



City of SANDWICH, ILLINOIS

City Hall Annex · 128 East Railroad Street

Committee-of-the-Whole Council Meeting

December 4th, 2023 immediately following Regular Council Meeting

MINUTES

Mayor Latham called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM

Roll call was taken:

Present: Mayor Latham, Clerk Ii, Aldermen Arnett, Erickson, Fritsch, Johnson, Kreinbrink, Littlebrant, Robinson & Whitecotton

Quorum established

Also Present: Attorney Gottschalk, City Administrator Penman, Police Chief Senne, EMA Director Eberle, City Engineer Curt Dettmann (EEI) & Chris Buckley, EEI Project Manager

Mayor Latham: Word has been received from the Dekalb County Visitors Bureau announcing that Angie's Sugar Buzz has been inducted into the "Illinois Made Program". Congratulations were extended

Foster, Buick, Conklin, Lundgren & Gottschalk Law Group: No report

City Clerk Ii: No report

City Treasurer: Open Position

City Administrator Penman report consisted of:

- heater was replaced in the Green Room of the Opera House
- actuary information has been received from the Police Pension fund for auditing purposes
- rough numbers on the proposed parking lot at the corner of College and Main Streets were forwarded to the Council for review
- Aldermen Arnett and Kreinbrink have been working on arrangements for tuck pointing on the street department building
- roof assessment on the Opera House building has not yet been received
- three businesses are protesting their assessed value: FNBO, Old National Bank, and Walgreens. Geoff has met with other taxing bodies, like last year, to challenge the protests by obtaining appraisals

City Department Reports: Chris Buckley (EEI Project Manager) provided an update on the wastewater treatment plant construction including, but not limited to:

- a reminder the reason for the project is to remove phosphorus down to 1 milligram per liter as mandated in February 2023 that includes filters and digestors
- second level is to remove phosphorus down to 0.5 milligram per liter effective in 2030; if the new level cannot be met, additional construction will be required to meet the new limit
- filtering of waste water continues to aid in removal of the phosphorus
- additional digestors are being installed
- required upgrades to the plant are being conducted including sewage pump and aerator replacement
- electrical improvements including wiring
- contract with Vissering Construction is for \$11,955,000.00; IEPA loan is for \$13,942,062.00 because it includes construction, design, construction engineering, including unforeseen incurred costs as the project reaches completion. The interest rate on the IEPA is 1.08% for 20 years. Repayment of the loan will commence once the project is completed
- photos were shown of the bricked 1-1/2 story building in various stages of construction; the building is supported by 200 piles because of poor soil conditions
- contract changes totaling about \$25,000, include addition of oxidation ditch underground conduit, replace two digestors, and revise the site lighting design
- 30% of the project is complete

Aldermen Reports: Alderman Kreinbrink said it was evident that Chief Senne's leadership has changed the attitudes of the community, many residents have commented how they like seeing a prominent police presence that is active and engaged in the community.

New Business:

Continued Discussion of Truck Route: Curt Dettmann shared information regarding local and non-local deliveries that could impact a proposed truck route. A designated truck route means trucks would be allowed to use the route whether they had a delivery or not, but also use the route as a 'pass through' to their destination that may be located in neighboring communities. Consideration regarding connecting points would affect N. Latham Street and S. Main Street; are there access points north and south that are allowing trucks. 6th and 3rd Streets from Duvick Road are already being utilized as a truck route. Roadway access must be able to handle the turn radius at intersections. Mayor recommended contacting the neighboring counties to review their designated truck route, and to clean up the map depicting proposed routes. Alderman Robinson finds the creation of truck routes to be problematic with enforcements issues, and questions if additional signage could be cost prohibitive. No final decision was made.

Announcements: Next meeting for the Finance Committee will be on Monday, December 18th, 2023, at 6:30 PM. The Regular Council meeting will meet at 7:00 PM on the same date immediately followed by the Committee-of-the-Whole meeting.

A Special Finance Committee Meeting will be held on Monday, December 11th, 2023 at 4:30 PM

Audience Comments: None

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the Council, **motion made by Alderwoman Johnson and seconded by Alderman Arnett to adjourn the Committee-of-the-Whole Council Meeting at 8:40 PM. Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.**

/s/ Denise li – City Clerk