

November 4, 2024

A regular meeting of the Wood River City Council was called to order by Mayor Tom Stalcup at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, November 4, 2024, 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 Plank moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 21, 2024, as printed, seconded by Councilman Ayres

Councilman Dettmers stated that he sent an email to all of the members of Council notifying them that he requested the City Clerk add some significant comments that were omitted from the minutes.

Councilman Dettmers made a motion to table the approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of October 21, 2024, seconded by Councilman Ayres, and denied by the following vote:

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

The minutes were approved by the following vote:

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

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Councilman Ayres moved to approve the bills submitted for payment for the period October 17, 2024, to October 30, 2024, as printed, seconded by Councilman Dettmers, and approved by the following vote:

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

CITIZEN/CITY OFFICIAL COMMENTS:

Mary Roberts announced that the Veterans Day Memorial Service will be held Monday, November 11, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. at East Alton Wood River Community High School Memorial Gymnasium. She stated that there will be 19 Veterans receiving a Quilt of Valor at the Service this year and Scouting America Troop 777 will do the Posting of Colors and the Pledge of Allegiance. She also stated that there will be a new bagpiper this year. Andrew Nohl, a Junior at Father McGivney Catholic High School will sing the National Anthem. Pastor Tim McGee, a U.S. Army Veteran, will do the Reading of the Names. The Holy Angels PSR Students and Girl Scout Troops 130, 252, & 325 will do the Presentation of "Thank You" Pictures. William Steiner, a Senior at EAWRCHS will do the Taps. Father Steve Thompson, a U.S. Marine Corps Veteran, will do the opening and closing prayers. She invited the community to come and support the Veterans.

Audrey Dettmers stated that she has been researching "What's Up Downtown" for a year and a half pertaining to the TIF because she sees a lot of movement with money, but she does not see a lot of results and she is very curious. She stated that she analyzes open source documents and she knows that one of the main developers is B2 Management and it seems as though every property that B2 Management owns or has owned is currently for sale. She does not know if B2 Management has ever received any TIF funds, but B2 Management is not her priority today. She then stated that the other main developer who the City is connected to through the Wood River Business Alliance is Tim O'Donnell. Mr. O'Donnell has been a developer in other areas and his main headquarters is allegedly in Wood River. With a lot of the projects, he uses his Greentree Home Solutions LLC that was earmarked to get \$240,000.00 from the City of Wood River for acquisition of the building at 229 E. Ferguson. She stated that Mr. O'Donnell uses his Greentree Home Solutions LLC as his home improvement arm for his development. There is not too much out there that he has done

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commercially other than under his development. In her opinion, that is suspect. She has been researching because she does not really see a lot going on and there is a big bandwagon of cheerleaders supporting downtown but there is not a lot going on for how much money has been invested. When she researched WGO Investment LLC's investments, she stumbled upon information that Mr. O'Donnell is setting up shop in Greenville, Illinois. Last October, Mr. O'Donnell went to the City Council in Greenville, Illinois and requested 50 percent of the cost of redevelopment and the City Council originally denied it. She stated that most cities only approve 30 percent, they do not go in 50 percent as that is desperate in her opinion. At the next City Council meeting in Greenville, Illinois they approved Mr. O'Donnell for 32 percent, which was last November. The condition for Mr. O'Donnell's needs stated that he was going to open this monstrosity of a building in time for the City of Greenville's Fourth of July Fest. She then stated that upon approval, Mr. O'Donnell received around one third of the \$850,000.00 that the City of Greenville, Illinois earmarked for that project, and the building is still sitting. The building permit for the building was approved in December 2023 and the building is still empty and there is no movement on the building. She feels like it is smoke and mirrors with TIF. She asked if it is really the priority of the Council to be worried about TIF and the majority of what is being promoted is TIF instead of having concern about repairing sidewalks or sewers. She stated that the City of Wood River did spend a half of a million dollars on sidewalks this year, but it has been a while. She closed by stating that she will continue her research, but she does not see anything going on and ultimately like she said about a month ago, it is not going to happen unless the people choose to overspend their dollars here locally for the same products they can get from China.

Mayor Stalcup announced that the Veterans Day Memorial Service will be held Monday, November 11, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. at East Alton Wood River Community High School Memorial Gymnasium.

Mayor Stalcup congratulated the Wood River Business Alliance for their successful Downtown Trick or Treat that took place on Wednesday, October 23, 2024. Ferguson Avenue was lined with families and trick or treaters on a beautiful night. He thanked all of the businesses that were involved with the Downtown Trick or Treat. The 39th Annual Halloween Parade was another great hit. He thanked Fire Captain Scott Crump and his entire crew for a very good and enjoyable parade.

Mayor Stalcup stated that the Kiwanis Club held their "Shoes for Kids" last Saturday at Cleary's Shoes & Boots where Mr. Hagopian and his staff fitted 89 pairs of kids' shoes for the giveaway. The Kiwanis Club raises their funds for "Shoes for Kids" through their annual barbeques.

Mayor Stalcup announced that the Masonic Lodge Spaghetti Dinner is Saturday, November 9, 2024, from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and it is an all you can eat dinner at the Masonic Lodge located at 390 E. Lorena Avenue.

Councilman Dettmers congratulated the Downtown Trick or Treat that took place on Wednesday, October 23, 2024. He stated that it was phenomenal.

City Manager Steve Palen asked Fire Chief Wade Stahlhut to come forward to explain Item #8 on the agenda.

