

December 4, 2023

A regular meeting of the Wood River City Council was called to order by Mayor Tom Stalcup at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 4, 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: Bill Dettmers
Jeremy Plank
Scott Tweedy
Tom Stalcup

ABSENT: David Ayres

and that a quorum was present and in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Plank moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 20, 2023, as printed, seconded by Councilman Tweedy

Councilman Dettmers made a motion to amend the minutes of the regular meeting of November 20, 2023, as printed, seconded by Councilman Plank, and the amendment was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (4)
NAYS: None (0)

The minutes of the regular meeting of November 20, 2023, with the amendment, were approved by the following vote:

AYES: Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (4)
NAYS: None (0)

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Councilman Dettmers moved to approve the bills submitted for payment for the period November 16, 2023, to November 29, 2023, as printed, seconded by Councilman Plank

Councilman Dettmers questioned the department for which the bagpiper for the Veteran's Day Ceremony was listed. After speaking with the City Treasurer prior to the meeting, he asked that the line be more aptly classified in the next budget year.

Councilman Dettmers questioned the bill from Mahoney Asphalt for \$93,477.00 to pave the parking lot at Emerick Sports Complex. He asked Director of Parks & Recreation Jason Woody if that would be reimbursed by funds from the grant that the City was awarded. Director Woody stated that part of the bill will be reimbursed by grant funds.

Councilman Dettmers questioned a cash payment for \$77.04 due to the postage meter not working. He wanted to clarify that a new postage meter was just approved by Council recently and this outage was due to the new equipment being installed. Councilman Dettmers wanted to confirm that the charge to AAIC in regard to the Fire Department Addition for \$16,380.00 would be discussed further in Item #10 on the agenda.

Councilman Dettmers questioned the bill from Sheppard, Morgan & Schwaab, Inc. for the State Street Water Project in the amount of \$20,093.00. He wanted to clarify that this payment is a continuation of the expense from the last Council meeting.

Councilman Dettmers questioned the charge to Stutz Excavating Inc. for sidewalk repair in the amount of \$5,625.00. City Manager Steve Palen stated it should be described as sidewalk and curb repair in the description of the bill submitted for payment. The curbs at Operation Blessing and in the 600 block of North Wood River Avenue had to be replaced. He explained that when curbs are replaced, the sidewalks have to be replaced at the same time. Councilman Dettmers asked if any residents would be sharing this expense and City Manager Steve Palen stated that the City is covering the entire expense.

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The bills were approved by the following vote:

AYES: Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (4)
 NAYS: None (0)

APPROVAL OF THE 1ST QUARTER INVESTMENT REPORT FOR THE PERIOD MAY 1, 2023, TO JULY 31, 2023:

Councilman Tweedy moved to approve the 1st Quarter Investment Report for the period May 1, 2023, to July 31, 2023, seconded by Councilman Plank

Councilman Dettmers stated that this report is for the 1st quarter, May 1, 2023, to July 31, 2023, of Fiscal Year 23-24 and it is regarding 3 million dollars of pooled funds being invested to try and maximize the return. He requested a copy of the contract from Finance Director Karen Weber.

The 1st Quarter Investment Report was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (4)
 NAYS: None (0)

APPROVAL OF THE 2ND QUARTER INVESTMENT REPORT FOR THE PERIOD AUGUST 1, 2023, TO OCTOBER 31, 2023:

Councilman Dettmers moved to approve the 2nd Quarter Investment Report for the period August 1, 2023, to October 31, 2023, seconded by Councilman Plank

Councilman Dettmers made a motion to amend the approval of the 2nd Quarter Investment Report for the period August 1, 2023, to October 31, 2023, to read May 1, 2023, to October 31, 2023, to match the title page of the report, seconded by Councilman Plank, and the amendment was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (4)
 NAYS: None (0)

The 2nd Quarter Investment Report for the period May 1, 2023, to October 31, 2023, with the amendment, was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (4)
 NAYS: None (0)

PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Stalcup presented Plaques of Appreciation to Captain Leonard Revelle and Captain Brian Crawford for their 30 years of service to the City of Wood River.

CITIZEN/CITY OFFICIAL COMMENTS:

Robert LaMarsh stated he was at the Council Meeting on behalf of the Heritage Council to advise the Council and the residents within the Wood River Community that the Heritage Council's 2024 "themed based" calendar is now available for purchase. This edition of the calendar highlights the various Wood River merchants that have been in business for 50 years or more. The calendar is available for purchase at Busey Bank, City Hall, Downtown Delights, Farm Fresh, First Mid Bank and Trust, Midwest Members Credit Union, Rustic Roots, Severs Market, Wood River Museum and Visitors Center, and the Wood River Public Library. The calendars are \$5.00 each and the profits help support Camp DuBois, the Museum, the Historic Wedding Chapel and enriching the Vaughn Hill Cemetery. He stated that the calendar makes an excellent stocking stuffer. He thanked the Council for allowing him the time to speak.

