

PUBLIC HEARING
FY 24/25 PROPOSED BUDGET

Mayor Tom Stalcup called a Public Hearing to order at 7:00 p.m. with the recital of the Pledge of Allegiance. The purpose of this Public Hearing is to receive citizen comments on the City Manager's 24/25 Fiscal Year Proposed Budget, as required by City Code and State Statutes. Copies of the proposed budget have been on file in the City Clerk's Office and at the Wood River Public Library.

Mayor Stalcup reminded the audience that for Public Hearings, citizens' comments shall be limited to the citizens comment section of the agenda, and there shall be no outbursts, speaking, clapping or noise making during the Public Hearing. He also reminded the audience to please not talk amongst themselves as the City would like everyone in attendance to be able to hear everyone clearly, and the comment section of the Public Hearing is for comments only and is not a question and answer format.

City Manager Steve Palen gave highlights for the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 24/25. Total expenses proposed are \$31,230,472, which represents a decrease of 14.85% from Fiscal Year 23/24. Operating expenses total \$19,267,972 and capital expenses total \$11,962,499. Of these expenses, \$8,774,896 are General Fund operating expenses. The General Fund has a projected ending reserve of \$5,295,657, which is approximately seven months of operating reserve. General Fund revenues exceed expenditures by \$164,357. The Proposed Budget as a whole is balanced in that revenues of \$34 million are used to offset the \$31 million in expenditures. Reserves have been used to offset the expenditures in excess of revenues resulting from increased costs to manage the City, fund capital projects, and provide necessary infrastructure repairs and replacements.

There being no further comments, the Public Hearing adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

AGENDA

A regular meeting of the Wood River City Council was called to order by Mayor Tom Stalcup at 7:04 p.m. on Monday, March 18, 2024. 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 Tweedy moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 4, 2024, as printed, seconded by Councilman Dettmers, and approved by the following vote:

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

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Councilman Ayres moved to approve the bills submitted for payment for the period February 29, 2024, to March 13, 2024, as printed, seconded by Councilman Plank, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Ayres, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (4)
NAYS: None (0)
ABSTAIN: Dettmers (1)

FINANCIAL STATEMENT ENDING FEBRUARY 29, 2024:

Councilman Tweedy moved to approve the Financial Statement ending February 29, 2024, as printed, seconded by Councilman Ayres, and approved by the following vote:

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

March 18, 2024

APPROVAL OF 3rd QUARTER INVESTMENT REPORT:

Councilman Dettmers moved to approve the 3rd Quarter Investment Report for the period May 1, 2023, to January 31, 2024, seconded by Councilman Ayres, and approved by the following vote:

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

CITIZEN/CITY OFFICIAL COMMENTS:

Thomas Randolph has lived in the City of Wood River for over 20 years. He is concerned about high-speed internet availability in the City. He stated that Charter Spectrum has been the only high-speed internet service in town since he has lived in the City of Wood River. He stated that every year he checks to see what options are available because prices are always going up and he is always looking for ways to save money. The current Charter Spectrum pricing for their lowest tier is \$84.99 per month for 300 Mbps internet service and it is an additional \$20.00 per month to upgrade to the 500 Mbps internet service. To upgrade to their gigabit internet service, it is another \$30.00 totaling \$115.00 per month. He stated that the Village of East Alton recently had a company come in called Clear Wave Fiber that offers fiber internet speeds to their residents. That same company is in Edwardsville, Collinsville, Alton, and in other communities around the City of Wood River but not currently offered in the City. With Clear Wave Fiber services, residents can get one gigabit internet service for \$70.00 per month. He then stated that Charter Spectrum, as the only internet provider in town, is allowed to set their own rates. He was able to get a discount of \$25.00 per month from Charter Spectrum and he looked to see if there are other companies in the area that offer internet service but found no other options. He would like to know if there is anything the City of Wood River can do to end Charter Spectrum's monopoly.

Jeff Cooper thanked the City for posting the entire agenda packet on the City website. He asked if the ordinance on the agenda tonight for the Vacant Structure Registration applies to commercial buildings. He stated that there are a lot of buildings in the City that look vacant and asked if the City is going to post something on the vacant buildings indicating that they are vacant letting the citizens know that the City is addressing the building. He thinks it would be a good idea to have notices posted letting the citizens know whether a building has been inspected.

REPORTS/COMMENTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS:

Mayor Stalcup congratulated Missy Bell-Yates for being recognized in the Emerging Women's Leadership Conference held in Springfield last week. He recognized Ms. Bell-Yates, the owner of Rustic Roots, for being a long-time business owner in Wood River and for her business being a platform for many local artists and crafters to sell their products and creations. Rustic Roots retails companies that support charities, recycle, repurpose, and give back. He described Ms. Bell-Yates as an emerging entrepreneur and a community leader in Wood River. Congratulations, Ms. Bell-Yates!

Mayor Stalcup thanked the Wood River Moose Lodge for cleaning up along Wesley Drive. The City of Wood River appreciates their hard work.

City Manager Steve Palen welcomed the new Assistant Park and Recreation Director, Tyler Lafferty. Tyler came to the City of Wood River from the Village of East Alton, and he is going to be a great asset to the Parks and Recreation Department. Welcome, Tyler!