Fire Chief Wade Stahlhut thanked the Council for their time. There have been several phone calls and conversations that have taken place, and he understands that the City Manager, Mayor, and City Council's time is very valuable, and he appreciates what they were able to afford the Fire Department and to allow time for conversations on how this is going to progress. He stated that as everyone is aware on Friday, September 13, 2024, the Fire Department had a pumper have a cabin engine compartment fire and the fire spread to the cab of the truck. Subsequently, that truck has now been totaled by insurance. The City is still negotiating with a settlement amount to resolve that. In the process, the City has been looking for options. Chief Stahlhut has researched six different options and at this time, Item #8 on the agenda is the option he would like to move forward with. The Fire Department has the opportunity through HGAC pricing to purchase a demo truck from Sentinel Fire Solutions. It is a Rosenbauer Pumper. Sentinel Fire Solutions has been allowing the Fire Department to use a loaner pumper. The loaner pumper was supposed to cost \$300.00 per day. Sentinel has been allowing the Fire Department to use it free of charge as the City moves forward with this potential project. Chief Stahlhut provided each Council Member with a handout for reference. On November 22, 2022, the Fire Department ordered a Rosenbauer Pumper that was supposed to arrive in July 2024. The current projected arrival date has been pushed to June 2025. There is an absence currently happening. That pumper list price is \$932,493.00. With that, the Fire

Department had capital money, as well as ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds set aside, and was awarded zero percent on a 20-year loan from the State Fire Marshal's Office as a part of the purchase. He directed Council Members to the handout he provided. Looking at the right-hand column under revenue, members will see the \$450,000.00 allocated in the 2024-2025 fiscal year budget, the ARPA funds, the funds available, and the \$350,000.00 from the State Fire Marshall's Office under the zero percent 20-year loan program. Continuing to the damaged pumper that was totaled, the City had higher expectations, but it did not work out. However, negotiations are still ongoing. Currently the offer from insurance is \$151,750.00 and another supplemental is up to \$176,925.00. He is hopeful of continuing negotiations in a positive direction and the potential of receiving additional funds. With the potential purchase of the demo pumper, the City is looking into the idea of selling Truck 4214, which is a 2008 Spartan Crimson Pumper. It is a first-generation CAT engine that has experienced numerous maintenance problems. Chief received an estimated sale price for that truck, which would provide an excess of \$375,925.00. The total in the right-hand column is \$1,591,925.00. The Fire Department has the option, as of right now, to apply for the 2025 State Fire Marshall Office zero percent loan program. There is the potential of applying for an additional loan or stacking on the already existing funds if the City Council sees a need for that. Right now, the City is looking at \$800,000.00 for the demo pumper. The purchase price is \$740,000.00 and then an additional \$60,000.00 to get it operational. Continuing down the road when the ordered pumper arrives, the demo pumper will be returned to Sentinel Fire Solutions to have the rest of the work completed. Referring back to the pricing sheet, the bottom right under ordered pumper, the additional equipment order came in today at 3:00 p.m. from Sentinel. There was a delay in receiving this, as the company experienced a burglary two days ago. There will be some additional funds in the 2025/2026 fiscal year budget hopefully set aside under capital to finish the demo pumper project.

Councilman Plank asked if the City anticipates getting another zero percent interest loan for the \$170,000.00.

City Manager Steve Palen stated that the number is closer to \$264,371.00 due to the additional equipment to get it up and running.

Councilman Plank asked if that would be a budgeted expense in fiscal year 2025/2026.

Fire Chief Stahlhut stated whatever the City Manager and Finance Director at the time feels is most appropriate.

City Manager Steve Palen stated when everything is said and done, the City is hoping to receive two of the \$350,000.00 zero interest loans.

Councilman Tweedy asked about the additional one-year warranty.

Fire Chief Stahlhut stated that the Fire Department is fortunate with the ordered pumper dating back to November 2022, Sentinel recognizes the delays taking place. Most manufacturers are three to five years out on orders. They have presented an additional year of bumper-to-bumper warranty on the ordered pumper. Through negotiations and working toward the demo project, the rental truck was one side of it but the other was to get an additional one-year bumper to bumper warranty, so there will be a two-year warranty on both new pumpers.

Councilman Dettmers stated he noticed the insurance amount as of last Friday was \$176,925.00. He has spoken with Chief Stahlhut about the potential of receiving additional insurance funds.

Fire Chief Stahlhut stated that is correct. It has been a month and a half, and the City is still negotiating, but is hopeful that there will be additional funds.

ORDINANCE NO. 2914: ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT WITH MADISON COUNTY FOR THE EDWARDSVILLE ROAD WATER LINE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT:

Councilman Plank moved to approve an ordinance authorizing the execution of a Subrecipient Agreement with Madison County for the Edwardsville Road Water Line Improvement Project, as submitted by the Director of Public Services, seconded by Councilman Tweedy, and approved by the following vote:

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2094: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WOOD RIVER AND CLEARY'S SHOES & BOOTS FOR MARKETING IN SUPPORT OF THE WOOD RIVER RECREATION CENTER:

Councilman Ayres moved to approve a resolution authorizing the execution of a sponsorship agreement between the City of Wood River and Cleary's Shoes & Boots for marketing in support of the Wood River Recreation Center, as submitted by the Director of Parks and Recreation, seconded by Councilman Dettmers, and approved by the following vote:

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2095: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE OF A DEMO ROSENBAUER PUMPER TRUCK FROM SENTINEL EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS FOR \$740,000.00, AND WAIVING CUSTOMARY BIDDING PROCEDURES:

Councilman Tweedy moved to approve a resolution authorizing the sole source purchase of a demo Rosenbauer Pumper Truck from Sentinel Emergency Solutions for \$740,000.00, and waiving customary bidding procedures, as submitted by the Fire Chief, 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: NONE

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.



 Mayor



 City Clerk