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AGENDA

A regular meeting of the Wood River City Council was called to order by Mayor Tom Stalcup at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 21, 2023, 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: David Ayres
Bill Dettmers
Jeremy Plank
Scott Tweedy
Tom Stalcup

and that a quorum was present and in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Ayres moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 7, 2023, as printed, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)
NAYS: None (0)

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Councilman Dettmers moved for approval of the bills submitted for payment for the period August 3, 2023, to August 16, 2023, as printed, seconded by Councilman Plank.

Councilman Dettmers stated that on page six of the bills submitted for payment under sewer there is a charge for the installation of new pumps.

City Manager Steve Palen replied those are the pumps that the City had to put in at Carrollwood.

Councilman Dettmers asked what the charges are for on page six under Sewer, September 2023 - Sewer Separation for \$197,731.78 & \$27,640.37.

City Manager Steve Palen stated that Finance Director Chris Sobrino was not in attendance, but he will ask Director Sobrino and get back to Councilman Dettmers.

Councilman Dettmers stated on page eight under the non-home rule sales tax, again, the City has a charge from Shepherd Morgan Schwab for \$812 from June to July and asked if that charge was for the erosion out at the East End Detention Pond.

City Manager Steve Palen stated that is more than likely close out paperwork for that project. The City has the revolving loan that we are getting for that project and forgiveness.

Councilman Dettmers asked if the charges for Gonzales Companies of \$799.30 and \$83.64 for the 9th Street Property Acquisition were from the meeting they had at City Hall.

City Manager Steve Palen stated yes, we had them put together the plat and the legal description.

Councilman Dettmers asked if the charge for AAIC Incorporated, July 1 - July 31, 2023, for the Recreation Center of \$5,200 was from the contract back in January 2020 and asked if there is still a remaining amount.

City Manager Steve Palen stated yes.

Councilman Dettmers said for some reason he thought they had finished that off.

City Manager Steve Palen said he thinks there is still some of their contract left but he will check and see exactly how much.

Councilman Dettmers said he is assuming that the charge for American Craftsman for gutters, siding, vertical siding, soffit, and fascia is probably for the Recreation Center.

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City Manager Steve Palen asked Director Woody if that was for the Recreation Center or for the Roundhouse. Director Woody stated it is for the Roundhouse.

Councilman Ayres asked if the Request for Proposals for the Lincoln School Lots were published in two papers.

City Clerk Danielle Sneed stated the City had to publish it three times.

City Manager Steve Palen stated that by law the City must publish it three times.

City Clerk Danielle Sneed stated that it is once a week for three weeks for City owned properties.

Councilman Ayres stated only two of the charges were on the bills submitted for payment and asked if the third charge will be on the next bill run.

City Clerk Danielle Sneed stated yes, that is correct.

Councilman Ayres asked why the Police Department is buying a soapbox derby car kit.

Police Chief Brad Wells was called up to the podium. Chief Wells explained that it is under the Police Department for \$916 and he is buying this out of funds that are in the drug funds. He stated that it is to help build community relations. The Police Department is buying the car. The Police Association is also throwing in some money to fund it. Chief Wells also stated that if that was something that Councilman Ayres would prefer him not to do to represent the Wood River Police Department, he can cancel it and have the Police Association pay for it.

Councilman Ayres stated no, he was just wondering why because in business they advertise to increase business and then they will have a tax deduction but as the Police Department they do not have those abilities.

Police Chief Wells stated that the Police Department was asked by the Village of East Alton if they would participate by buying a police car soapbox derby car and make it look like a Wood River Police Car. He saw this as an opportunity for good community relations for the community. He stated that this is being paid for out of the seized drug funds.

Councilman Ayres stated that sounded good.

The bills were approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)
NAYS: None (0)

FINANCIAL STATEMENT ENDING JULY 31, 2023:

Councilman Tweedy moved for approval of the financial statement ending July 31, 2023, as printed, seconded by Councilman Dettmers

Councilman Dettmers stated he has a report from the Finance Director dated August 21, 2023, on utility taxes. It says that there is a July utility tax receipt and there is a decrease in the telephone tax, and asked if that is going to be a recurring issue.

City Manager Steve Palen said he would make a note to ask the Finance Director. He said he thinks it is when more people go to cellphones and get away from landlines.

Councilman Dettmers stated he has a meeting with Director Sobrino the next day and would ask him his other questions.

The Financial Statement was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)
NAYS: None (0)

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CITIZEN/OFFICIAL COMMENTS:

Tammy Iskarous introduced herself as the Executive Director of Riverbend Family Ministries in Wood River. She thanked the Council for the opportunity to address the Council. She said it was brought to her attention this week that there has been some information or some misinformation that has floated around, and she has gotten calls from some of the Council Members wanting to know exactly the services that Riverbend Family Ministries offer so that they can better serve the families. Ms. Iskarous handed out a pamphlet to all the Council Members. She stated that Riverbend Family Ministries has been in Wood River on Ferguson Avenue for 16 plus years. She stated that RFM works with families in crisis due to violence, addiction, homelessness, and poverty to get those families to a place of hope, healing, and sustainability. She stated that Riverbend Family Ministries does that by putting nine non-profit organizations under one roof to share the resources to make it cost effective for families to get the services they need. She stated that she is thankful for the Council and for "What's Up Downtown". This Thursday, August 24, 2023, at the "What's Up Downtown" Event, RFM has an addition that is going to showcase all the non-profit organizations and it is open to the public. She said if the Council had any questions about what is going on in the local non-profit organizations in the area that they can attend the event from 6:30pm-8:00pm. Ms. Iskarous said she knows there are going to be a lot of non-profits there and she invited everyone to attend. She stated that because there have been questions this past week and comments made, she would like to extend a personal invitation for a "Lunch and Learn" on Friday, September 1, 2023, from 11:30am to 1:00pm at Riverbend Family Ministries. She extended the invitation to the Council Members and City officials to come down to the building, to take a tour of the building, and to see exactly what happens at RFM. She stated that some of the Board Members will be able to answer questions and people will be able to take a tour. She stated just one of the organizations, their client service department, which works with their clients and their sustainability needs, rental assistance, utility assistance, tires on the van, and gas in the car, they had 158 new families this time last year and this year currently, they have 471 new families. She said families are in crisis and RFM is here doing really good work to help those families. She stated that on September 1, 2023, they will start with information and then if people want to stick around, they will do a tour at the end. She then thanked the Council for the opportunity.

Lynn Grime stated that she is a citizen of Wood River, and she would like to thank the Council for seeing her. She stated she is going to be starting her own business and will probably run the business out of her house. She said she has noticed a lot of empty lots and City owned lots. She was inquiring about three empty City owned lots that are right next door to her house so she can be in the works of her own private business and maybe eventually after two years' time become a non-profit sculpture garden that would benefit the parks, bike trails, and the City of Wood River adding to tourism and entertainment for the community.

Councilman Plank asked Ms. Grime what kind of business.

Ms. Grime stated her own personal business would be a small photography gallery where she would run her own studio out of. She said she does her own photography as well as maybe finding other photographers who might want to work out of her small gallery space.

Mayor Stalcup wished her good luck.

Ms. Grime stated she was inquiring about properties at 423 Madison Avenue.

Mayor stated she could contact the City Clerk the next day and she can give her the information on the properties and what is available.

Ms. Grime said she could certainly have a presentation on something organized and more official next time before meeting with the Council if this might be an entertaining idea for the board, committee, and Council.

Mayor Stalcup said the Council looked forward to it and she could find forms on the website.

Lynn thanked the Council.

Steve Kainz said for those that do not know who he is, his name is Steve Kainz, he owns Trickey's Service in Wood River. He said they have been a well-established business for over 60 years serving the City of Wood River. He stated he is the second generation and has been running the

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business for over 35 years. He said Trickey's has been providing services to the City as far as towing, repairs, and whatever may need to be done for the past 60 years. He said it looks like another towing company has come into town over a year ago. He stated that he went to the City with some information about this business and how things were supposed to operate. He said they are supposed to be holding normal business hours at this operation and they do not. It is closed all the time. He gave this information to the Chief of Police, the Mayor, and other Council Members that were here at that time. He said they were told that this was going to be a fair playing field for the tow companies, and it is not. He said the other tow company seems to be running trucks that are not legal through the Secretary of State's office. This is all public information. He stated he found this all online. He said they do not seem to have a fair playing field here. He stated that he is required to have the equipment to haul anything from a Volkswagen to a semi-tractor trailer which they can do, and the other company cannot. He said per the policy if there is anything over a one-ton truck, just call Trickey's. He said that is not a level playing field as far as he is concerned. He said that if they want to be on the rotation and they want to do the City towing, then let us make it a fair playing field. They should have the equipment that Trickey's has. He said the other towing company is running trucks right now that are illegal. He said the Council can go online and look it up because it is public information. Mr. Kainz said they do not have valid license plates or valid stickers, so their trucks are not legal to be on the road, yet the City wants to use them for towing. He said he is confused, and he does not understand. He asked if someone could explain this to him. He told Mayor Stalcup that it has been going on for a year and that he gave him this information a year ago.

Mayor Stalcup asked Mr. Kainz what information he gave him.

Mr. Kainz said he gave Mayor Stalcup exactly what he has stated in his citizen comment. The trucks are not legal to operate on the road, yet the City is using them as a City tow. He said he does not understand it.

Mayor Stalcup said to his recollection they were tested and checked out and were legal at that time.

Mr. Kainz said the trucks were not legal at that time and they still are not. He told Mayor Stalcup to go drive by the place. He said we all know who we are talking about, it is no secret. Mr. Kainz said he drove by there on his way to the Council Meeting and they bought a new truck and put an H plate on it. He asked Mayor Stalcup if he knew what that meant.

Mayor Stalcup stated he did not.

Mr. Kainz said he did. He said that they cannot operate that truck as a tow truck. If it is a tow truck, looks like a tow truck, smells like a tow truck, it should have a TW plate on it. The City is going to use them in rotation, but they are not running legal equipment. He asked how long the City was going to let this go on.

Mayor Stalcup said he will look into this.

Mr. Kainz said that is what he heard before that the City would look into it, and here we are a year later in the same spot.

Mayor Stalcup stated to his recollection, they were right at the beginning.

Mr. Kainz said they are not right now.

Mayor Stalcup said he would look into it.

Mr. Kainz thanked Mayor Stalcup and said he was looking forward to hearing from him.

Mayor Stalcup congratulated the Fire Department for receiving confirmation on a FEMA AFG Grant. He asked Fire Chief Wade Stahlhut for some background information on the grant.

Fire Chief Wade Stahlhut stated that last Friday they received an email from FEMA AFG which is assistance of firefighters grant program stating the City of Wood River received a FEMA AFG grant. The grant was in the amount of a little over \$206,000. He said this was a great opportunity that he believes is the City's fifth application for replacing our self-contained breathing apparatus,

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which are the air packs that the firefighters wear going into a fire. He stated the current ones are three standards behind. He said they are extremely grateful for the opportunity to purchase these units. He said they have a percentage of that which is 10% that they would supply. They are working with the different manufacturers to try to determine exactly what additional equipment they may be able to also include in this during the process, but it goes to the HGAC special pricing format now after this process. He said they are looking forward to seeing what we get in the next round as far as equipment and what they may or may not be able to purchase but at this time we have received that award of \$206,000.

Mayor Stalcup asked Kristen Burns to give everyone a little back up on the upcoming "What's Up Downtown" Event.

Kristen Burns said the "What's Up Downtown" for this quarter is focused on non-profit organizations in Wood River. They moved it to the Roundhouse hoping that they will have more people. She said they have eight non-profit organizations that will be coming to speak and give information on what they provide to the community and how citizens can volunteer with them. She said they are also going to be offering tours at the Recreation Center after the presentations. She said that is at the Roundhouse from 6:30pm-8:00pm on Thursday, August 24, 2023.

Councilman Dettmers said he wanted to congratulate Mike Young for his outstanding performance. He said from July 20th to July 23rd, Mike attended the US Masters Track and Field Outdoor Championships in North Carolina. Mike competed in several events and won a gold medal in the 4 by 400. Mike ran the anchor leg of the advanced event.

Mayor Stalcup congratulated Mike Young as well.

Councilman Tweedy said his mom passed away a week ago and he wanted to commend the Fire Department and the Police Department in their efforts to try and revive her and in his opinion, the professionalism starts at the top and he wanted to thank Fire Chief Stahlhut and Police Chief Wells.

Mayor Stalcup said he was sorry for Councilman Tweedy's loss.

ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE 90-7, TITLE VII: TRAFFIC CODE, CHAPTER 75: TRAFFIC SCHEDULES, CHANGING THE STREET NAME OF OLD ALTON EDWARDSVILLE ROAD TO TIMMINS DRIVE:

Councilman Tweedy moved to approve an ordinance amending the City Code 90-7, Title VII: Traffic Code, Chapter 75: Traffic Schedules, changing the street name of Old Alton Edwardsville Road to Timmins Drive, seconded by Councilman Ayres

Mayor Stalcup moved to amend the ordinance to change the street name of Old Alton Edwardsville Road to Tyler Timmins Drive.

Mayor Stalcup read the following letter in honor of Tyler Timmins:

"We are honoring the legacy of Officer Tyler Timmins of the Pontoon Beach Illinois Police Department who was shot and killed in the line of duty on October 26, 2021, while approaching a suspect of a stolen vehicle. Officer Tyler Timmins was 36 years old and had served in law enforcement for 14 years. Tyler Timmins grew up on Willow and Ash streets in the City of Wood River. Tyler graduated from East Alton Wood River High School in 2003. Tyler started his law enforcement career as a Cadet with the Wood River Police Department. Tyler worked for the Roxana Police Department, the Worden Police Department, the Hartford Police Department, and the Pontoon Beach Police Department. Tyler is survived by his wife Linsey, their daughter Chloe, his parents Tim and Laura, brother and sister-in-law Jake and Sabrina Timmins, and many friends and relatives. Tyler's cousin, Sgt. Josh Timmins, serves with the Wood River Police Department. He was preceded in death by his mother, Bev Timmins. Tyler gave the ultimate sacrifice as a Police Officer on October 26, 2021. The citizens of Wood River extend a great appreciation to the memory of Tyler Timmins and continue to offer our deepest condolences to Tyler Timmins' family, friends, and fellow officers. By renaming Old Alton Edwardsville Road to Tyler Timmins Drive, we will continue in all our efforts to keep his memory alive in the City of Wood River."

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Mayor Stalcup previously moved to amend the ordinance to change the street name of Old Alton Edwardsville Road to Tyler Timmins Drive, seconded by Councilman Dettmers, and the amendment was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)
NAYS: None

ORDINANCE NO. 23-18: AMENDING CITY CODE 90-7, TITLE VII: TRAFFIC CODE, CHAPTER 75: TRAFFIC SCHEDULES, CHANGING THE STREET NAME OF OLD ALTON EDWARDSVILLE ROAD TO TYLER TIMMINS DRIVE:

The ordinance, with the amendment, was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)
NAYS: None

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A REDEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH TATICH 34 WOOD RIVER LLC FOR TIF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AT 56 E. FERGUSON, AS SUBMITTED BY THE TIF COMMITTEE:

Councilman Tweedy moved to approve an ordinance authorizing the execution of a redevelopment agreement with Tatich 34 Wood River LLC for the TIF financial assistance at 56 E. Ferguson, as submitted by the TIF Committee, seconded by Councilman Ayres

Councilman Dettmers made a motion to go into recess to hold a closed session to discuss Possible Litigation under 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (11), seconded by Councilman Plank, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, (3)
NAYS: Tweedy, Stalcup (2)

The Council recessed at 7:28pm and reconvened at 8:04pm.

Councilman Dettmers made a motion to go back into open session, seconded by Councilman Ayres, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)
NAYS: None (0)

ORDINANCE 2868: AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A REDEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH TATICH 34 WOOD RIVER LLC FOR TIF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AT 56 E. FERGUSON, AS SUBMITTED BY THE TIF COMMITTEE:

Councilman Tweedy moved to approve an ordinance authorizing the execution of a redevelopment agreement with Tatich 34 Wood River LLC for the TIF financial assistance at 56 E. Ferguson, as submitted by the TIF Committee, seconded by Councilman Ayres

Councilman Dettmers told Mayor Stalcup this is a motion he will not support. This is regarding the dispensary. He is not in favor of a dispensary, but he realizes the City can make a good amount of money on this. He said he was willing to have a referendum on this so the people can decide. He said in February 2020 the City Council took action to enact an ordinance that allowed for a cannabis dispensary to be in the City of Wood River. Contrary to the Mayor at that time, said that this was not binding on the City. Unfortunately, it turned out it was binding on the City. Secondly, the City failed to take the steps to control the process for dispensary owners coming here. Thirdly, the Council awarded \$340,000 of TIF dollars in development of a dispensary. Councilman Dettmers thinks that was not wise. He does not see the reason why the City needs to give \$340,000 to a business that is going to make millions of dollars potentially. He said it just does not make sense to him. He said he thinks that the location for the dispensary is in the wrong location. He said the proper location in his opinion would have been on Highway 255 and IL Route 143. He stated there is not a dispensary between Jerseyville, IL and Collinsville, IL. He asked if the City is interested in maximizing its profits on a dispensary, why is the City putting it downtown. He said he is totally opposed to this. On June 6, 2023, he met with the Mayor, City Manager, and two other department heads and he offered his support to try and help revive downtown. He said he asked for information

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to get the cost to do a comprehensive study to help develop downtown. He said that was two and a half months ago and to date, he has not received any information. He said he was assured that he would have that information either by the next meeting on June 17, 2023, or the first meeting in July, which was July 3, 2023, and to date has had no communication whatsoever. He said he hopes going forward that he can get some cooperation and get information that he requests. He stated this is the third time he has requested information on matters that he was trying to help resolve the City on and has not received it. He said he wanted to make sure things change going forward but tonight he would be voting no on this matter.

Councilman Plank said he fundamentally wanted to see the voters vote on this. He thinks that given the constraints the prior Council has put on the current Council and the legal circumstances that the Council is faced with, he thinks this is the best deal the City can come up with.

Councilman Dettmers said he thinks they would like to have steps taken so that they can resolve the issues that they have more control over this going forward and he hopes they can get that done quickly. He said he thinks that if the prior Council had taken the necessary steps, then the current Council would not be in this situation right now.

City Attorney Mike McGinley stated it may be advisable to the City to look at the zoning code and possibly amend the zoning code and instead of allowing cannabis dispensaries in zoning areas by right possibly change that to special use permits and maybe look at limiting the number of dispensaries that can be located through different zoning areas. He said for instance he understands there is a downtown area and then there is an area that is not downtown. He said maybe there could be one downtown and maybe one or none that goes anywhere other than downtown for instance the location that Councilman Dettmers described. He said there are measures that if asked by the Council the attorneys can certainly look at and try to put more restrictions and regulations on them. He said he would be happy to look at it.

Mayor Stalcup reminded the Council that there was language at one time where they limited the dispensaries to the Downtown Business District and to the Envirotech area and it was taken away by this Council.

The ordinance was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (4)
NAYS: Dettmers (1)

ORDINANCE 2870: AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1943 AND ORDINANCE NO. 2608 CONCERNING QUALIFICATIONS FOR FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT, AS SUBMITTED BY THE FIRE CHIEF:

Councilman Ayres moved to approve an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 1943 and Ordinance No. 2608 concerning qualifications for firefighter employment, as submitted by the Fire Chief, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)
NAYS: None (0)

ORDINANCE 2869: AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SUBSCRIPTION AGREEMENT WITH BACKFLOW SOLUTIONS, INC. (BSI) FOR THE CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM, AS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY MANAGER:

Councilman Tweedy moved to approve an ordinance authorizing the execution of a subscription agreement with Backflow Solutions, INC. (BSI) for the Cross-Connection Control Program, as submitted by the City Manager, seconded by Councilman Ayres, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)
NAYS: None (0)

ORDINANCE 2867: AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH AAIC FOR ARCHITECTURAL AND PLANNING SERVICES FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT ADDITION, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE FIRE CHIEF:

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Councilman Plank moved to approve an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to execute a professional services agreement with AAIC for architectural and planning services for the Fire Department Addition, as recommended by the Fire Chief, seconded by Councilman Tweedy

Councilman Ayres asked if there had been three bids that had gone out for this.

City Manager Steve asked Councilman Ayres if he was talking about the professional service or the contract construction itself.

Councilman Ayres said for yes for the professional service.

Councilman Ayres asked if there was a service agent that the City had in mind.

Fire Chief Wade Stahlhut said that this process started back in November of 2022, looking at a potential of an extension off the back of the Fire Station and he presented that to the City Manager and the Finance Director at that time. He said their hope was to extend for storage purposes as they have outgrown their current facility. He said since then it has snowballed a little bit and he means that in a good way. He said it has expanded in the utilization of AAIC and opening that up as an opportunity for engineering and design work due to the scope of the level we are talking to. He said this gives them the opportunity to give a couple of options to the City Council for them to decide on that extension. One being if they want to stick with the storage option or if they would want to make it more of an engine bay where a truck could be stored. He said the difference would be they would have to put in floor drains, oil and water separators, and things of that nature. So, allowing the opportunity for AAIC to go through this process gives us two distinct differences and what that may look like for the future of the Fire Department.

Councilman Ayres asked where the funds are coming from.

Fire Chief Wade Stahlhut said Capital Improvement Funds.

Councilman Ayres asked if they would go off a bid.

Chief Stahlhut stated yes, AAIC would open that up and Steve would speak more on this as this is new to him, but the City would go out to bid on this project after AAIC's design work is completed.

Councilman Dettmers said he met with the Fire Chief about a month ago and he gave him a tour and they have material stored all over the City and the storage option will help reign that all into one central location to make it a more efficient time response for the Fire Department. He said he would be in support of this, however, before he was sworn in there was a discussion about the professional service contracts and he does not know where they are with that. His hope was that they would be putting professional service contracts out there for bid and he hates doing that type of thing that is a change like that mid-stream. He hopes maybe next year or as soon as possible they can consider putting professional service contracts up for bid. He does not want to put that requirement in place right now because it would not be fair to the Fire Department. He does hope they will have something resolved in the near future if not before the end of the fiscal year or the beginning of next fiscal year where they can start getting these professional service contracts put out for bid and that way, they can start putting their requests for these budget items earlier in the year rather than four months before the end of the year. He hopes that they can get a couple different options because costs have gone up significantly. He asked if there are going to be options presented to the Council.

City Manager Steve Palen said yes, it will be bid as well as an alternate bid. He said the original idea was strictly storage, so we are going to have an alternate design for an actual bay.

Councilman Dettmers asked if they would give the Council an option that they may be able to finish the second phase at a later date. He said they were talking about storage and now we are talking about converting that storage area to a bay area for a truck.

Chief Stahlhut said we are talking about the same area. He said the initial vision was to extend the station for storage opportunity and then it snowballed into a potential of using that for an engine bay which is the perfect scenario for the Fire Department. He said it is important to see from AAIC's perspective of professional services that it is giving the council options for engineering and design work. He said the more time he has had the opportunity to work with Aaron Morris, Aaron was

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seeing things that he did not see in his vision, and it opened his eyes a little more and he understands now getting the engineering and design work involved is the way it needs to be. He said this is an important project and he wants to make sure they spend the City's money wisely.

Chief Stahlhut said to Councilman Dettmers' point, the Fire Department is spread out beyond just the Fire Station right now, so this does allow them an opportunity to reign in some of those assets back to City property. He said maybe not all of them, but they will be able to get the bulk of them.

Councilman Plank stated that him and Steve Palen had a conversation about the possibility of going out to bid for professional services and stated that he was not sure where the City is with that right now.

City Attorney Mike McGinley asked if they were talking about architects and engineers. He said with architects, engineers, and land surveyors you do not technically get the pricing from them. He said there are requests for proposals and then there are requests for qualifications. He said with architects, engineers, and land surveyors you do request for qualifications, and they pick who they believe would be the most qualified person that they want to work with, or the person that they think knows their City best or whatever their unique circumstances are. They would pick that person based upon that, then after they have picked them then they get into the money, and they negotiate the money. If they can negotiate then the tradeoff is the architects, engineers, and land surveyors are supposed to price their work at what would be a competitive price. He said that is the ethical tradeoff for they are going to pick them based on they believe they are good at what they do and in exchange for that do not gouge them after the fact. He said that is how that works and if they cannot come to terms with the money because they believe their pricing is too high then they would move on to the next person. He said the public policy for that they do not want to pick an architect, engineer, or land surveyor based on who is the cheapest. He said that could be an absolute disaster. They want to pick the guy that is the best and the pricing should fall in line with what everybody else would charge. He said the construction aspect of it the City would bid out but as far as the architect, engineer, or land surveyors it is a weird carve out in Illinois law for professional services.

The ordinance was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)
NAYS: None (0)

APPROVED – ACCEPTING THE BID FROM BIG CITY ASPHALT LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$60,000.00 FOR THE SEAL COATING OF MUNICIPAL PARKING LOTS, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CITY MANAGER:

Councilman Ayres moved to approve accepting the bid from Big City Asphalt LLC in the amount of \$60,000.00 for the Seal Coating of municipal parking lots, as recommended by the city manager, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)
NAYS: None (0)

APPROVED – ACCEPTING THE BID FROM KAMADULSKI EXCAVATING & GRADING, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275,774.00 FOR THE STATE STREET WATER MAIN IMPROVEMENTS-PHASE 2 PROJECT, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CITY MANAGER:

Councilman Tweedy moved to approve accepting the bid from Kamadulski Excavating & Grading, INC. in the amount of \$275,774.00 for the State Street water main improvements-Phase 2 project, as recommended by the City Manager, seconded by Councilman Ayres

Councilman Dettmers said his understanding was that this was on the sewer separation project. He asked if this was part of the sewer separation project.

City Manager Steve stated that this is Phase 2 of the water line improvement project.

Acceptance of the bid was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)
NAYS: None (0)

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APPROVED - REQUEST FROM WOOD RIVER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO CLOSE FERGUSON AVENUE FROM 1ST STREET TO WOOD RIVER AVENUE ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2023, FROM 12:00PM TO 8:00PM TO HOST THE 2ND ANNUAL CHILI COOKOFF:

Councilman Plank moved to approve a request from Wood River Economic Development to close Ferguson Avenue from 1st Street to Wood River Avenue on Saturday, October 21, 2023, from 12:00pm to 8:00pm to host the 2nd annual Chili Cookoff, seconded by Councilman Dettmers, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)

NAYS: None (0)

APPROVED OF CHANGING THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETING TO TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2023, DUE TO THE LABOR DAY HOLIDAY:

Councilman Ayres moved to approve changing the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting to Tuesday, September 5, 2023, due to the Labor Day Holiday, seconded by Councilman Dettmers, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)

NAYS: None (0)

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman Dettmers said he has had discussions regarding hometown heroes, they need funding for light posts. He asked where they were with it.

Mayor Stalcup said Mary Roberts has been on him for years about this, but the Council is limited to what they can do on the posts that they have in town because they are owned by Ameren, and we have fiber glass poles and they do not allow that.

Councilman Dettmers asked if the City can buy the poles from Ameren.

Mayor said they can, but it is an enormous cost. He said City Manager Steve Palen has done a lot of work on this topic.

Councilman Dettmers asked what the cost was.

City Manager said he did not know if there would be any cost for them to allow us to take them over, but any future maintenance, replacements, right now if someone hits one then the City calls Ameren and they replace it. If the City takes them over that would all be on the City for future maintenance costs.

Councilman Dettmers said there is also discussion of possibly putting new posts in front of those but that is \$400,000 as he understands.

City Manager Steve Palen said it would be costly. He said it might be something that the Council has talked about in the past about another Street Scape Project, maybe doing something with putting in additional posts. They have seen other communities do the same thing that are other than the light posts are basically for hanging flowers and banners on. He said that is something maybe the Council can consider on another phase of the Street Scape Project.

Mayor Stalcup said Mary Roberts has done a lot of work on it and so has the City. They have made several trips to communities around and have taken pictures. City Manager Steve Palen has looked into a lot of the information on it. Mayor Stalcup thinks it is a great idea and he loves the idea, it is just the fact of how the City gets there.

Councilman Plank stated that he has spoken to Mary Roberts about this and asked if they could put them in a different part of town.

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City Manager Steve Palen said the only thing Ameren will let them hang a banner on is the wooden poles.

Councilman Dettmers asked where the City has wooden poles.

City Manager Steve Palen said there are some spread out throughout town. He said he thinks the bulk of the poles are wooden, but the decorative ones are downtown and on Wesley.

City Manager Steve Palen said the ones on Wesley are fiber glass.

Councilman Dettmers said he has been working with Steve on the Facebook posts. He asked if there was any way they could disable all comments on the City's Facebook page without having to manually go in there because people come in and make a comment a year later and there is no way to go back and monitor that.

City Manager Steve Palen said they are trying to accomplish that. They sent in a request to Facebook and asked how they would do that. He said he was not sure if they had gotten a response yet.

Kristen Burns stated she had not gotten a response yet, but she would be more than happy to show the Council what she does to make sure that these are taken care of.

