

April 4, 2022

PUBLIC HEARING  
Madison County Community Development Block Grant

Mayor Stalcup called a public hearing to order at 7:00 p.m. to receive citizen comments on the Madison County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application for the State Street Water Line Improvement Project.

Public Services Director Steve Palen explained that every other year the City applies for this \$100,000 grant from Madison County Community Development to help offset the cost to install water lines. This money is used in conjunction with budgeted funds for water line replacement and the total project will take 4-5 years to complete. Phase 1 is complete and Phase 2 will advance the project to Wood River Ave.

There being no further comments the public hearing adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

AGENDA

A regular meeting of the Wood River City Council was called to order by Mayor Tom Stalcup at 7:02 p.m. on Monday, April 4, 2022 in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 111 N. Wood River Avenue, with the recital of the Pledge of Allegiance. The Clerk called the roll and reported that the following members were:

PRESENT: Leroy Duncan  
Sonya Hagaman  
Jeremy Plank  
Scott Tweedy  
Tom Stalcup

and that a quorum was present and in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Duncan moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 21, 2022, as printed, seconded by Councilwoman Hagaman and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)  
NAYS: None (0)

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Councilwoman Hagaman moved for approval of the bills submitted for payment for the period March 18 to March 31, 2022, as printed, seconded by Councilman Duncan, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)  
NAYS: None (0)

CITIZEN/OFFICIAL COMMENTS:

Dave Landry feels the Rec Center is a good idea but not right now. He is concerned the sales tax ordinance wording was illegal. He read directly from the State Statutes regarding infrastructure. He stated the dictionary definition of infrastructure has no merit. He is concerned that the City was wrong to change the ordinance. He is also concerned taxes will be raised and employees will get lower pay increases if the sales tax money is ruled illegal for the Rec Center project.

Mae Kasten stated that she and her husband both served on the 1% sales tax committee. Original estimates were that 60% of the tax comes from non-Wood River residents and raises \$1.3 million per year. This money is needed for infrastructure projects. Most residents wanted to fund the detention projects and construct a Rec Center. The projected costs to construct the Rec Center have gone up but the income from the 1% tax has increased and is a continuing tax forever. She stated that the advisory question was an issue for many people because they could not vote on the two questions independently. Many people wanted to save the Roundhouse and also construct a Rec Center. She applauds those that are working to revitalize downtown.

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Mike Young has been a resident of the City of Wood River since 1967. He feels the issue was first about the Roundhouse and it has taken many turns since then and has turned into a lawsuit. He feels the Parks & Rec Director was put on the spot at the Budget hearing and that is unfair. Director Woody did a great job last week when he provided an overview of revenue and showing how he will cover expenses at the Rec Center without burdening the City. He looks forward to the current programs being increased and new programs being added. The Rec Center will serve the community for many generations and can bring growth to the City. He wants the Council to proceed with construction and stop missing out on opportunities.

Chris Slusser stated there were a lot of questions asked at the last meeting that would have been addressed by a feasibility study. He does not have a lot of confidence in the numbers that were presented as they were thrown together quickly. The Rec Center is not a top priority. He attended a meeting in Chicago and other attendees were confused how the City could use 1% sales tax funds to construct a Rec Center since that is not allowed per the Statute. He feels the City needs to step back and review its decision and get a second legal opinion.

Dan Donohoo stated the Fairview Heights rec center is funded by a 1% sales tax. He is confident that non-residents pay the majority of the sales tax received. He is upset that one councilman ambushed the Park & Rec Director with political grandstanding and trivial questions. He could have called or emailed ahead of time. Other communities will also support this Rec Center. This community has generous individuals that will make donations if asked. If the concern is about being fee driven then Council should install a mechanism on the zip line in the park to collect fees, charge for walking on the path at Belk Park and charge people for fishing in the lake. He is being sarcastic but the line of questioning towards the Park & Rec Department was disrespectful. He believes that 4 ½ months of reserves are more than enough. He stated that services for the kids are vital and the City does not need the circus this has created.

