

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE NORMAL TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, NORMAL CITY HALL, 100 EAST PHOENIX AVENUE, NORMAL, MCLEAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS – MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2008.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Chris Koos called the Regular Meeting of the Normal Town Council to order at 7:05 p.m., Monday, November 17, 2008.

2. ROLL CALL:

The Clerk called the roll with the following persons physically

PRESENT: Mayor Chris Koos and Councilmembers Sonja Reece, Adam Nielsen, Jeff Fritzen, Chuck Scott, Jason Chambers, and Cheryl Gaines. Also present were City Manager Mark Peterson, Assistant City Manager Pamela Reece, Corporation Counsel Steve Mahrt, and Town Clerk Wendy Briggs.

ABSENT: None.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Koos led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

4. OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA:

Mayor Koos excused himself from voting on any bills he may have incurred while performing his Mayoral duties.

Councilmember Reece excused herself from voting on any bills submitted by BroMenn Healthcare and any bills she may have incurred while performing Council duties.

Items C, F, and K were removed from the Omnibus Vote Agenda.

MOTION:

Councilmember Fritzen moved, seconded by Councilmember Gaines, the Council Approve the Omnibus Vote Agenda.

AYES: Reece, Nielsen, Fritzen, Scott, Chambers, Gaines, Koos.

NAYS: None.

Motion declared carried.

A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 3, 2008: Omnibus Vote.

B. APPROVAL OF TOWN OF NORMAL EXPENDITURES FOR PAYMENT AS OF NOVEMBER 12, 2008: Omnibus Vote.

D. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT FOR ADDITIONAL WORK TO CORE CONSTRUCTION FOR THE COLLEGE AVENUE PARKING DECK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$52,212 AND APPROVAL OF THE ASSOCIATED BUDGET ADJUSTMENT: Resolution No. 4288: Omnibus Vote.

- E. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A MODIFIED INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT PERTAINING TO THE USE OF A POLICE SHOOTING RANGE FACILITY WITH THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON AND COUNTY OF MCLEAN: Resolution No. 4289:
Omnibus Vote.
- G. RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON THE DESIGNATION OF A PORTION OF THE TOWN OF NORMAL (PROPOSED ONE NORMAL PLAZA REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA) AS A REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA AND TO INDUCE DEVELOPMENT INTEREST WITHIN SUCH AREA: Resolution No. 4290: Omnibus Vote.
- H. RESOLUTION APPROVING A WAIVER FROM A PORTION OF THE PARKLAND AND SCHOOL LAND FEES FOR THE WILLOW TRAILS PUD:
Resolution No. 4291: Omnibus Vote.
- I. RESOLUTION CONDITIONALLY APPROVING AN AMENDED PRELIMINARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR CONSTITUTION TRAIL CENTRE PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT – TACO BELL SITE:
Resolution No. 4292: Omnibus Vote.
- J. RESOLUTION CONDITIONALLY AND PARTIALLY APPROVING AN AMENDED FINAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE ONE NORMAL PLAZA PUD (Y DORM PARKING LOT): Resolution No. 4293: Omnibus Vote.

5. ITEMS REMOVED FROM OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA:

- C. MOTION TO REJECT A BID TO REPLACE THE ENTRY STAIRS AT THE FIRE STATION HEADQUARTERS BUILDING:

MOTION:

Councilmember Scott moved, seconded by Councilmember Reece, the Council Approve the Motion to Reject a Bid to Replace the Entry Stairs at the Fire Station Headquarters Building.

Councilmember Scott questioned the consequences of rejecting this bid and expressed concern with leaving hazardous stairs at the Fire Station. City Manager Mark Peterson responded various alternatives were being investigated and the repairs would be made.

AYES: Reece, Nielsen, Fritzen, Scott, Chambers, Gaines, Koos.

NAYS: None.

Motion declared carried.

- F. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT TO TERMINATE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT MAIN STREET CORRIDOR: Resolution No. 4294:

MOTION:

Councilmember Scott moved, seconded by Councilmember Reece, the Council Adopt a Resolution Authorizing Execution of an Agreement to Terminate Intergovernmental Agreement for the Main Street Corridor.

Councilmember Scott posed questions for clarification purposes, which were responded to by Corporation Counsel Steve Mahrt.

AYES: Reece, Nielsen, Fritzen, Scott, Chambers, Gaines, Koos.

NAYS: None.

Motion declared carried.

K. ORDINANCE REGULATING COMCAST BASIC CABLE RATES:

MOTION:

Councilmember Chambers moved, seconded by Councilmember Reece, the Council Approve the Ordinance Regulating Comcast Basic Cable Rates.

