

The City Council of Gilbertville, Iowa met in Regular Session on Monday, September 16, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall with Mayor Fischels calling the meeting to order. Council members present: Thome, Kavalier, Meinert and Becker. Absent – Savage. Quorum present.

Carolyn Schmit gave the invocation and Mayor Fischels led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion by Thome, seconded by Meinert to approve the September 16, 2013 regular session agenda. Ayes - Four. Motion carried.

Approve Agenda

Motion by Meinert, seconded by Kavalier to approve the following items listed on the consent agenda: 1) Minutes of the September 3, 2013 regular meeting; 2) Resolution 2013-880 authorizes payment of bills and transfers; 3) Clerk/Treas. Report for month of August 2013. Ayes – Four. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda

Public Comment: Dave McGlaughlin, police applicant from North Liberty, asked what plans Council had for police coverage. Councilwoman Meinert stated that Councilman Savage had indicated that he talked to Waterloo Police Department about providing coverage. She also stated that her preference is still to have a City Police Department. Those constituents she had talked to agreed. Councilman Becker stated that the consensus of the Council had been to look for applicants. The last he knew, background checks were being done and interviews would be held. Mayor Fischels said that was where the process stands now. Councilman Becker stated that the applicants need to be informed whether the process is continuing or not. Mayor Fischels stated that he is not running for reelection and thinks the new mayor should make the decision. Things should start moving more quickly in November. Mr. McGlaughlin indicated that he was still interested in the position.

Public Comment

Motion by Thome, seconded by Meinert to set time and date for Halloween “Trick or Treating” for Thursday, October 31, 2013 from 5 until 7 p.m. Ayes – Four. Motion carried.

Trick or Treat

Deputy City Clerk Walters informed Council that the Clerk would not be available for the IMFOA conference as she has not been released by her doctor. Motion by Becker, seconded by Kavalier to approve Deputy Clerk to attend the Iowa Municipal Finance Officers Association (IMFOA) conference in Des Moines at the Holiday Inn Airport, October 16-18, 2013. Ayes – Four. Motion carried. Councilman Becker questioned whether Council approval is needed for the three or four conferences that are attended every year by the Clerk’s office or the Public Works Department. Councilman Thome stated that the main reason was to ensure the Council was aware that personnel would be gone. Councilman Becker suggested that over-night training or conferences should come to the Council, but one-day training could be approved by the appropriate Council representative. Council agreed.

IMFOA Conf.

Mayor addressed the recent “Peddlers” activity. Councilwoman Meinert stated that the peddlers fulfilled all the Ordinance requirements. Although some residents may have felt a little uneasy, they were polite and respectful to a resident she talked to. Deputy City Clerk Walters explained that she had gone through the Ordinance with them and they provided all the appropriate documents before being licensed. Councilman Thome asked if the Ordinance was changed, would the City have to allow peddlers. There are several residents that don’t want anyone knocking on their door. Councilman Becker questioned the cost of the license at five dollars. Perhaps the rate should be set to a more restrictive amount, like thirty or forty dollars. Mayor Fischels stated that you cannot outlaw all peddlers. Councilman Thome stated that technically the kids going door to door selling things are peddlers. Consensus by Council to put the Ordinance regarding peddlers on the agenda and consider changes based on what other towns are doing.

Peddlers

Councilman Becker suggested that the Closed Session should be the last item on the agenda. Department Reports should be addressed first. Consensus by Council and all parties involved in the Closed Session to re-arrange agenda.

Reports: PWD Delagardelle reported that he and Councilman Becker talked to Attorney John McCoy regarding the Fox Engineering contract. They are still working on insurance issues.

Dept. Reports

PWD Delagardelle said that Council had discussed curb and gutter with Dan Ramaker and the Beckers several months ago. PWD Delagardelle had discussed the issue with engineer Bill Claassen after that meeting. Mr. Claassen said that he needed more direction to determine how the City wants to handle this type of matter. The County indicates that if anything is done to their half of the road the City assumes all responsibility for the road and will have to maintain it. Mr. Ramaker had indicated that if the City was not going to force him to put in the curb, he didn't want it. Mr. Ramaker wants to know at what height to put his driveway. Councilman Thome questioned whether the City had agreed to recycled asphalt. Councilman Becker said that had been an option. PWD Delagardelle stated that recycled asphalt is no longer available. The Ramakers and Beckers have been maintaining the road with apple sap. No one has been in contact with the Beckers to see if they are still interested in the project. Councilman Becker stated that a curb should not be put in without a hard surface. PWD Delagardelle stated that even if recycled asphalt was available the Department doesn't have the equipment to maintain it. The County has always taken care of that section. Council consensus to invite the Ramakers and Beckers to the next Council meeting to discuss curb and gutter. Councilman Thome requested PWD Delagardelle to ask Mr. Claassen for his best explanation (of the issues with curb and gutter) for the next meeting.

PWD Delagardelle explained that a salesman had visited him regarding a sidewalk assessment. There are some bad sidewalks in town. The assessment is done at no cost to the City and includes the entire sidewalk system. LaPorte City, Evansdale, and Dunkerton had the assessment done. It should be on the next agenda.

Dept. Reports

PWD Delagardelle stated that the fence in front of the water tower need fixing and there is dirt missing. The City has the material to do this. PWD Delagardelle got an estimate of fifteen hundred dollars (\$1,500) to put the six-foot chain-link fence in with two gates.

PWD Delagardelle said that Claassen's field inspector did not recommend LED lights on anything other than stop, yield or other directional and/or regulatory signs. He suggested green fluorescent signs. Prison Industries agreed. The LED signs would be expensive and difficult to find. PWD Delagardelle will get price on the fluorescent signs.

Fire Chief Curt Bovy stated he is still dealing with RC Systems to get the sirens working. All that sounds now is the tornado siren, not fire or civil defense. New controls were put in by a former Fire Chief. The system hasn't worked correctly since and RC Systems has not been able to fix it. The siren works if manually controlled at the box. It was suggested that Chief Bovy have Mike Dudley work on the siren.

Councilman Thome commented that the rocks added at the entrance signs to town look good. The irrigation at Memorial Park should be installed on Friday. Councilman Thome drew attention to the information from Attorney McCoy "re-clarifying" raises ("the Gilbertville City Council has the discretion to approve or deny any employee salary increase"). Councilman Thome would like to see using the formal written performance evaluations to determine raises.

Entrance signs, Irrigation, Raises

Councilwoman Meinert stated that Fire Prevention Week is October 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> with an Open House at the Fire Station on Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> from 5 to 7. Also, the Gilbertville Fire Association Steak Supper Fund Raiser is on October 5<sup>th</sup>, Saturday night at the Moose Lodge in Washburn from 5 to 8. The information will be on the back of the water bills.

Motion by Thome, seconded by Becker to go into closed session pursuant to Iowa Code section 21.5 (j) to discuss the purchase of real estate at 7:30 p.m. Ayes – Four. Motion carried. Closed session was held. Motion by Becker, seconded by Meinert to return to open session at 7:56 p.m. Roll call vote. Ayes – Four. Motion carried.

Closed Session.

Motion by Thome, seconded by Meinert to adjourn at 7:57 p.m. Ayes – Four. Motion carried.

Adjourn

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Harry Fischels, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Jane Walters, Deputy City Clerk