Chuck Johanson has been a resident since 1958. He questioned the City budgeting and paying for items. He also stated that if the Rec Center was not part of the 1% sales tax then who would have voted for it. He explained that previously Director Woody said the Rec Center was not a priority. He summarized the number of employees and fees in place at the Keasler Complex in East Alton. He called the YMCA and asked about their fees and the dollar amount of free memberships they give out. He believes we are a community of need. He also learned that the Y and senior center give free memberships to older people. Seniors also want to go to a pool.

Bill Dettmers has filed a lawsuit to stop the 1% sales tax from being used on the Rec Center. The City should not misappropriate funds. When the sales tax ordinance was passed, the City should have known the definition does not include a Rec Center. Why did the City spread misinformation and hide the truth. He has tried to meet with the City and City Attorney to discuss his issues. He was denied a meeting. A copy of all his documents were sent to the City Attorney. He was shocked the Council did not go into an executive session to discuss his documents. He wants to know if he wins his lawsuit, how will the City pay for the Rec Center and is it the City's intention to negotiate contracts later. If the bids are approved it will obligate taxpayers. He wants the City to stop misleading the public. He provided a packet of documents to each Councilmember.

Mayor Stalcup congratulated Finance Director, Chris Sobrino on the birth of his new baby boy.

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ORDINANCE 2774 - ADOPTING THE CITY MANAGER'S REVISED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022/2023:

Councilman Duncan moved for approval of adopting the City Manager's revised budget for fiscal year 2022-23 beginning May 1, seconded by Councilman Tweedy

Councilman Plank asked why the ordinance copy has the same total expense amount as was in the proposed budget. Per the memo from Finance, there were updates suggested and also the recreation department numbers presented by the Parks and Recreation Director would have changed the expense total.

Councilwoman Hagaman explained the numbers from Director Woody were just projections for his future budget once the Rec Center is built.

Director Woody explained he was only giving projections and used the budget format to more clearly explain the projections.

Councilman Plank stated he assumed the Rec Center numbers would be reflected in this budget.

Interim City Manager Stahlhut explained that the increase per the Finance memo should be reflected in the ordinance.

Discussion ensued regarding increased expenses attributed to the dues for the Riverbend Growth Association and making an amendment to what was presented in the Council packet.

Mayor Stalcup moved to amend the budget ordinance to include the expense of \$14,000 for the Riverbend Growth Association dues, seconded by Councilman Duncan and amended with the following vote:

AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)  
NAYS: None (0)

the budget ordinance was then approved, with the amendment, by the following vote:

AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Tweedy, Stalcup (4)  
NAYS: Plank (1)

ORDINANCE 2775 - SALE OF A SURPLUS PARCEL OWNED BY THE CITY OF WOOD RIVER AND KNOWN AS 7 N WOOD RIVER AVE:

Councilwoman Hagaman moved to approve authorizing the sale of a surplus parcel owned by the City of Wood River and known as 7 N. Wood River Avenue (Parcel ID 19-2-08-28-08-203-036), seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)  
NAYS: None (0)

RESOLUTION 1970 - APPLY FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS FROM MADISON COUNTY FOR THE STATE STREET WATER LINE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT:

Councilman Tweedy moved to approve a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute all necessary documents to apply for Community Development Block Grant funds from Madison County for the State Street Water Line Improvement project as submitted by the Public Services Director, seconded by Councilwoman Hagaman, and approved by the following vote:

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AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Tweedy, Stalcup (4)  
 NAYS: None (0)  
 ABSTAIN: Plank (1)

RESOLUTION 1971 - FAIR HOUSING RESOLUTION:

Councilwoman Hagaman moved for approval of a Fair Housing resolution as part of the application for the Madison County Community Development Block grant as submitted by the Public Services Director, seconded by Councilman Duncan, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Tweedy, Stalcup (4)  
 NAYS: None (0)  
 ABSTAIN: Plank (1)

RESOLUTION 1972 - ADA TRANSITION PLAN:

Councilman Tweedy moved for approval of an ADA Transition Plan resolution as part of the application for the Madison County Community Development Block grant as submitted by the Public Services Director, seconded by Councilwoman Hagaman, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Tweedy, Stalcup (4)  
 NAYS: None (0)  
 ABSTAIN: Plank (1)

APPROVED - APPOINT GENE BLASA TO THE VAUGHN HILL CEMETERY COMMISSION:

Councilwoman Hagaman moved for approval of a recommendation from Mayor Stalcup to appoint Gene Blasa of 1018 Poplar to the Vaughn Hill Cemetery Commission with a term to expire May 2023, seconded by Councilman Plank, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)  
 NAYS: None (0)

CLOSED SESSION - PERSONNEL, COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATING MATTERS, AND LITIGATION:

Councilwoman Hagaman moved for approval of a recess to hold a closed session to discuss matters pertaining to Personnel (5ILCS 120/2(C)(1)), Collective Negotiating Matters (5 ILCS 120/2 (C)(2)), and Litigation (5 ILCS 120/2 (C)(11)), seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)  
 NAYS: None (0)

The council recessed at 7:39 pm and reconvened at 8:37 pm.

OLD BUSINESS:

REMOVE OFF THE TABLE - ACCEPT BID FOR REC CENTER BID PACKAGE #1 - SITE WORK:

Councilwoman Hagaman moved to remove off the table the acceptance of the bid from Rooters American Maintenance for \$646,220 for Bid Package #1 - Site Work (base bid only, no alternate) for the Rec Center project, as recommended by Gonzalez Companies and the Parks & Recreation Director, seconded by Councilman Duncan

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Councilman Plank asked who will manage the construction process, what if there is a difference in the scope of the work and what if there are change orders.

Mayor Stalcup stated Gonzalez is the construction manager.

Public Services Director Palen explained that change orders will be covered by the City and Gonzalez is only a construction manager.

Councilman Plank stated that inflation is now 7% and going up. What will the City do about the increase in the cost of materials. He is also concerned if there are situations that prevent the City from finishing the project will there be penalties and will the City still have to pay the full amount of each bid.

Director Palen explained the material costs will be locked in per the bids. The City will be responsible to pay all bills up to and including any date the construction might be halted and would potentially be forced into litigation if the construction is not completed.

Councilman Plank asked if the construction firm could sue the City.

Director Palen stated anyone can sue for whatever they want.

removing the bid off the table was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Tweedy (3)  
NAYS: Plank, Stalcup (2)

APPROVED - REC CENTER BID PACKAGE #1 – SITE WORK:

Councilwoman Hagaman moved for the acceptance of the bid from Rooters American Maintenance for \$646,220 for Bid Package #1 – Site Work (base bid only, no alternate) for the Rec Center project, as recommended by Gonzalez Companies and the Parks & Recreation Director, seconded by Councilman Duncan, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Tweedy (3)  
NAYS: Plank, Stalcup (2)

REMOVE OFF THE TABLE - ACCEPT BID FOR REC CENTER BID PACKAGE #2 – STRUCTURE:

Councilman Tweedy moved to remove off the table the acceptance of the bid from Limbaugh Construction Company for \$6,129,000 for Bid Package #2 – Structure for the Rec Center project, as recommended by Gonzalez Companies and the Parks & Recreation Director, seconded by Councilman Duncan, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Tweedy (3)  
NAYS: Plank, Stalcup (2)

APPROVED - REC CENTER BID PACKAGE #2 – STRUCTURE:

Councilman Duncan moved for approval to accept the bid from Limbaugh Construction Company for \$6,129,000 for Bid Package #2 – Structure for the Rec Center project, as recommended by Gonzalez Companies and the Parks & Recreation Director, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Tweedy (3)  
NAYS: Plank, Stalcup (2)

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REMOVE OFF THE TABLE - ACCEPT BID FOR REC CENTER BID PACKAGE #3  
- INTERIORS:

Councilman Duncan moved to remove off the table the acceptance of the bid from Limbaugh Construction Company for \$1,784,000 for Bid Package #3 – Interiors for the Rec Center project, as recommended by Gonzalez Companies and the Parks & Recreation Director, seconded by Councilwoman Hagaman, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Tweedy (3)  
NAYS: Plank, Stalcup (2)