ORDINANCE NO. 24-10: AMENDING THE CITY CODE 90-7, TITLE XV: LAND USAGE, ADDING CHAPTER 159: VACANT STRUCTURE REGISTRATION:

Councilman Ayres moved to approve an ordinance amending the City Code 90-7, Title XV: Land Usage, Adding Chapter 159: Vacant Structure Registration, seconded by Councilman Plank, and approved by the following vote:

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

ORDINANCE NO. 24-11: AMENDING THE CITY CODE 90-7, TITLE IX: GENERAL REGULATIONS, CHAPTER 95: PARKS AND RECREATION, ADDING SECTION 95.06, ENTITLED RATES AT BELK PARK GOLF COURSE:

Councilman Dettmers moved to approve an ordinance amending the City Code 90-7, Title IX: General Regulations, Chapter 95: Parks and Recreations, Adding Section 95.06, entitled Rates at Belk Park Golf Course, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

RESOLUTION NO. 2044: DECLARING THE STRUCTURE(S) LOCATED AT PARCEL ID 19-2-08-27-05-101-009, COMMONLY KNOWN AS 143 E. PENNING, WOOD RIVER, IL 62095, UNSAFE AND A PUBLIC NUISANCE AND AUTHORIZING THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY TO PROCEED WITH LEGAL ACTION:

Councilman Ayres moved to approve a resolution declaring the structure(s) located at Parcel ID 19-2-08-27-05-101-009, commonly known as 143 E. Penning, Wood River, IL 62095, unsafe and a public nuisance and authorizing the Prosecuting Attorney to proceed with legal action, as submitted by the Building and Zoning Administrator, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

RESOLUTION NO. 2045: AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN ELECTRICITY SUPPLY AGREEMENT WITH CONSTELLATION NEWENERGY, INC. FOR THE WOOD RIVER RECREATION CENTER:

Councilman Tweedy moved to approve a resolution authorizing the execution of an electricity supply agreement with Constellation NewEnergy, Inc. for the Wood River Recreation Center, as submitted by the City Manager, seconded by Councilman Ayres

Councilman Dettmers asked when this agreement becomes effective.

City Manager Steve Palen stated that it becomes effective at the beginning of April 2024 and will run through the end of the City's aggregation program which ends in November 2026.

The resolution was approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

RESOLUTION NO. 2046: AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH HOMEFIELD ENERGY AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CITY OF WOOD RIVER'S CONSULTANT GOOD ENERGY LP FOR THE SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY FOR RESIDENTIAL AND SMALL COMMERCIAL RETAIL CUSTOMERS:

Councilman Ayres moved to approve a resolution authorizing the execution of a service agreement with Homefield Energy as recommended by the City of Wood River's Consultant Good Energy LP for the supply of electricity for residential and small commercial retail customers, as submitted by the City Manager, seconded by Councilman Dettmers, and approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

RESOLUTION NO. 2047: APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY FOR A RIGHT OF ENTRY FOR SURVEY AND EXPLORATION:

Councilman Ayres moved to approve a resolution approving an agreement with the Department of the Army for a Right of Entry for survey and exploration, as submitted by the City Manager, seconded by Councilman Tweedy

Councilman Dettmers clarified that the area for this agreement is Enviro Tech Park and asked what the intention is for the agreement.

City Manager Steve Palen explained that their intention is to reestablish the old Wood River Channel that went through that site but instead of cutting through the site in the meandering fashion it used to be in, the City is looking at granting them an easement on the northern part of the property because there is an option on that property for potential development so the City does not want them to cut right through the middle of the site.

The resolution was approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

March 18, 2024

APPROVED: REQUEST TO HOLD THE POLICE DEPARTMENT 5K DOWNTOWN:

Councilman Tweedy moved to approve a request to hold the Police Department 5K Downtown on Ferguson Avenue to various streets on Saturday, May 18, 2024, from 12:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., as submitted by the Wood River Police Association, seconded by Councilman Plank, and approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

APPROVED - RECOMMENDATION TO AWARD THE 2024-2025 MFT MAINTENANCE BIDS:

Councilman Dettmers moved to approve a recommendation to award the 2024-2025 MFT Maintenance Bids, 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)

APPROVED: RECOMMENDATION FROM MAYOR STALCUP TO APPOINT NANCY DONA OF 2 BERRY LANE TO THE WOOD RIVER COMMUNITY APPEARANCE BOARD WITH A TERM TO EXPIRE MAY 2025:

Councilman Dettmers moved to approve a recommendation from Mayor Stalcup to appoint Nancy Dona of 2 Berry Lane to the Wood River Community Appearance Board with a term to expire May 2025, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

APPROVED: RECOMMENDATION FROM MAYOR STALCUP TO APPOINT DAN DONA OF 2 BERRY LANE TO THE WOOD RIVER COMMUNITY APPEARANCE BOARD WITH A TERM TO EXPIRE MAY 2025:

Councilman Tweedy moved to approve a recommendation from Mayor Stalcup to appoint Dan Dona of 2 Berry Lane to the Wood River Community Appearance Board with a term to expire May 2025, seconded by Councilman Ayres, and approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

SET PUBLIC HEARING ON THE MADISON COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT:

Councilman Ayres moved to approve setting a Public Hearing on the Madison County Community Development Block Grant for Monday, April 1, 2024, at 7:00pm before the regularly scheduled Council Meeting, seconded by Councilman Plank, and approved by the following vote:

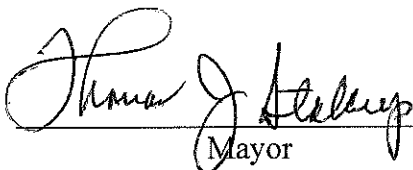
AYES: Ayres, Dettmers, Plank, Tweedy, Stalcup (5)

NAYS: None (0)

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.



Mayor



City Clerk