

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, FEBRUARY 16, 2009.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Chris Koos called the Regular Meeting of the Normal Town Council to order at 7:02 p.m., Monday, February 16, 2009.

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.

Councilmember Gaines excused herself from voting on any bills she may have incurred while performing her Council duties.

Item B was removed from the Omnibus Vote Agenda.

MOTION:

Councilmember Fritzen moved, seconded by Councilmember Nielsen, 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 FEBRUARY 2, 2009: Omnibus Vote.

C. MOTION TO AWARD THE BID FOR A BACKHOE LOADER FOR THE WATER DEPARTMENT TO MARTIN EQUIPMENT OF ILLINOIS: Omnibus Vote.

- D. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A FOUR-YEAR EXTENSION OF WELL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH LAYNE WESTERN, INC.: Resolution No. 4328: Omnibus Vote.
- E. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH U.S. CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVE (ILLINOIS 11) DEBBIE HALVORSON: Resolution No. 4329: Omnibus Vote.
- F. ITEM WITHDRAWN
- G. ORDINANCE AMENDING THE MUNICIPAL CODE – VARIOUS ZONING RELATED FEES: Ordinance No. 5236: Omnibus Vote.
- H. ORDINANCE ABATING THE LEVY OF 2008 PROPERTY TAXES FOR SPECIAL SERVICE AREA NUMBER ONE: Ordinance No. 5237: Omnibus Vote.

5. ITEM REMOVED FROM OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA:

- B. APPROVAL OF TOWN OF NORMAL EXPENDITURES FOR PAYMENT AS OF FEBRUARY 11, 2009:

MOTION:

Councilmember Fritzen moved, seconded by Councilmember Gaines, the Council Approve the Normal Expenditures for Payment as of February 11, 2009.

Councilmember Fritzen posed questions concerning an expenditure made to Artezen, which questions were responded to by Assistant City Manager Pamela Reece.

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

NAYS: None.

Motion declared carried.

GENERAL ORDERS

- 6. ITEM WITHDRAWN
- 7. RESOLUTION MUTUALLY TERMINATING THE CROWNE PLAZA REDEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT: Resolution No. 4330:

MOTION:

Councilmember Reece moved, seconded by Councilmember Nielsen, the Council Adopt the Resolution Mutually Terminating the Crowne Plaza Redevelopment Agreement.

Councilmember Reece expressed appreciation for all the work the staff and the redevelopers of the Crowne Plaza had put into the project and wished the project well. Councilmember Chambers commented on the need for this property to be redeveloped, as it is at the entrance to the community, and it does not reflect favorably on the community to have a five-story building being empty and becoming run-down. Councilmember Nielsen wished the Crowne Plaza Redevelopers the best of luck and hoped they would be able to move ahead and finish this project in the near future. Considerable Council discussion ensued.

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

NAYS: None.

Motion declared carried.

8. RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDED PRELIMINARY PLAN FOR THE HEARTLAND COMMUNITY CHURCH SUBDIVISION: Resolution No. 4331:

MOTION:

Councilmember Reece moved, seconded by Councilmember Scott, the Council Adopt an Amended Preliminary Plan for the Heartland Community Church Subdivision.

Councilmember Fritzen posed questions concerning future use of this property if the senior housing was eliminated, expressing concern for the possible use of this property as non-senior housing. City Manager Mark Peterson explained that zoning this property S-2 and having the senior housing as a permitted use in S-2 zoning would eliminate the property being converted to regular non-senior housing at a future date. Councilmember Gaines suggested the possibility of enacting a “senior zoning” district, which was responded to by City Planner Mercy Davison and City Manager Mark Peterson. Further Council discussion ensued. Building Commissioner Greg Troemel addressed questions concerning S-2 zoning.

Councilmember Fritzen posed questions concerning drainage concerns in the area, which were responded to by City Engineer Gene Brown.

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

NAYS: None.

Motion declared carried.

9. AN ORDINANCE CONDITIONALLY REZONING PROPERTY IN THE TOWN OF NORMAL – HEARTLAND COMMUNITY CHURCH ON NORTH LINDEN: Ordinance No. 5238:

MOTION:

Councilmember Fritzen moved, seconded by Councilmember Nielsen, the Council Approve an Ordinance Conditionally Rezoning Property in the Town of Normal – Heartland Community Church on North Linden.

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

NAYS: None.

Motion declared carried.

10. MOTION INITIATING A ZONING CODE TEXT AMENDMENT REVISING SEC. 15.6-12(C) PUBLIC LANDS AND INSTITUTIONS:

MOTION:

Councilmember Reece moved, seconded by Councilmember Fritzen, the Council Initiating a Zoning Code Text Amendment Revising SEC. 15.6-12(C) Public Lands and Institutions.

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

NAYS: None.

Motion declared carried.

11. ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TOWN OF NORMAL MUNICIPAL CODE
ADDING DIVISION 7 TO CHAPTER 23 – NEIGHBORHOOD VEHICLES – AND
AMENDING CHAPTER 17 REGARDING SETTLEMENT AT CITY HALL:

MOTION:

Councilmember Scott moved, seconded by Councilmember Chambers, the Council Approve the Ordinance Amending the Town of Normal Municipal Code Adding Division 7 to Chapter 23 – Neighborhood Vehicles – and Amending Chapter 17 Regarding Settlement at City Hall.

City Manager Mark Peterson explained the concept of Neighborhood Vehicles and responded to questions from Council. Councilmember Fritzen expressed concern with allowing the vehicles to be used on streets with a speed limit of 35 miles per hour, since the maximum speed the vehicles could travel would be 25 miles per hour. Councilmember Gaines posed questions concerning the actual size of the vehicles, which questions were responded to by the City Manager. Councilmember Scott commented on the possibility that Illinois State University may have a use for such vehicles in and around the campus area.

Councilmember Nielsen questioned if it was possible to have additional information on the vehicles and possibly see one of the vehicles to be in a position to better understand the uses of the vehicles and to evaluate the perceived safety concerns with using the vehicles on the streets. Councilmember Reece indicated she shared some of the concerns expressed by other Councilmembers; however, she wanted to forge ahead with energy efficient opportunities.

MOTION TO TABLE:

Councilmember Fritzen moved, seconded by Councilmember Gaines, the Council Table the Ordinance Amending the Town of Normal Municipal Code Addition Division 7 to Chapter 23 – Neighborhood Vehicles – and Amending Chapter 17 Regarding Settlement at City Hall Until Such Time as Staff has Received Sufficient Additional Information to Forward the Council.

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

NAYS: None.

Motion to Table declared carried.

NEW BUSINESS

12. MOTION TO APPROVE AN APPOINTMENT TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION:

MOTION:

Councilmember Fritzen moved, seconded by Councilmember Nielsen, the Council Approve an Appointment to the Planning Commission.

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

NAYS: None.

Motion declared carried.

Mayor pro tem Reece announced Mr. Robert Bradley had been appointed to the Planning Commission to fill the unexpired term of Ms. Jeanne Moonan, said term to expire in March, 2012. Ms. Moonan resigned in September, 2008, from the Commission.

13. CONCERNS:

1. COMCAST CONCERNS:

Councilmember Nielsen commented on complaints he had received from various parties concerning COMCAST. City Manager Mark Peterson and Councilmember Sonja Reece responded to the citizen concerns.

14. ADJOURNMENT:

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

MOTION:

Councilmember Gaines 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 Koos adjourned the Regular Meeting of the Normal Town Council at 7:52 p.m., Monday, February 16, 2009.