APPROVED - REC CENTER BID PACKAGE #3 – INTERIORS:

Councilman Duncan moved to accept the bid from Limbaugh Construction Company for \$1,784,000 for Bid Package #3 – Interiors for the Rec Center project, as recommended by Gonzalez Companies and the Parks & Recreation Director, seconded by Councilwoman Hagaman, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Tweedy (3)  
NAYS: Plank, Stalcup (2)

REMOVE OFF THE TABLE - ACCEPT BID FOR REC CENTER BID PACKAGE #4  
- MECHANICAL:

Councilwoman Hagaman moved to remove off the table the acceptance of the bid from Langhauser Sheet Metal Company for \$1,229,000 for Bid Package #4 – Mechanical for the Rec Center project, as recommended by Gonzalez Companies and the Parks & Recreation Director, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Tweedy (3)  
NAYS: Plank, Stalcup (2)

APPROVED – REC CENTER BIG PACKAGE #4 – MECHANICAL

Councilwoman Duncan moved to accept the bid from Langhauser Sheet Metal Company for \$1,229,000 for Bid Package #4 – Mechanical for the Rec Center project, as recommended by Gonzalez Companies and the Parks & Recreation Director, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Tweedy (3)  
NAYS: Plank, Stalcup (2)

REMOVE OFF THE TABLE – ACCEPT BID FOR REC CENTER BID PACKAGE #5  
– ELECTRICAL & ALTERNATE BID #2 - GENERATOR:

Councilman Duncan moved to remove off the table the acceptance of the bid from Pyramid Electrical Contractors for \$413,555 for Bid Package #5 – Electrical & \$159,150 for Alternate Bid #2 - Generator for the Rec Center project, as recommended by Gonzalez Companies and the Parks & Recreation Director, seconded by Councilwoman Hagaman, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Tweedy (3)  
NAYS: Plank, Stalcup (2)

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APPROVED - REC CENTER BID PACKAGE #5 – ELECTRICAL & ALTERNATE BID #2 - GENERATOR:

Councilman Duncan moved to accept the bid from Pyramid Electrical Contractors for \$413,555 for Bid Package #5 – Electrical & \$159,150 for Alternate Bid #2 - Generator for the Rec Center project, as recommended by Gonzalez Companies and the Parks & Recreation Director, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Tweedy (3)

NAYS: Plank, Stalcup (2)

REMOVE OFF THE TABLE – ACCEPT BID FOR REC CENTER BID PACKAGE #6 – FIRE SUPPRESSION:

Councilwoman Hagaman moved to remove off the table the acceptance of the bid from L&K Fire Protection for \$123,000 for Bid Package #6 – Fire Suppression for the Rec Center project, as recommended by Gonzalez Companies and the Parks & Recreation Director, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Tweedy (3)

NAYS: Plank, Stalcup (2)

APPROVED - REC CENTER BID PACKAGE #6 – FIRE SUPPRESSION:

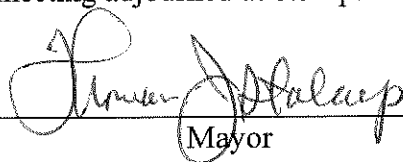
Councilman Duncan moved to accept the bid from L&K Fire Protection for \$123,000 for Bid Package #6 – Fire Suppression for the Rec Center project, as recommended by Gonzalez Companies and the Parks & Recreation Director, seconded by Councilwoman Hagaman, and approved by the following vote:

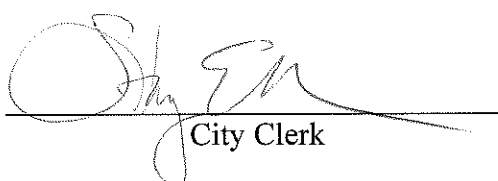
AYES: Duncan, Hagaman, Tweedy (3)

NAYS: Plank, Stalcup (2)

NEW BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

  
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Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk