

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MONDAY – JANUARY 13, 2020, LIBRARY MEETING ROOM
380 N. WILMOR ROAD, WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS**

Mayor Manier called the regular Committee of the Whole meeting of January 13, 2020 to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Library meeting room at Five Points Washington.

Present: Aldermen Adams, Black, Brownfield, Butler, Cobb, Dingledine, Stevens, and Yoder.

Absent: None.

Also present: City Administrator Forsythe, Finance Director Baxter, Public Works Director Schone, P & D Director Oliphant, Police Chief McCoy, City Treasurer Dingledine, and City Clerk Brown.

MINUTES

1. Aldermen wishing to be heard – None.
2. Citizens wishing to be heard – None.
3. Approval of Minutes: Alderman Cobb moved and Alderman Black seconded to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
4. **BUSINESS ITEMS**
 - A. Chamber of Commerce Update – Eric Obalil provided an update on the Chamber’s recent activity noting that their Nov/Dec Chamber gift certificate sales saw a \$5K increase in sales from the previous year and they believe it is due to their new location at the Park District building on Spruce Street. He shared that Park District staff have been selling them during the hours they are open when the Chamber office is closed. He shared they have been working on a new City map that should be ready soon and thanked P & D Director Oliphant for his help as well as the help the Washington Courier has provided. He indicated that this year they will not have a need to dip into reserve funds, reporting a 17% increase in memberships and a 7.5% increase in member levels where current members are moving their memberships to higher levels to receive more benefits. He shared as part of their 2017 Strategic Planning they moved their core focus and members are seeing value in the benefits provided. He shared that Alderman Brownfield, Alderman Black, and City Administrator Forsythe are also meeting with the Chamber on a regular basis as well.
 - B. Fire Department – ISO (Insurance Services Office) Rating Presentation – Fire Chief Roger Traver provided a PowerPoint presentation on the recent ISO Rating Audit that was completed where they improved their rating from a 5 to 4. He went over the earned credit categories that included 1) Emergency Communications, earning 7.19 points out of 10; 2) Fire Department, earning 29.36 out of 50; and 3) Water Supply, earning 27.26 out of 40; 4) Divergence factor of -1.89 (mathematical reduction of score based upon the relative difference between the fire department and water supply scores); and Community Risk Reduction, earning 2.95 out of 5.50. The total earned credit is 64.87 out of an available 105.5, giving a Final Community Classification rating of 04/4Y. Following the presentation, Alderman Dingledine expressed his appreciation for the level of dedication that is given to the community and sees staffing needs as a topic to begin thinking about for the future. Kevin Byrd shared that numbers are up and it shows where the Fire Department is with quality personnel making for a strong Department staff.
 - C. Intersection Lighting LED Upgrades (Various Locations), Laser Electric – Public Works Director Schone shared that Laser Electric completed intersection lighting LED upgrades at the Business 24 and Cummings intersection in May of 2019 and has approached the City to upgrade the additional (8) intersections the City has maintenance responsibility for. He shared the cost of improvements is quoted at \$27K which would not be a planned expenditure but there are sufficient funds in the budget if the

project is approved. He shared that since June of 2019 \$12K has been paid out to Laser Electric for maintenance at the various intersection locations and if new lighting is installed it will be more efficient and less problematic moving forward. He shared that Ameren incentives have come down about half of what they were offering in July of 2019 and we would not know the amount of the incentive until the project is completed. He shared that Laser is the approved contractor for IDOT and the project has been designed and approved by IDOT. He asked for Committee direction to either move this forward this FY or wait until next FY, noting that it's possible incentives may not be there next FY. Several concerns were shared on the intersections that would be impacted by the Business 24 reconstruction project that is coming and what the impact might be if we were to go ahead now with the lighting upgrades. Several commented that they would prefer to see a business proposal that shows what the City is spending on metered power, what maintenance costs are, and what the payback would be on the investment. Following discussion, Public Works Director Schone indicated he would reach out to Laser Electric on what the impact would be with the upcoming Business 24 reconstruction and bring forward a business proposal showing the above-mentioned cost detail as well.

D. Budget Schedule Review – City Administrator Forsythe reviewed the proposed budget schedule for FY20-21 and summarized the direction he is wanting to take through the budgeting process. He indicated a balanced budget will be brought forward that meets the goals of City Council and asked that any questions or comments be sent directly to him.

5. Other Business – None.

6. At 7:18 p.m. Alderman Cobb moved and Alderman Brownfield seconded to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.



Patricia S. Brown, City Clerk