Councilman Dettmers stated he has no doubt that she is trying her best to control it. He said he could not tell you how many comments he has had about this, and he has seen where some comments are not visible, and some comments are visible, and it gives the appearance that the City is not letting all the comments through. He said he believes it is not intentional.

Kristen Burns stated that there was a post that they tagged other organizations in the post which gives them the right to comment on that. So, if the City posts something about the library and tags them then they can make comments and there is no way to hide it because they have been tagged. So, if they have been tagged then there is no way for her to get rid of that comment.

Councilman Dettmers stated he was not pointing the finger at Kristen.

Kristen said she knows; it is just very hard. She has talked to multiple people that also do this and they deal with the same thing she does.

City Manager Steve Palen said the intention is to stop all comments.

Councilman Dettmers said he hopes we can because he cannot express how much time he has spent on this. He said another issue that has been raised is there are a lot of rentals in the City and some owners approached him about the process for waiving the dump fees. They are responsible for cleaning out their rentals and then they have the cost of hauling all this trash away. He asked if there was a process for the landlords to have a free dump with the City.

City Manager Steve Palen said everything that goes in the dumpsters at the compost, the City charges for. The only thing you can take down there for free is limbs, grass, tree branches, but anything that goes in the dumpsters, the City has to pay to have those dumpsters dumped so the City charges.

Councilman Dettmers asked what kind of fee they are looking at.

City Manager Steve Palen said he thinks one item is five or ten dollars and then goes up to like \$40 if you have a truck bed load. He said it is still very cheap.

Councilman Dettmers said that is the issue that he is being hit with. He said the owners say they are getting a lot of tenants that are not responsible and they are having to haul out junk.

City Clerk mentioned they could use the bulk pick up option.

Councilman Dettmers asked if the owner would have that opportunity.

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City Manager said they could do two bulk pickups a year per property rather the renter called, or the owner called.

Councilman Dettmers asked if the apartment building owners would have the same opportunity.

City Manager Steve Palen said he was not sure if that applied to apartment buildings but would look into it.

Councilman Dettmers asked if they could try and work something out. He said there was also a complaint about zoning. He had a guy who had an antique car. It was a 1967 GTO, and he was cited because it was covered with a portable garage and did not have plates on it. The guy was not happy about it. Councilman Dettmers said he understood his complaint and asked if there was some way that the City may be able to have some kind of permit process because he was wanting to restore the car, but it was going to take him time to do it. The guy asked Dettmers if there was a way to get a permit, so he is not being cited all the time.

City Manager Steve Palen asked where it was stored.

Councilman Dettmers said it was over on the East side of town.

City Manager Steve Palen asked if it was on the street or in the driveway.

Councilman Dettmers stated it was in his driveway and had it covered with a portable garage and he was cited for it. He said this was a few months back, back in March he believed, and the guy was pretty upset about it. The guy said he was not getting rid of the car, and he was going to move out of town. Dettmers said a GTO restored is worth some money.

City Manager Steve Palen said he would look into it.

Councilman Dettmers said there was a question about posting the notices, he guessed the City had to post those in the paper and asked if that was correct or is the City obligated to do so.

City Manager Steve Palen said they are not obligated to put them in the paper, they are obligated to post them at the location where their meeting will be held. If they have a full-time website person, they must post it on their website from his understanding.

Councilman Dettmers asked how much advance notice they must have.

City Clerk Danielle Sneed stated 48 hours, but they are doing it well before 48 hours.

Councilman Dettmers said the hearing last week, it was posted five hours before the hearing.

City Clerk Danielle Sneed stated it was posted on the doors on Tuesday.

Councilman Dettmers said he was talking about the website. He said he was out of town all last week and he was told that the notice was not posted on the calendar.

City Manager Steve Palen said he did not know if they had to put it on the calendar.

City Clerk Danielle Sneed stated she did not think it had to go on the calendar, but it was posted on the doors 48 hours before the meeting.

Councilman Dettmers said he was told it was posted on the doors 48 hours before, but residents feel it should have been posted online as well.

City Clerk Danielle Sneed said it was published in the Telegraph on August 2, 2023, and stated they do not put the agendas for the boards and commissions or the public notices on the website, only agendas for City Council meetings.

Councilman Plank said he would like to look at the towing contract with the City and see what the City has documented as far as a contract and look at that because he believes they owe that to

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Trickey's since he has been working with the City for all these decades.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.



Mayor



City Clerk