

The City Council of Gilbertville, Iowa met in Regular Session on Monday, July 15, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall with Mayor Fischels calling the meeting to order. Council members present: Thome, Kavalier, Savage, Meinert and Becker. Quorum present.

Rita Becker gave the invocation and Mayor Fischels led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion by Thome, seconded by Savage to approve the July 15, 2013 regular session agenda. Ayes - Five. Motion carried.

Approve Agenda

Motion by Thome, seconded by Becker to approve the following items listed on the consent agenda: 1) Minutes of the July 1, 2013 regular meeting; 2) Resolution 2013-864 authorizing payment of bills; and 3) Clerk/Treas. Report for the month of June, 2013; 4) Approval of application from Brian Weber to the Gilbertville Volunteer Fire Department. Ayes – Five. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda

Public Comment: Bill Bohneman questioned how the part-time hire at the Public Works Department managed to work at Gilbertville with a full-time job. PWD Delagardelle stated that she is getting hours working Saturday mornings and week nights. PWD Delagardelle stated that Brenda works as he needs her to complete various reports.

Public Comment

The Deputy City Clerk reported that Maggie Burger of Speer Financial, Inc. had prepared details related to the sale of General Obligation Refunding Bonds by the City, and that it was necessary for the Council to review those details and set the date for the sale of such bonds. After due consideration and discussion, Council Member Thome introduced Resolution 2013-865 setting date of sale of bonds for July 31, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. and moved its adoption, seconded by Council Member Savage. The Mayor put the question upon the adoption of said resolution, and the roll being called, the following Council Members voted: Ayes: Thome, Kavalier, Savage, Meinert, and Becker. Nays: None. Whereupon, the Mayor declared the resolution duly adopted.

Res 2013-865 GO Bond

Motion by Becker, seconded by Meinert setting date of public hearing for August 5, 2013 to consider Resolution 2013-866 granting a variance of seven-foot (7) side yard setback requirement for Jack & Vicki Carlson. They want to add on to their garage. Ayes – Five. Motion carried.

Set Date Variance PH

Motion by Meinert, seconded by Thome setting date of public hearing for August 5, 2013 to consider Resolution 2013-867 for Local Option Sales & Service Tax (LOST) to be effective January 1, 2016.

Set Date LOST PH

Police Coverage was deliberated. Councilman Savage stated that he sent an e-mail to all the city council members. He has an ad for the position if that's the way the Council wants to go, but it needs cleaned up. Need to decide if Council wants to stay with local police department or go with County coverage. Right now Black Hawk County is providing emergency coverage at no extra cost. There has already been interest expressed for the position. Hours of coverage would depend on how the Council sets up the Department, with one to three part-time officers. Dan Wagner stated that he has witnessed the sheriff sitting on his block in view of one of the few businesses in town that is bringing in revenue. Councilwoman Meinert replied that the sheriff had stated that they would be around town a little more to get a feel for what the traffic flow is like, especially with all the construction traffic going through town now. Councilman Savage explained that they cannot legally target bars. Councilmembers Thome and Meinert stated that they wanted to see applications to determine the kinds of people interested. The Mayor said that we need to have a policy in place showing hours worked. Councilman Becker stated he would like to see thirty to forty hours. Councilman Savage said that a budget of forty hours a week could be split among three part-time officers, i.e. a part-time chief and one or two part-time patrol officers. Councilman Becker stated that there are retired officers that would be interested in a part-time job. Motion by Becker, seconded by Thome to place an ad in the paper for a part-time police chief fifteen to twenty hours per week, salary commensurate with experience. Ayes – Five. Motion carried. Councilman Savage has an ad we can work off of. Councilman Becker suggested that we include Attorney McCoy in the process to ensure appropriate qualifications are included.

Police Coverage

Discussion on the idle police cell phone determined that it could be cost effective to cancel the entire plan. Motion by Thome, seconded by Kavalier to cancel the entire plan and provide \$40 per month allowance to Jeff Thome and he can keep his current phone. Ayes – Five. Motion carried. Reasonable start-up cost would also be covered.

US Cell Plan-
idle PD
phone

Item six, discussion/action regarding appraisal of three lots in Gilbertville, required no action. This was simply confirmation that the appraisal could legally be provided.

Appraisals

Councilman Thome stated that PWD Delagardelle had asked if in the interval without police coverage the Council wanted the PWD to write parking tickets. There have been increased parking violations over the last few weeks. There are always problems during softball and football seasons. The City of Waterloo has “civilians” issuing parking tickets. Attorney McCoy’s opinion is that the City has state statutory authority to issue parking tickets. The City can appoint Brian and Jeff as parking-enforcement officers by Resolution. They are around town more than anyone else. PWD Delagardelle stated that he had a complaint about a camper parked behind the curve. Councilman Savage stated that there were also problems with parking on easements. He said that if the PWD is going to issue tickets they should have a vest or some way to identify themselves. The City should also establish a job description. Consensus to contact Attorney McCoy and have a resolution prepared for consideration at the next council meeting.

Parking
Tickets

Department Head Updates: PWD Delagardelle said that he has been working with a different engineer, Fox Engineering, on the wastewater treatment project. They called last week with an approximate price. There are a lot of changes that should be made. After discussion, Bill Claassen agreed, i.e. using chlorine disinfectant instead of the more costly UV and possibly turning the lagoon into an equalization basin. There are many more options to be reviewed. Fox gave a ballpark figure and want approval to get started with the contract. They will have a contract ready by the first of August and would like to come to the next meeting. At that time they will have a better cost estimate. There are some differences in the contingency fees from the first estimate. PWD Delagardelle and Mr. Claassen had 10% for contingency fees where Fox Engineering had 30% with makes a large difference on a \$2,500,000 project.

Department
Head updates

Mr. Claassen is moving forward with well number four. PWD Delagardelle thought he would also be presenting a contract soon.

Kluesner Construction filled cracks in the street four or five years ago. They will soon have estimates on cost to fill cracks again. This keeps water out from under the streets to keep them from heaving in the winter.

In response to a question, Councilman Becker stated that the council is looking a buying land simply because someday a new fire station may be required and the City does not own any land to build it on.

Councilman Thome asked about progress on the backstop at the ball diamond. PWD Delagardelle said that would be completed when ball season is over. PWD Delagardelle said that park clean-up is still on their list. Part of it was flooded so there is debris. There are Green Scene trees to replace damaged trees. PWD Delagardelle said there have been some weed complaints. He will get the information to the Clerk’s office so letters can be sent.

Motion by Thome, seconded by Meinert to adjourn at 7:48 p.m. Ayes – Five. Motion carried.

Adjourn

Harry Fischels, Mayor

ATTEST: _____

Jane Walters, Deputy City Clerk