

Fairfield, Illinois
Council Chambers, City Hall
Regular Meeting, 6:00 P.M.
Tuesday, April 14, 2020

Due to COVID-19 the City Council meeting was held with limited in-person attendance and others joined the meeting via phone conference.

Meeting called to order by Mayor Maguire at 6:00 P.M.

Prayer led by Mayor Maguire.

City Clerk Tina Hutchcraft called the roll:

Mayor: Brent Maguire

City Clerk: Tina Hutchcraft

City Attorney: Darrin Rice

Aldermen: Ralph Barbre; Brett Coale; Jim Griffith; Tyler Lampley; Eugene McGill; Jerry Lisenbee; Terry Stahl; Gary Moore

Also Present: Ken Otey, WFIW Radio; Keith Colclasure, Police Chief; Andrew Miller, Fire Chief; Flo Simpson; and others from the community.

The minutes of the meeting of March 24, 2020, agendas and bills of April 14, 2020 were sent out to those entitled to receive them. Mayor Maguire asked for approval of the minutes for the March 24, 2020 meeting. Motion by Alderman Stahl, seconded by Alderman McGill to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 24, 2020.

Vote yes: Lampley; Lisenbee; McGill; Moore; Stahl; Barbre; Coale; Griffith

Vote no: none

Mayor Maguire declared motion carried.

Mayor Maguire asked for approval to pay the bills for the April 14, 2020 meeting. A motion was made by Alderman Barbre, seconded by Alderman Coale to approve the bills for payment.

Vote yes: Lisenbee; McGill; Moore; Stahl; Barbre; Coale; Griffith; Lampley

Vote no: none

Mayor Maguire declared motion carried.

Approval of Sergeant Promotion – The police department has only had one sergeant for a while. Chief Colclasure has asked the Council to consider adding another sergeant to the department as there is a need for a night shift supervisor. Alderman Barbre made a motion, seconded by Alderman Moore to authorize the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners to promote a police officer to the rank of sergeant from the current eligibility list.

Vote yes: McGill; Moore; Stahl; Barbre; Coale; Griffith; Lampley; Lisenbee

Vote no: none

Mayor Maguire declared motion carried.

Approval of an Ordinance Repealing Ordinance No. 19-0813-180 and Reaffirming Section 3 of Ordinance No. 14-0624-72 and Reaffirming Ordinance No. 15-0210-89 – On August 13, 2019 the Council approved an ordinance which amended the allocation of estimated redevelopment costs based on a recommendation from Dan Schuering. Unfortunately, the amendment did not increase the total costs to reflect a longer term for TIF 1 and nullifying Ordinance No. 14-0624-72 that took into account the extended TIF term by increasing the total estimated redevelopment project costs. We need to rectify the conflicting amendment by repealing the ordinance approved on August 13, 2019 and reaffirm Ordinance No. 14-0624-72 and Ordinance No. 15-0210-89 in their entirety. A motion was made by Alderman Lampley, seconded by Alderman Coale to approve Ordinance No. 20-0414-206.

Vote yes: Moore; Stahl; Barbre; Coale; Griffith; Lampley; Lisenbee; McGill

Vote no: none

Mayor Maguire declared motion carried and Ordinance No. 20-0414-206 approved and duly adopted.

Approval of an Ordinance Repealing Ordinance No. 20-0114-192 and Approving an Addendum to the Redevelopment Agreement By and Between the City of Fairfield and Bullard's Farm Market and Bakery, LLC – At our January 14, 2020 meeting, we approved an ordinance that amended the original redevelopment agreement with Bullard's Farm Market & Bakery. The ordinance provided for a change in the start dated for a 48-month period of documenting interest cost incurred by Bullard's. The amendment limited the amount of interest cost reimbursement to no more than the property tax increment generated during the 48-month period after substantial completion of the project. The actual intent of the amendment was that the interest cost reimbursement limit would be based on the annual property incremental tax generated after the project was completed and fully assessed by the Wayne County Assessor. Mayor Maguire is asking the Council's approval to repeal the ordinance approved on January 14, 2020 and replace it with an addendum to the original agreement. The TIF Committee made a recommendation to approve this ordinance. A motion was made by Alderman Coale, seconded by Alderman Stahl to approve this ordinance.

Vote yes: Stahl; Barbre; Coale; Griffith; Lampley; Lisenbee; McGill; Moore

Vote no: none

Mayor Maguire declared motion carried and Ordinance No. 20-0414-207 approved and duly adopted.

Approval of Resolution to Authorize Distribution of Funds to the Taxing Bodies – There is a recommendation from the TIF Committee to distribute funds to the taxing bodies. The total amount of distribution is \$453,000 and will be distributed on a pro rata basis for each of the taxing bodies. The committee will most likely ask for Council to approve a second distribution of funds again in the fall. A motion was made by Alderman Lampley, seconded by Alderman Coale to approve this resolution.

Vote yes: Barbre; Coale; Griffith; Lampley; Lisenbee; McGill; Moore; Stahl

Vote no: none

Mayor Maguire declared motion carried and Resolution No. 20-0414-330 approved and duly adopted.

Amendments to the City of Fairfield Code of Ordinances – The Council discussed several amendments to the code of ordinances. Those who wish to make a public comment at a meeting will no longer be required to sign up prior to the Council meeting. The Council discussed the term of officers. One place in the code says an officer shall serve for a term of one year. Another section of the code states an officer shall serve for a term not to exceed that of the mayor. The Council feels the appointments of Collector, Chief of Police, Assistant Police Chief, Fire Chief, and Assistant Fire Chief should serve a term of one year and the Treasurer’s appointment should be for a term not to exceed that of the mayor. The position of mayor will now be listed as full-time. Attorney Rice also stated the legislative committee would like to see utility deposits put back in the code rather than service connection fees. After a customer pays their utility bill on time for 12 consecutive months the deposit would be returned to the customer. It was decided this ordinance needed to go back to the legislative committee for further discussion before Council takes any action.

Approval of \$2 Million Dollar Line of Credit – Because of the possible effects on local residents and businesses and their ability to pay utility bills, Mayor Maguire contacted each of the banks in Fairfield and asked them to give the City a rate quote on a line of credit that we could access if needed. The quotes received for a line of credit up to \$2 million dollars is as follows: Fairfield National Bank – 2.68%; First Financial Bank – 3.25%; People’s National Bank – 2.59%; and Clay City Banking Company – 2.25%. Mayor Maguire stated that if this is approved it could be used as a contingency plan if revenues fall short due the City because of COVID-19 and/or electrical issues. Any expenditures would have to be approved by the City Council. This would also replace the \$1 million dollar line of credit with FNB. A motion was made Alderman Coale, seconded by Alderman Barbre to approve a \$2 million dollar line of credit with Clay City Banking Company.

Vote yes: Griffith; Lampley; Lisenbee; McGill; Moore; Stahl; Barbre; Coale

Vote no: none

Mayor Maguire declared motion carried.

Authorize the Sale of City Equipment and Vehicles – Mayor Maguire asked for Council approval to seek bids for the sale of the following vehicles and equipment: a 1989 Ford F-350 dump truck; a 1999 Chevrolet HD 3500 dump truck with a \$1,500.00 minimum bid required; and a 1985 batwing mower. A motion was made by Alderman Griffith, seconded by Alderman Lampley to authorize seeking bids for the sale of these trucks and mower.

Vote yes: Lampley; Lisenbee; McGill; Moore; Stahl; Barbre; Coale; Griffith

Vote no: none

Mayor Maguire declared motion carried.

Discussion of Governor’s Stay at Home Order – Mayor Maguire stated we are still under the Governor’s Stay at Home Order until April 30th. He asked that residents continue to do their part in staying home except for essential needs, practicing proper social distancing, and don’t gather in large groups. He hopes to see some of the restrictions end soon.

Miscellaneous – Alderman McGill thanked Julie Duncan for her many years of service to the City of Fairfield. She plans to retire at the end of the month.

Miscellaneous – Alderman Coale stated that based upon the COVID pandemic the Council may need to consider the possibility of having to cancel the city band this summer as well as the fireworks. It will be at least a year before a vaccine is developed and he feels there will still be a need for social distancing. We will try to get some direction from the health department before we make a decision. We will also check with the fireworks company about our options.

Adjourn Meeting – Motion by Alderman Moore, seconded by Alderman McGill to adjourn the meeting.

Vote yes: 8

Vote no: 0

Mayor Maguire declared meeting adjourned at 7: 24 p.m.

Tina Hutchcraft, City Clerk

Brent Maguire, Mayor