

September 19, 2022

A regular meeting of the Wood River City Council was called to order by Mayor Tom Stalcup at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, September 19, 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:

Councilwoman Hagaman moved to approve the minutes of the special meeting of August 24th, 2022, as printed, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Duncan moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 6th, 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:

Councilman Duncan moved for approval of the bills submitted for payment for the period August 26 to September 15, 2022, as printed, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

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

FINANCIAL STATEMENT ENDING AUGUST 31ST:

Councilman Tweedy moved for approval of the Financial Statement ending August 31, 2022, as printed, seconded by Councilwoman Hagaman, and approved by the following vote:

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

CITIZEN/OFFICIAL COMMENTS:

Linda Walters informed council that the sink hole she requested be fixed at the last council meeting still has the barricade up and no action has been taken to fix it. She also congratulated anyone who was involved in fixing 6th street. She stated it looks very nice.

Mayor Stalcup asked Linda Walters if the sink hole was on the 500 block of Sotier and she stated yes.

Bill Dettmers stated that over the past week he has heard complaints about the lack of a feasibility study and economic impact study for the Recreation Center and over the contract for the City Manager that requires a 4/5 vote to terminate. Mr. Dettmers stated that unfortunately these actions are nothing new for the City. Mr. Dettmers asked why in 2018 town hall meetings were held, subject to OMA, with no minutes recorded. He stated that following those meetings, the City began to tell the public that the 1% sales tax could be used to build the Recreation Center. He also asked why in March 2019, the City Manager directed employees to post signs in City Hall, on City property and mail flyers to the public asking them to vote yes to the 1% sales tax increase. Mr. Dettmers stated that in December of 2020 the former Mayor and her husband spent thousands of dollars to defeat the save the roundhouse, stop the spending referendum. He asked why City management employees were working with her campaign to oppose the referendum by preparing documents for her to use and acting on her behalf with the press. Mr. Dettmers stated that on April 15, 2021, three members of council met to discuss the resignation of one council member and the appointment of a successor. Mr. Dettmers stated that the council member did not resign until April 16, 2021, and asked why the City Clerk backdated the resignation to April 15,

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2021. Mr. Dettmers asked why in October of 2019 did the Council vote to change the use of the 1% sales tax to capital improvement projects. He then stated that the City refused to repeal this until forced to do so in April of 2022 when a lawsuit was filed challenging its legality. Mr. Dettmers said it is time to start finding out why these events keep happening and start taking action to correct these problems. He stated that if he is elected, he will introduce a motion to hire an independent CPA firm to conduct a time and attendance audit on each council member and City management employee to verify they are paid for the services connected to their City job. His second action would be to file a motion to hire an independent law firm to conduct a review of the activities of each Council Member and management employee to see if any policies, procedures, ordinances, and laws have been violated and to recommend policies, procedures, ordinances, or any other action that may be appropriate. Mr. Dettmers encouraged the residents of Wood River to ask other people running for Council if they are in support of the aforementioned actions. He then stated if there are candidates that will not support his aforementioned actions, the voters will have to use that information to decide how to vote if they really want change.

Pastor Dave Landry stated he is running for City Council to stop reckless spending and he feels that the City Council needs a change in leadership. He stated he fought against the Recreation Center stating the cost was too much. He stated the people wanted a swimming pool, but the City Council thought they knew better and moved forward with the Recreation Center. Pastor Landry asked what should be done now, should the people hope that it fails? He stated that is not the answer. He asked if a newly elected City Council should stop the project and leave an eye sore? He stated that is not the answer either. Pastor Landry stated that the City needs to find ways to make it successful and not be a burden on the taxpayers. He stated he fought to save the Roundhouse and now it is being maintained and the City needs to figure out how to use the building for new uses. Pastor Landry stated that the City Council voted for Steve Palen as the new City Manager. He stated that if people were involved enough to find out what he wants to do and what he is doing for the City, they would find out that he is doing a pretty good job with limited resources. He stated that people may also realize that Director Woody is doing a pretty good job with limited resources. He stated that while being critical is a way to get results and is a voice that needs to be heard we also need to look at what is being done and what still needs to be done. Pastor Landry stated that the City has a good Police Department, Fire Department and City employees that are all working hard with limited resources. He stated that he is running to be a part of the solution, not to be vindictive and use rhetoric to destroy and divide. He stated that he wants to continue

improving on our City's needs, not its wants. He stated that there are two evils of politics, one is too far left and the other is too far right. He asked people to listen carefully to the words of those running for office, to listen to what kind of mix of politics it creates. It creates division with no results. Pastor Landry stated that he is running as a moderate to get things done, improve streets, sidewalks, parks, the sewer system, and the list goes on.

Mayor Stalcup stated that the Fall edition of the Pipeline will be mailed by October 10, 2022. He also thanked Kristen Burns for all her hard work putting it together. Mayor Stalcup also congratulated Steve Palen on recently being sworn in as City Manager. Mayor Stalcup congratulated Director Woody and Mickey Sabolo for the best August that the Belk Park Golf Course has had in 12 years. He then thanked Jeremy Strohmeier for his service to the City.

City Manager Steve Palen asked Director Woody to give the Council a presentation explaining the proposal from Byrne & Jones for the baseball field at Emerick Sports Complex. (See attached).

After the presentation of the proposal, Director Woody stated if applying for the grant is something Council would like for him to pursue, we need to get the approval very soon as this is time sensitive with a deadline for applying for the grant of September 30, 2022.

Councilwoman Hagaman asked if less money would be spent yearly for the upkeep of the field and if it would be easier to maintain.

Director Woody answered yes. We would be going from a dirt infield and a grass outfield to an artificial turf infield so there isn't really any maintenance for the artificial infield once you put it in. There might be some maintenance 10 years down the road, but it comes with an 8-year warranty.

Councilwoman Hagaman asked if it would be comparable to the turf field in Edwardsville.

Director Woody stated that it would be comparable to Plumber Park in Edwardsville. Byrne & Jones are the experts in our area for artificial turf fields.

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Councilwoman Hagaman asked if we will recoup the \$53,000 by spending less money maintaining the field yearly.

Director Woody stated that there is a lot in the scope so if we are approved for the grant, he would consider telling Byrne & Jones that we would like for them to focus on just the field aspects and figure out a way to do the rest for a little less money, but it is nice having a contract that covers them doing the entire project.

Mayor Stalcup asked how long the construction will take.

Director Woody explained that it is hard to say because we do not know when they will award the grant at this time. There is information stating that they will announce the awardee in October 2022, but he feels this is a very short turnaround time to announce the results of the grant. We have 2-3 years to spend the funds that we have received from the Metro East Park District, and they are good with waiting to see if we receive a secondary grant for the project.

Mayor Stalcup asked if that is construction time or total transition time.

Director Woody explained that he does not know for sure at this point.

Mayor Stalcup stated that this is an opportunity for the City to hold tournaments at Emerick Sports Complex.

Councilwoman Hagaman asked if this field is specific to baseball.

Mayor Stalcup stated no, we can downsize the field for softball because it will have a removable mound.

Director Woody also explained that in the grant application he will add that we have more recreational opportunities and plan to use the field for baseball and softball. He stated that we have completed work on all of the fields at Emerick Sports Complex except for the baseball field which is why we applied for the last grant that we received from Metro East Park District to help get us up to par with the rest of the ball diamonds and artificial turf is something that people are striving for and not often is there a grant opportunity that you can use for artificial turf but this is certainly an opportunity that we should not pass up.

PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Tom Stalcup presented a Certificate of Recognition to Jeremy Strohmeier on his retirement after 20 years as a Pain On Call Firefighter.

Fire Chief Wade Stahlhut presented Jeremy Strohmeier with a plaque.

CLOSED SESSION:

Councilwoman Hagaman moved for approval of a recess to hold a closed session to discuss matters pertaining to Imminent Litigation (5ILCS 120/2 (c)(11)), seconded by Councilman Duncan, and approved by the following vote:

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

The council recessed at 7:25 pm and reconvened at 7:37 pm.

RESOLUTION 1978: AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A LEGAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE DRISCOLL FIRM, LLC ET AL. REGARDING IMMINENT LITIGATION REGARDING PER-AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES DETECTED IN THE CITY OF WOOD RIVER WATER SUPPLY:

Councilman Tweedy moved to approve a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a legal services agreement with the Driscoll Firm, LLC et al. regarding imminent litigation regarding per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances ("PFAS") detected in the City of Wood River water supply, seconded by Councilman Duncan, and approved by the following vote:

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

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ORDINANCE 2803: DECLARING PROPERTY LOCATED AT PARCEL ID 19-1-08-25-00-000-009 & 19-1-08-25-00-000-009.001 AND ZONED B-3 HIGHWAY BUSINESS AS SURPLUS AND AUTHORIZING REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS:

Councilwoman Hagaman moved to approve an ordinance declaring property located at Parcel ID 19-1-08-25-00-000-009 & 19-1-08-25-00-000-009.001 and zoned B-3 Highway Business as surplus and authorizing requests for proposals, as submitted by the City Manager, seconded by Councilman Tweedy

Mayor Stalcup stated this City owned property is on the corner of 143 and 255 near the new detention pond.

the resolution was approved by the following vote:

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

ORDINANCE 2804 : AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN AN AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT NO. 239 BETWEEN BP PRODUCTS NORTH AMERICA, INC. AND THE CITY OF WOOD RIVER:

Councilwoman Hagaman moved to approve an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to sign an amendment to agreement No. 239 between BP Products North America, Inc. and the City of Wood River, seconded by Councilman Tweedy

Mayor Stalcup asked City Manager Steve Palen for an explanation on the ordinance.

City Manager Steve Palen stated the original agreement required BP to supply our Wastewater Treatment Plant with secondary service. They want to remove hard wires and infrastructure related to providing secondary service. They are going to buy a generator that will power the entire plant. Part of the agreement is the replacement cost for a generator, fuel and maintenance costs for the next 10 years.

the ordinance was approved by the following vote:

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

RESOLUTION 1979: APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR MATCHING FUNDS FOR THE ILLINOIS TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM:

Councilwoman Hagaman moved to approve a resolution to apply for matching funds for the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program, seconded by Councilman Tweedy

Councilwoman Hagaman wanted to make sure she was understanding that the City has to match 20% of the funds and ITEP will be providing 80% of the funds.

City Manager Steve Palen stated that was correct. ITEP will provide up to 3 million dollars which is for the bike path. The City has accounted for some of that with the \$300,000 grant the City received from Metro East Park District.

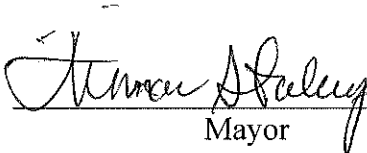
the resolution was approved by the following vote:

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


OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.



Mayor



City Clerk