



City Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 21, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.
In the library meeting room at Five Points, 360 N. Wilmor Road, Washington, Illinois

Call to Order Mayor Manier called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with a quorum present.

Roll Call Present: Alderpersons Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Dingledine, Schone, Stevens and Yoder
Absent: Alderperson Adams

Also Present Mayor Gary Manier, City Engineer Dennis Carr, Planning and Development Director Jon Oliphant, Public Works Director Brian Rittenhouse, Finance Director Joanie Baxter, Police Chief Mike McCoy, City Clerk Valeri Brod, City Attorney Derek Schryer and Press

Pledge of Allegiance All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Manier.

Citizens Wishing to be Heard Jim Bremmer from Washington Township provided a summary of their new disability transit program. He shared that they had 287 rides in the last month and we are three months into a six-month program. He stated that they are hoping to see continued growth which will help keep it affordable.

Keith Ryder from the Central Illinois Agency on Aging shared that they are working with board members to help make Washington a dementia friendly community. He stated that Washington has good facilities and they want to see if there is interest. He noted that some current communities include Springfield and Decatur. Mr. Ryder stated that to become a dementia friendly community, different sectors need to work together like churches, police, fire, banking and more. He noted that there is a lot of help from Dementia Friendly Illinois and Dementia Friendly America. Mr. Ryder shared that they have presented to Washington Rotary and they spoke with the Chamber of Commerce. He provided handouts.

Mayor Manier shared his appreciation and stated that Terry Hillegonds is active in this program. Mayor Manier stated that Council would likely support this initiative.

Ester Endress, who lives on Jackson Street, shared that she feels changes to Jackson Street is unfathomable. She shared that she moved there to enjoy the dead-end street. She thinks connecting the streets could present safety issues at the park. Ms. Endress shared that the current bridge is well-used. She stated that she sees lots of use by kids going to and from Lincoln Grade School and the high school. She stated that she hasn't noticed any issues with the bridge and she has spoken to people who use it and they don't want the bridge to be removed.

Review Agenda for Deletions or Additions Nothing was added or deleted at this time.

Consent Agenda Mayor Manier presented the Consent Agenda for approval of the following items:

1. Approve Minutes of the November 7, 2022 Regular City Council Meeting
2. Approve Bills and Payroll
3. Accept Financial Reports for the Period Ended September 30, 2022
4. Approve Workers Compensation Renewal 2023

Alderperson Dingledine motioned to approve the Consent Agenda, Alderperson Butler seconded. On roll call vote was:
Ayes: 7 Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Dingledine, Schone, Stevens and Yoder
Nays: 0
Motion carried.

Announcements and Proclamations Mayor Manier introduced Police Chief McCoy who introduced officer Josh Sutter. Chief McCoy stated that Officer Sutter started on March 24, 2016 after being in the Army. Chief McCoy shared that Officer Sutter is married with a family and has received several distinguished awards. Chief McCoy introduced officer Henry Perrilles, who was sworn in this year. Chief McCoy shared that officer Perrilles came from Peoria County and is still in the training program. Chief McCoy introduced officer Steve Fletcher who was sworn in September 6, 2022. He shared that officer Fletcher is a lateral hire from Creve Coeur and has a lot of knowledge and experience. Chief McCoy hopes he can help out with younger officers.

Finance & Personnel Committee Finance and Personnel Committee Chairman Butler shared that there are no business items to bring forward at this time.

Public Safety Committee Public Safety Committee Acting Chairman Yoder shared that there are no business items to bring forward and introduced Police Chief McCoy to provide details regarding the purchase of police radios.

Item B-1 Chief McCoy stated that Council had previously approved the purchase of 31 radios. Chief McCoy stated that they would like to increase the purchase to 35 radios for which they will
Purchas of Police Radios

need \$145,979.87 instead of \$124,474.28. A DCEO Safety Grant will reimburse \$103,950.72 of the cost. These new radios will work with the new system that is coming to communities. Alderperson Yoder motioned to approve the purchase, Alderperson Schone seconded. On roll call vote was:

Ayes: 7 Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Dingledine, Schone, Stevens and Yoder

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

**Public Works
Committee**

Item C-1
*Jackson Street Pedestrian
Bridge Follow-up
Discussion*

Public Works Committee Chairman Brownfield City Engineer Dennis Carr to provide details.

City Engineer Dennis Carr noted that this has been discussed previously and Council had requested that they review the option of demolishing the bridge. He shared that the legal team reviewed it for ADA concerns and they are comfortable with the idea of removing the bridge. Mr. Carr stated that staff is providing three options which are 1) replacing the bridge, 2) removing the bridge, and 3) extending Jackson Street to Hamilton through a portion of the park that is City right of way. Mr. Carr stated that the benefit to extending the road would be for fire, rescue, and garbage use. He shared that if pedestrians need use an alternate route, it would increase the distance from 1,900 feet to 3,000 feet and everyone who uses the alternate bridge would need to walk in the road or a yard.

City Administrator Jim Snider noted that this was discussed in September and legal review was requested due to ADA information. The attorney provided the information and staff would like further discussion. Mr. Snider stated that any type of new construction with a major road would be a significant budget item and this will likely not be decided tonight but likely brought forth in December. Alderperson Yoder and Planning and Development Director Oliphant clarified that the motion is to bring it forward to the December meeting. Alderperson Yoder motioned to move this item to the Committee of the Whole, Alderperson Stevens seconded.

Alderperson Schone noted that extending the road will help with wear and tear. He clarified with Mr. Carr that this is not a designed bridge but rather a prefabricated bridge. Alderperson Stevens asked about the Dallas Road bridge that goes over the road. It was clarified that this would be similar to the pedestrian bridge along Dallas Road. On roll call vote was:

Ayes: 7 Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Dingledine, Schone, Stevens and Yoder

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

The following staff updates were provided:

City Administrator Snider shared that the current boil order was posted to many places and the issue was remedied. He shared that the water test will go out tomorrow and hopefully lift the boil order on Wednesday. He also noted the potential delay that could take place if the test was done too soon. Mr. Snider shared that he spoke to Dr. Freeman and they are prepared for the Tournament of Champions and have ordered extra water. Mr. Snider stated that the water is safe but should be boiled out of an abundance of caution.

Public Works Director Brian Rittenhouse shared that salt delivery started today with 750 tons, they are still televising sewer for maintenance, and Hoerr is working on the CIPP lining.

Mr. Carr shared that Hilldale is paved and the landscaper is bringing in topsoil and sod on Wednesday. He also shared that the stormwater team is assembling smaller crews for projects and staff will meet with IDOT to discuss Nofsinger soon.

Mr. Oliphant shared that they are planning to hold a design workshop on December 7th but they are still firming up hours.

Mayor

Mayor Manier shared that due to a vacancy on the Planning and Zoning Commission, he brings forward the appointment of John Shelton to take the place of Lindsay Rodriguez. Alderperson Dingledine motioned to approve the appointment, Alderperson Brownfield seconded.

Alderperson Stevens stated that there has been no communication about this appointment and she doesn't know anything about him. Mayor Manier shared that Mr. Shelton expressed interest in running for Ward 4 originally and he owns his own business. Alderperson Stevens asked if there is an application process. Mayor Manier shared that he had several conversations about his interest. On roll call vote was:

Ayes: 7 Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Dingledine, Schone, Stevens and Yoder

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Mayor Manier read aloud the Small Business Saturday Proclamation.

Alderperson Stevens motioned to approve the proclamation, Alderperson Schone seconded. On roll call vote was:

Ayes: 7 Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Dingledine, Schone, Stevens and Yoder

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

City Administrator

Resolution:
*Making Determination
Pursuant to Truth-In-
Taxation Act for 2022
Property Tax Levy*

City Administrator Jim Snider provided the following Resolution: A resolution making the determination pursuant to the Truth-In-Taxation-Act for the City of Washington, Tazewell County, Illinois for the 2022 property tax levy.

Mr. Snider shared that this is a state statute for 2023. He stated that we anticipated a 3.88% growth in the EAV and there is not a recommendation to raise the rate. This is a resolution that

Council has reviewed the information and an ordinance will come forward at the December meetings. On roll call vote was:

Ayes: 7 Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Dingleline, Schone, Stevens and Yoder

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Resolution:
*223 Property Farm Lease
Second Amendment*

City Administrator Jim Snider provided the following Resolution: A resolution authorizing the execution of a second amendment to cash rent farm lease with Aaron Vercler.

Mr. Snider explained that this is a renewal of the current lease and this was discussed at the Committee of the Whole meeting.

Alderson Brownfield motioned to approve the resolution; Alderson Stevens seconded.

Alderson Stevens asked about how this impacts Nofsinger Road and the possible amphitheater. She asked if there has been a feasibility study and if the mayor could give an update. Mayor Manier stated that he hasn't talked to the developer yet. Alderson Stevens asked how this would affect the farm lease. Mayor Manier stated that there are provisions written in the lease. Mr. Oliphant shared that we have the ability to terminate the lease with the farmer with ten days' notice to the farmer. He noted that the County Farm Bureau or the U of I Extension would help determine the expenses that would occur if planting was interrupted. On roll call vote was:

Ayes: 7 Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Dingleline, Schone, Stevens and Yoder

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Resolution:
*Declaring Surplus
Property*

City Administrator Jim Snider provided the following Resolution: A resolution declaring the used on-road/off-road fuel tank to be "surplus property".

He shared that we had a contractor offer to pay for the fuel tank instead of scrapping it, so we thought we should get other bids. If this resolution passes, it will be presented as an ordinance with a request to waive the second reading.

Alderson Dingleline motioned to approve the resolution, Alderson Schone seconded.

On roll call vote was:

Ayes: 7 Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Dingleline, Schone, Stevens and Yoder

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

2nd Reading Ordinance:
*Chapter 152 Code
Amendment: Removing
City-Mandated Curb and
Sidewalk Replacement
Program*

City Administrator Jim Snider provided the following Ordinance: An ordinance amending the subdivision code to remove the City-mandated sidewalk and curb replacement program.

Mr. Snider noted that this has been discussed at prior meetings and it was deemed not practical.

Alderson Dingleline motioned to approve the ordinance; Alderson Brownfield seconded.

Alderson Stevens stated that she is concerned about not having a recourse when a sidewalk is in disrepair that there isn't a remedy like there is in other areas in the city code. She stated that by approving this, the City would have no say in a sidewalk being repaired and there is no fine. Mr. Snider stated that nothing precludes the City from replacing a sidewalk and this is simply regarding the City mandating the owner to replace the sidewalk.

Alderson Stevens expressed concern for residents waiting until their sidewalks are in disrepair. Mr. Snider noted that his experience has shown that this will drive change to improve the area and the City can address situations when they see need.

Attorney Schreyer noted that sidewalks are part of the right away and would be considered.

Alderson Stevens stated that she is okay with removing the word, knowing that the city is replacing sidewalks. Alderson Blundy asked for more conversations as to the way the City would not be on the hook for all the sidewalks.

Mayor Manier asked if this is similar to having the City mow a yard and charging the owners.

Mr. Oliphant stated the he would look into further legal issues. On roll call vote was:

Ayes: 7 Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Dingleline, Schone, Stevens and Yoder

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

2nd Reading Ordinance:
*Chapter 154 Code
Amendment: Building
Height*

City Administrator Jim Snider provided the following Ordinance: An ordinance amending the code of ordinances of the City of Washington, Illinois by amending Chapter 154.004 entitled "Definitions"

Alderson Brownfield motioned to approve the ordinance, Alderson Schone seconded.

On roll call vote was:

Ayes: 7 Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Dingleline, Schone, Stevens and Yoder

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

2nd Reading Ordinance:
*W. Holland/S. Wood
Purchase and Sale
Agreement*

City Administrator Jim Snider provided the following Ordinance: An ordinance authorizing an agreement for the sale of a parcel near the intersection of S. Wood Street and W. Holland Street, Washington, Illinois.

Alderson Dingleline motioned to approve the ordinance, Alderson Stevens seconded.

On roll call vote was:

Ayes: 7 Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Dingleline, Schone, Stevens and Yoder

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

1st Reading Ordinance:
*Authorizing the Sale of
Surplus Property (Request
to Waive Second Reading)*

City Administrator Jim Snider provided the following Ordinance: An ordinance authorizing the sale of one used on-road/off-road fuel tank designated as “surplus property”. Alderperson Brownfield motioned to waive the second reading; Alderperson Butler seconded. On roll call vote was:
Ayes: 7 Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Dingleline, Schone, Stevens and Yoder
Nays: 0
Motion carried.

Alderperson Brownfield motioned to approve the ordinance; Alderperson Stevens seconded. On roll call vote was:
Ayes: 7 Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Dingleline, Schone, Stevens and Yoder
Nays: 0
Motion carried.

1st Reading Ordinance:
*Animal and Rabies Control
Contract*

City Administrator Jim Snider provided the following Ordinance: An ordinance authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk of the City of Washington, Tazewell County, Illinois, to enter into an intergovernmental agreement between the City of Washington and County of Tazewell for animal and rabies control services.

Alderperson’s Comments

Alderperson Stevens referenced saying that appeared on a recent newsletter. She asked that whenever there is a mayoral appointment, they receive information prior to the meeting. Alderperson Brownfield congratulated to the Washington High School Girls Cross Country team on a great season. Alderperson Yoder shared that the Tournament of Champions starts tomorrow and goes to Saturday night. He noted that 25 teams will be there including local and teams from Indiana Wisconsin, Florida, Texas and California. He invited everyone to come.

Adjournment

At 7:17 p.m. Alderperson Schone moved and Alderperson Brownfield seconded to adjourn.
Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.



Valeri L. Brod, City Clerk