Mayor Stalcup thanked Robert LaMarsh for his involvement with the City of Wood River Committees, his involvement in the Community, and for everything Mr. LaMarsh has done throughout the years for the City of Wood River.

Mayor Stalcup presented a Certificate of Recognition to Firefighter Tyler Staicoff for completing the National Accredited Christian Hospital Northeast Paramedic Academy.

Mayor Stalcup stated that on November 24, 2023, the Wood River Business Alliance held its Holiday Market Traditions Night Out on First Street Downtown where there were carriage rides, hot

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cocoa, s'mores, local vendors, and visits from Santa, Elsa, the Grinch, and the Gingerbread Man. It was a huge success, and he thanked the Wood River Business Alliance, volunteers, and other organizations that made it such a great event. That evening was also the Downtown Christmas Tree lighting. He thanked the downtown businesses, the Wood River Parks & Recreation Department, and the Wood River Business Alliance for making sure the tree was ready for that evening. The Police Association hosted Santa downtown at the Sweet Tooth Candy Shop on Saturday, November 25, 2023, as a part of the Small Business Saturday event. He also thanked the Public Works Department for putting up the holiday lights downtown. He congratulated all of the Best of the Best winners for 2023, many Wood River businesses made the top three and also came home with awards. The award ceremony was Friday, December 1, 2023, and the City of Wood River is lucky to have these amazing businesses. He stated that on December 2, 2023, The Cheesecake Lady opened their doors at 333 N. Wood River Avenue. Many were in attendance for the ribbon cutting and purchased desserts. He wished them good luck and much success with their new business. The Wood River Parks & Recreation Department will be hosting Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 9, 2023, from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the Roundhouse. Lastly, Mayor Stalcup thanked the Wood River Fire Department and the Wood River Police Department for their help last week with the funeral procession for Army Chief Warrant Officer 2, Ryan J. Epley. Both departments handled the traffic and led the procession. The City of Wood River is lucky to have such dedicated police officers and firefighters.

City Manager Steve Palen updated the Council on the \$100,000 grant from the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity that the City was notified of on Friday, December 1, 2023. He would like to get Council's approval on using the grant money for sidewalk repairs throughout the City.

ORDINANCE NO. 23-23: AMENDING THE CITY CODE 90-7, TITLE XI: BUSINESS REGULATIONS, CHAPTER 112: ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, SECTION 112.25 LIMIT ON NUMBER OF LICENSES, (A) CHANGING THE NUMBER OF TAVERN LICENSES IN DISTRICT 1 FROM FOUR TO FIVE, (A) CHANGING THE NUMBER OF TAVERN LICENSES IN DISTRICT 2 FROM FOURTEEN TO FIFTEEN, AND (E) CHANGING THE NUMBER OF RESTAURANT (BEER AND WINE ONLY) LICENSES IN DISTRICT 1 FROM TWO TO ONE:

Councilman Dettmers moved to approve an ordinance amending the City Code 90-7, Title XI: Business Regulations, Chapter 112: Alcoholic Beverages, Section 112.25 Limit on Number of Licenses, (A) changing the number of tavern licenses in District 1 from four to five, (A) changing the number of tavern licenses in District 2 from fourteen to fifteen, and (E) changing the number of restaurant (beer and wine only) licenses in District 1 from two to one, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (4)
 NAYS: None (0)

ORDINANCE NO. 23-24: AMENDING THE CITY CODE 90-7, TITLE XV, LAND USAGE, CHAPTER 155: ZONING CODE, SECTION 155.01 ADOPTION BY REFERENCE TO INCLUDE CHANGES TO THE CITY OF WOOD RIVER'S ZONING CODE 96-14, ARTICLE 7, ADDING SECTION 7-22: SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS AND SECTION 7-23: BODY ART ESTABLISHMENTS, AND REPLACING THE APPEARANCE REVIEW GUIDELINES REFERENCED IN SECTION 5-6.3 WITH THE APPEARANCE GUIDELINES: WOOD RIVER DOWNTOWN DISTRICT, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE PLAN COMMISSION:

Councilman Plank moved to approve an ordinance amending the City Code 90-7, Title XV, Land Usage, Chapter 155: Zoning Code, Section 155.01 Adoption by Reference to include changes to The City of Wood River's Zoning Code 96-14, Article 7, adding Section 7-22: Solar Energy Systems and Section 7-23: Body Art Establishments, and replacing the Appearance Review Guidelines referenced in Section 5-6.3 with the Appearance Guidelines: Wood River Downtown District, as recommended by the Plan Commission, seconded by Councilman Dettmers

Councilman Plank asked if the Appearance Guidelines referenced in this agenda item pertain to the Appearance Guidelines that were established in the 1960's.

