A) Items of Information

- Staff is still working on truck specifications for the bag collection program.
- The Fall Festival will be held Friday, September 16th thru Sunday, September 18th at Ellsworth Park.
- Director Ahrens thanked Committee members for approval of the electronics collection event that will take place on Saturday, October 1st from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Public Works

facility. Vermilion County will also have an event for electronics collection on Saturday, October 8th.

- Director Ahrens addressed a comment made by Mr. Koers during audience comments regarding the cost for in-house demolitions. He stated staff evaluates the City's cost structure versus the cost of using a private contractor on a multitude of tasks the Public Works staff performs. Some of it is based on timing and some of it is based on capabilities of equipment. In terms of the in-house demolition program, it was instituted because of the cost the City was seeing and paying several years ago for demolition projects. The City pays the same dump rate regardless of whether the City or a private contractor tears down a structure. Analysis has been done on the trucking costs and we do feel it is better handled in the private sector so as you have seen on all of the City demolition sites, a vast majority are done by private contract trucking firms simply because the City cannot afford to buy the equipment and hire the manpower to drive the trucks. The personnel currently used for the actual demolition of the home is a Solid Waste worker and there are four to six trained in various stages of the demolition. There is not an employee hired specifically for the task of demolition, but we prioritize that task when the demolition funding is available and that becomes their task for a couple of days or if it is an extended program for a longer duration. If an in-house city-wide demolition program is proposed, additional part-time auxiliary workers would possibly be hired to assist with the restoration of the lots which is something we have previously had challenges with so whether we can do it cheaper or not depends upon the size of the structure and the time of year the demolition is going to occur, and depends upon on what types of bids are submitted. We have seen bids for homes of a similar size we have been able to take down go for 30%-50% higher and we have also seen bids that are very competitive. The timing of the year is most impactful of local bidding demolition projects because the majority of the contractors that have the appropriate insurance and able to perform the work also do other construction work so the City demolitions are filler work which means it delays completion. Also, there are very few contractors who perform this type of work in the area.

#11 URBAN SERVICES – David Schnelle, Director

#11-A) Chairman Puhr presented a resolution appropriating \$800,000.00 of Motor Fuel Tax Funds for Bridge Repairs, deck patching and water proofing membrane replacement at the two bridges on Voorhees Street over Lick Creek bridge, approach pavement replacement at Oregon over the CSX, and joint replacements at West Williams over the North Fork River, MFT #16-00353-00-BR, line item 103-6353B-16. Alderman Strebing moved to dispense with the reading and asked for approval, seconded by Vice Chairman Cooper. Director Schnelle stated staff has been monitoring these particular bridges for some years and monitoring the deterioration on them and it is time to address them before it gets worse. After all questions were addressed and there being no further discussion, the roll call vote being:

Ayes: Aldermen Pickering, Strebing, Williams, Cooper, O'Kane, Puhr

Nays: None

Absent: Alderman Randle

Motion carried 6 to 0 with 1 absent.

#11-B) Items of Information

#11-B-1) H&L Landfill Update

Director Schnelle reported the EPA has responded to the modified consent decree submitted to the EPA for approval and review. He stated the comments received are manageable and staff will be submitting another modified consent decree and if it is approved then a temporary shutdown of the landfill would take place in the near future.

#11-B-2) NPDES Stormwater Management Update

Director Schnelle reported the part-time Stormwater Engineer has been working on the erosion control ordinance that is required by our NPDES Permit and she has also evaluated our current NPDES Permit as we have a 180 day period to come up with new ways to monitor the effectiveness

of our stormwater management program. She has come up with ways to satisfy compliance with minimal costs, but still meeting the intent of the new permits.

#11-B-3) Project Updates

Southview Sewer Project

The Southview Sewer Project was started today with boring and jacking the sewer underneath the railroad and 80 feet in we got stopped and we found about five foot from the railroad a former retaining wall footing that our sewer is right in line with. We are going to have to do some exploratory digging and the problem with this is we have a very expensive boring and jacking hit and rig in place, about 25 feet in the ground, and we may have to remove it and reset it and it is a specialized contractor that will have to be paid for down time while we find out a remedy to the situation. There will be additional costs associated with the contract for unknown conditions.

Overlay Program

Fairchild Street has been finished and if the weather holds North Street will be finished tomorrow and then moving to Oak Street at the end of the week. We are going to try to complete Oak Street in one day due to the very thin asphalt pavement on top of an unprepared base so we are going to mill it so we will be starting there at 6:00 a.m. to try to get it completed in one day to preserve the base.

Microsurfacing Program

The contractor is planning on being in sometime in early October. If any complaints have been received regarding Voorhees and Bowman that is a temporary measure and we will be sealing those up in early October. Also, on Fairchild from Griffin out to Fowler will be sealed up as well.

Northwest Pump Station Project

There will be a second public meeting on September 21st for the Northwest Pump Station/Denmark Road Project at the Village Mall from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. There will be an informal gathering and three formal presentations will be given. There will also be a mock roundabout in the Village Mall parking lot and will be a three legged roundabout. He invited emergency responders to test the roundabout as well.

[Alderman Strebing left the meeting at 7:08 p.m. during discussion of the next item.]