Councilmember Chambers indicated he shared the concerns expressed by Mr. Armstrong and Mr. Irving in the Public Hearing held prior to the Council Meeting. Councilmember Chambers questioned if Comcast could increase the fees if the Council did not approve the proposed Ordinance. Corporation Counsel Steve Mahrt responded the Council could reject the increase, and Comcast would have to appeal the decision to the FCC.

Councilmember Fritzen posed questions concerning the amount of authority the Council actually had, which questions were responded to by Corporation Counsel Steve Mahrt. Councilmember Nielsen questioned if anyone was present representing Comcast. City Manager Mark Peterson responded Comcast had not sent a representative to the meeting.

Councilmember Reece indicated the need to keep what authority the Council did have, as in the past it has served as a platform for a dialogue with the Company in keeping certain cable channels available in the area.

Considerable Council discussion ensued. Mayor Koos summarized the discussion indicating the Council expressed the need to get Comcast to “the table” to discuss concerns expressed by the citizens of Normal.

AYES: None.

NAYS: Reece, Nielsen, Fritzen, Scott, Chambers, Gaines, Koos.

Motion declared failed.

GENERAL ORDERS

6. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH FARR ASSOCIATES FOR THE UNDERWOOD HOUSE FEASIBILITY STUDY AND APPROVING A BUDGET ADJUSTMENT: Resolution No. 4295:

MOTION:

Councilmember Gaines moved, seconded by Councilmember Scott, the Council Adopt the Resolution Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement with Farr Associates for the Underwood House Feasibility Study and Approving a Budget Adjustment.

Councilmember Fritzen posed questions concerning the scope of the feasibility study, expressing concerns with the costs involved. City Manager Mark Peterson responded to the questions and concerns posed by Councilmember Fritzen. Councilmember Nielsen

clarified the study did not obligate the Town to move forward with the project. City Manager Mark Peterson agreed this study did not obligate the Town to move forward with the project. Further Council discussion ensued.

Town Planner Mercy Davison indicated Heartland Community College may offer a renewable energy program and may be interested in partnering with the Town to offer a “hands-on” educational facility for the program at the Underwood House. Ms. Davison indicated more information would be available at a later date.

AYES: Reece, Nielsen, Fritzen, Scott, Chambers, Gaines, Koos.

NAYS: None.

Motion declared carried.

7. ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 15.7-2(C)(3)(a) OF THE TOWN OF NORMAL ZONING CODE (PARKING PADS): Ordinance No. 5221:

MOTION:

Councilmember Fritzen moved, seconded by Councilmember Scott, the Council Approve an Ordinance amending Section 15.7-2(C)(3)(a) of the Town of Normal Zoning Code (Parking Pads).

AYES: Reece, Nielsen, Fritzen, Scott, Chambers, Gaines, Koos.

NAYS: None.

Motion declared carried.

8. ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE 2008 PROPERTY TAX LEVY: Ordinance No. 5222:

MOTION:

Councilmember Reece moved, seconded by Councilmember Nielsen, the Council Approve the Ordinance Authorizing the 2008 Property Tax Levy.

Councilmember Nielsen commented on the proposed tax levy, indicating the Town of Normal’s share would remain the same for the next year.

AYES: Reece, Nielsen, Fritzen, Scott, Chambers, Gaines, Koos.

NAYS: None.

Motion declared carried.

9. ORDINANCES AUTHORIZING THE ABATEMENT OF 2008 PROPERTY TAXES FOR DEBT SERVICE: Ordinance Nos. 5223, 5224, 5225, 5226, 5227, and 5228.

MOTION:

Councilmember Scott moved, seconded by Councilmember Reece, the Council Approve the Ordinances Authorizing the Abatement of 2008 Property Taxes for Debt Service.

AYES: Reece, Nielsen, Fritzen, Scott, Chambers, Gaines, Koos.

NAYS: None.

Motion declared carried.

NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

10. CONCERNS:

1. TELEVISION SHOW CONCERNING CABLE CHANGES:

Councilmember Fritzen announced there would be a television show on WILL TV on Tuesday, November 25, 2008, at 9:00 p.m. which will address the change from analog television signals to digital television signals.

2. AVOIDING DRIVEWAYS ON MAJOR STREETS:

Councilmember Fritzen questioned staff regarding driveway access onto arterial and collector streets, which questions were responded to by City Manager Mark Peterson.

3. COUNCIL IN THE CLASSROOM:

Councilmember Nielsen indicated he had spent part of the day at Prairieland Elementary School in the kindergarten class and was very complimentary of the students.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Koos called for a Motion to Adjourn.

MOTION:

Councilmember Scott moved, seconded by Councilmember Chambers, the Regular Meeting of the Normal Town Council be Adjourned.

AYES: Reece, Nielsen, Fritzen, Scott, Chambers, Gaines, Koos.

NAYS: None.

Motion declared carried.

Mayor Chris Koos adjourned the Regular Meeting of the Normal Town Council at 7:55 p.m., Monday, November 17, 2008.