Police Chief Brad Wells stated that the Appearance Guidelines that are currently in place are from the 1990's.

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Councilman Plank reiterated that these are guidelines and not specific ordinances or laws.

Police Chief Brad Wells stated yes, that is correct, and the new guidelines allow a pathway for appeals.

The ordinance was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (4)
NAYS: None (0)

APPROVAL OF A REQUEST TO SEEK BIDS FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT ADDITION, AS SUBMITTED BY THE FIRE CHIEF:

Councilman Tweedy moved to approve a request to seek bids for the Fire Department addition, as submitted by the Fire Chief, seconded by Councilman Dettmers

Councilman Dettmers asked Fire Chief Wade Stahlhut for clarification on what the addition to the Fire Department consists of.

Fire Chief Wade Stahlhut explained that conversations about the project started in November 2022 when an estimate was received from Berco Construction based on a broad capital project of an extension of the existing fire station for the purpose of storage. That estimate came in at roughly \$330,000.00 and that was approved as a capital request. He stated as the City has continued down the road with the project, they realized very quickly, thanks to City Manager Steve Palen, that they needed to get professional services involved to better understand the complexities of the project and they were able to work through two big items through that process. The packet that Chief Stahlhut provided the Council with is a breakdown of where they are today from the beginning to the current date, and it shows the history of the project as a whole and a look at the different opportunities. The front page of the packet shows the original estimate and what was approved through the capital request. The front page of the packet also shows the doors and windows that are also a part of the project, when it was approved through a capital request, and the addition of bringing in AAIC Professional Services to assist with the project. Tuckpointing was removed from the original project because a better opportunity presented itself and they were able to move forward sooner with that. The remainder of the project as it sits now has alternate bids, referred to as Alternate #1, Alternate #2, and Alternate #3 on the front page of the packet. He stated that originally this project was an extension of the fire station for storage purposes only. He explained that they have grown out of the fire station to a point where they have assets that are being stored at other locations throughout the City and due to insurance reasons, they would like to get all of the assets back on City property. In essence, what they are looking for right now is to go out to bid on just a storage building. Another option would be an engine bay which will allow drainage, oil and water separator, and an ejector pump to the existing fire station which is referred to as Alternate #1 on the front page of the packet. Alternate #2 adds an exhaust fan with a louver system to create ventilation through that area. Alternate #3 was not originally part of the plan for the project but they would like to see what the bids come back as to add a window in the office areas of the fire station where the Deputy Fire Chief's Office is currently. He stated that the fire station is almost forty years old, and they want to make improvements to the building as well as have room for growth and allow them to bring some of the assets back on site. Chief Stahlhut provided a general layout to the Council showing bringing the foam engine, two trailers that hold the foam, and the pump back to the fire station. The general layout shows the different plans that have been presented by AAIC as well as their estimates. He also provided a breakdown from AAIC for the two invoices that the City has received so far for the project and a broad understanding of what the remainder of the contract looks like and a timeline. The rest of the packet includes the ordinance that was passed to enter into an agreement with AAIC and the agreement itself.

City Manager Steve Palen stated that the base bid will be for the storage building only and the City can accept or reject the alternate bids.

Councilman Plank asked where the assets that were mentioned earlier are being stored currently.

Fire Chief Wade Stahlhut stated that BP houses four separate trailers for the Fire Department on site and all of the foam storage is at Kinder Morgan.

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Councilman Plank asked if the partners want the equipment on site.

Fire Chief Wade Stahlhut answered no, BP is currently in the process of demolishing the majority of the buildings they have on site so the Fire Department will have to move the trailers in the very near future because one of the adjacent walls to that storage building is attached.

Councilman Plank asked where they will put the trailers if the timing of this project does not work.

Fire Chief Wade Stahlhut explained that timing wise, they will have to find other locations either around the City or neighboring Fire Departments to house that equipment for them. The biggest concern will be maintaining climate control, especially for the foam.

Councilman Tweedy thanked Fire Chief Wade Stahlhut for the explanation of the project.

The request was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (4)
NAYS: None (0)

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.



Mayor



City Clerk