

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE NORMAL TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, NORMAL CITY HALL, FOURTH FLOOR UPTOWN STATION, 11 UPTOWN CIRCLE, NORMAL, MCLEAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS – MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 2012.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Chris Koos called the regular meeting of the Normal Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m., Monday, August 20, 2012.

2. ROLL CALL:

The Clerk called the roll with the following persons physically

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

ABSENT: Councilmember Adam Nielsen.

CLERK NOTE: There is one vacant Council seat due to the resignation of Councilmember Jason Chambers.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG.

Mayor Chris Koos led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

4. OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA:

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

Councilmember Scott excused himself from voting on Item G.

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

No items were removed from the Omnibus Vote Agenda.

MOTION:

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

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Nielsen.

Motion declared carried.

A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 6, 2012: Omnibus Vote.

B. APPROVAL OF TOWN OF NORMAL EXPENDITURES FOR PAYMENT AS OF AUGUST 15, 2012: Omnibus Vote.

- C. MOTION TO AWARD THE BID FOR A BACKHOE LOADER FOR THE WATER DEPARTMENT TO ALTORFER, INC., AT A TOTAL COST OF \$36,615 WITH TRADE PLUS AN ADDITIONAL \$18,740 TO REPLACE A PAVEMENT BREAKER: Omnibus Vote.
 - D. MOTION TO APPROVE A SEMI-ANNUAL SALARY ADJUSTMENT FOR CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES: Omnibus Vote.
 - E. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH ECOLOGY ACTION CENTER – 202 WEST COLLEGE AVENUE: Resolution No. 4803: Omnibus Vote.
 - F. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE ILLINOIS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BY ITS AGENT, ILLINOIS STATE REPRESENTATIVE DAN BRADY: Resolution No. 4804: Omnibus Vote.
 - G. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY FOR THE AGRONOMIC DISPOSAL OF LANDSCAPE WASTE: Resolution No. 4805: Omnibus Vote.
 - H. RESOLUTION CONDITIONALLY APPROVING A PRELIMINARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR HEALING STONE APARTMENTS PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (1295 HEALING STONE COURT AND 3385 E. RAAB ROAD): Resolution No. 4806: Omnibus Vote.
5. ITEMS REMOVED FROM OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA:
- There were none.

GENERAL ORDERS

- 6. RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORS OF THE TOWN OF NORMAL, MCLEAN COUNTY, THE QUESTION WHETHER THE TOWN OF NORMAL SHOULD HAVE THE AUTHORITY UNDER PUBLIC ACT 096-0176 TO ARRANGE FOR THE SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY FOR ITS RESIDENTIAL AND SMALL COMMERCIAL RETAIL CUSTOMERS WHO HAVE NOT OPTED OUT OF SUCH PROGRAM: Resolution No. 4807:

MOTION:

Councilmember Reece moved, seconded by Councilmember Gaines, the Council Adopt a Resolution Providing for the Submission to the Electors of the Town of Normal, McLean County, the Question Whether the Town of Normal Should Have the Authority Under Public Act 096-0176 to Arrange for the Supply of Electricity for its Residential and Small Commercial Retail Customers Who Have Not Opted Out of Such Program.

Councilmember Gaines explained residents should keep in mind they do not have to participate in this program – they will have the option of participating or opting out of the program. Councilmember Gaines further stated this is not an effort for “government” to take over anything.

Councilmember Scott further commented on the ability for municipalities and counties to band together to purchase electricity in bulk. Councilmember Scott elaborated on the timing of this Referendum, if successful, would allow Normal to participate in a large group of municipalities and counties which would be beneficial in obtaining a good price for the energy to be passed along to participating residents.

Councilmember Reece reiterated that residents of Normal would have the ability to opt-out of participating in the beginning, or if they participated in the beginning, would always have the ability to opt-out at any time for a small fee.