#12 DISCUSSION OF DEMOLITION AND CAPITAL

#12-A-1) Chairman Puhr presented an ordinance amending Chapter 116 Pertaining to Sales Tax, to increase City Sales Tax from 2.25% to 2.75%, effective January 1, 2017. Vice Chairman Cooper moved to dispense with the reading and asked for approval, seconded by Alderman Pickering. Mayor Eisenhauer handed out a spreadsheet breaking down the .50% and where the money would be spent \$1,000,000.00 out of \$1.8 million would go towards demolitions and all expenses associated with demolitions, \$331,000.00 for Neighborhood Revitalization Fund items, and \$469,000.00 in bond and interest with property tax only including police and fire pensions and the library. Mayor Eisenhauer stated the CDBG program funding for blight removal would not be used for demolitions as that money would go towards a home repair program. Mayor Eisenhauer stated Alderman Duncheon brought up an idea with regards to home repairs. There are barriers to fixing up a home such as the inability to get a loan and banks are far more rigid since the 2008 housing crisis and asked what if there was an entity to guarantee a loan would the bank feel more comfortable to give them a loan. The City could possibly work with CDC (Community Development Corporation) if they knew the city guarantees those types loan as the City would serve in the role of guarantor which could provide a much lower interest rate. The only time the City would spend any money is if the loan would fail then the City would take a high position on that loan so if it did fall through, the City would step in and would be first to be placed within the position of that mortgage or that loan so whether it is a lien or foreclosure process it gives the City some ability to get some of that money back. There is still some research that needs to be done on the idea. Chairman Puhr supports a .50% increase and feels it would relieve the burden on property taxes. Alderman Williams would like to see cuts to the budget as well as a RFP process in place for some of the dilapidated houses where neighbors might want the vacant properties. Alderman Pickering stated Alderman Randle asked her to see if the tax could be for one year only and then evaluate it. Mayor Eisenhauer responded the ordinances do not include a sunset

clause and it will take at least five years to demolish 400 structures so the Administration would not want to endorse a one year program as there would not be a huge impact demolishing 50-60 structures in a one year period. Alderman Pickering questioned how the City sales tax rate compares to other cities. Mayor Eisenhauer responded we are typically higher because we do not have many other taxes that other communities have in effect such as utility tax and others. Mayor Eisenhauer stated many communities comparable to our size have a utility tax. Alderman O'Kane requested asterisks be place on items listed in the budget that have had changes and is opposed to the .75% increase. Alderman Williams stated he supports the goal, but not the means and requested a spreadsheet showing a 2% reduction in the budget for anything we have discretion over and would also like to see a list of taxes created or increased or fees increased. Alderman Duncheon asked how much sales tax leaks out to other communities and how much is paid by non-Danville residents. Mayor Eisenhauer responded he will ask Director Haugen to address the Council with those figures. Comptroller Lewis reminded Committee members the proposed sales tax increase does not balance the budget nor include the stormwater management plan. After all questions were addressed and there being no further discussion, the roll call vote being:

Ayes: Aldermen Cooper, O'Kane, Pickering, Puhr

Nays: Alderman Williams

Absent: Aldermen Strebing, Randle

Motion carried 4 to 1 with 2 absent.

#12-A-2) Chairman Puhr presented an ordinance amending Chapter 116 Pertaining to Sales Tax, to increase City Sales Tax from 2.25% to 3.00%, effective January 1, 2017. Vice Chairman Cooper moved to dispense with the reading and asked for approval, seconded by Alderman O'Kane. There being no questions or discussion, the roll call vote being:

Ayes: None

Nays: Aldermen Williams, Cooper, O'Kane, Pickering, Puhr

Absent: Aldermen Strebing, Randle

Motion failed 0 to 5 with 2 absent.

#12-B) Chairman Puhr presented an ordinance amending Ordinance 8267 and Chapter 113 Pertaining to Simplified Municipal Telecommunications Tax and Capital Improvement Fund, to repeal Section 4 of Ordinance 8267 in its entirety and amend Section 113.06 (A) The proceeds of the tax imposed by this Chapter shall be deposited in the Capital Improvement Fund of the City and (B) Disbursements of the proceeds shall be for municipal purposes for capital goods, project and improvements. Vice Chairman Cooper moved to dispense with the reading and asked for approval, seconded by Alderman Pickering. Mayor Eisenhauer stated the ordinance includes taking 100% of the telecommunications tax and put it towards capital purchases and eliminate the 35% that is currently earmarked for neighborhood revitalization. After all questions were addressed and there being no further discussion, the roll call vote being:

Ayes: Aldermen Cooper, O'Kane, Pickering, Williams, Puhr

Nays: None

Absent: Aldermen Strebing, Randle

Motion carried 5 to 0 with 2 absent.

#13 CLOSED SESSION was not needed.

#14 COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS

- Alderman Williams stated once a tax is implemented it never goes away.
- Alderman O'Kane announced members of the Knights of Columbus will be on the streets this upcoming Friday and Saturday for their Tootsie Roll drive soliciting donations for the intellectually disabled which include programs at Danville High School and other schools in the area.

- Mayor Eisenhauer announced the City will be receiving the "Bike Illinois" award due to the participation with the "Bike with the Mayor" campaign held earlier this year. Mayor Eisenhauer, Ross Hilleary, and Chris Milliken will be attending the "Bike Illinois" banquet in Bloomington to accept the award on Monday, September 19th.

#15 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m. by acclamation after a motion by Alderman Pickering and a second by Alderman Williams.



Lisa K. Monson, City Clerk

Approved: 10/11/16

Posted Publicly: 10/12/16