Councilmember Fritzen commented on the confusion that seemed to accompany this issue the last time it was on the ballot and suggested Good Energy and the Town make every effort to better inform the residents of Normal of the facts on this issue. City Manager Mark Peterson indicated the Town's role in this initiative is to give accurate information to the residents.

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Nielsen.

Motion declared carried.

NEW BUSINESS

7. DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL MOBILE FOOD VENDING IN THE TOWN OF NORMAL:

Town Planner Mercy Davison presented a brief overview of the potential for mobile food vending in the Town, particularly in the Uptown Normal area.

Councilmember Scott posed questions concerning locations other than in Uptown Normal. City Manager Mark Peterson indicated some mobile food vending has occurred in shopping center parking lots and grocery store parking lots, all on private property. Councilmember Scott posed questions pertaining to the vendors at the festivals in Uptown Normal, to which City Manager Mark Peterson responded these were Town sponsored events and the vendors had been invited to participate.

Corporation Counsel Steve Mahrt responded to questions from Mayor Koos concerning the ice-cream trucks which travel throughout residential neighborhoods, indicating the current Town code appears to address such vehicles.

Councilmember Reece expressed concern with trash disposal from mobile food vendors, indicating this could be a potential problem in the Uptown area.

Councilmember Gaines indicated this is indeed a tough situation, suggesting a license fee for the mobile food vendors to offset the costs current Uptown Normal businesses incur to have "skin in the game" by actually existing in the Uptown area. Councilmember Gaines further indicated the mobile food vendors should not be allowed to be parked on the street and take valuable Uptown Normal parking spaces.

Councilmember Fritzen agreed the mobile food vendors should not be allowed to park on the street or on the flat surface parking lots in the Uptown area. Councilmember Scott indicated Illinois State University does not allow mobile food vending on the campus.

Mayor Koos commented this is a tough issue with valid concerns on both sides of the issue. Mayor Koos indicated he would like to see further information from municipalities

that allow the mobile food vending, as well as receiving public comment on the issue. City Manager Mark Peterson stated it would be appropriate to receive public comment if the Council decides to proceed with the issue. City Manager Mark Peterson further indicated Staff will gather information from other communities and pass on this information to the Council to see if the Council wants to proceed further with mobile food vendors.

8. PRESENTATION BY BIKE BLONO, A LOCAL BICYCLE ADVOCACY GROUP:

Mr. Mike McCurdy, 1403 Chadwick Drive, Normal, Illinois; Ms. Rachel Shively, 104 S. Moore Street, Bloomington, Illinois; and Mr. Matt Hickman, 807 S. Grove Street, Normal, Illinois, addressed the Council representing the local bicycle advocacy group referred to as Bike BloNo. The group thanked the Council for the Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan and indicated the group would like to see the plan fully implemented. Mr. McCurdy, Ms. Shively, and Mr. Hickman responded to questions and concerns from Council.

9. CONCERNS:

1. BICYCLE HEADLIGHTS:

Councilmember Fritzen commended some bicyclists he encountered on North Linden at approximately 5:45 a.m. one morning, indicating they all had headlights on their bicycles and it made the bicyclists much easier to see.

2. ELECTRONIC SIGNS:

Councilmember Fritzen expressed concern with the brightness of the electronic sign at College and Veterans Parkway, indicating it is distracting to motorists while driving at night.

3. CORN FEST:

Councilmember Reece reminded everyone of the Sweet Corn Festival in Uptown Normal August 25 and 26. Mayor Koos indicated there would be a new set-up of the vendors for the event.

4. GROCERY STORE:

City Manager Mark Peterson indicated staff believed a feasibility study for a grocery store in the Uptown area would be warranted. Staff could then use the study to possibly issue a Request for Proposals for a grocery in Uptown Normal.

10. 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 Scott, the Regular Meeting of the Normal Town Council be Adjourned.

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Nielsen.
Motion declared carried.

Mayor Chris Koos adjourned the Regular Meeting of the Normal Town Council at 8:40 p.m.,
Monday, August 20, 2012.