



City of SANDWICH, ILLINOIS

City Hall Annex · 128 East Railroad Street

Committee-of-the-Whole Council Meeting

March 5th, 2018 @ 7:00 PM

MINUTES

Mayor Olson called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Roll call was taken:

Present: Mayor Olson, City Clerk Ii, Aldermen Chmielewski, Kelleher, Killey, McMahon & Robinson

Also present: Attorney Harrill, Department of Public Works / City Engineer Horak, Sergeant Paletta & EMA Director Ciciora

Absent: Aldermen Dell, O'Sullivan & Redden ; City Treasurer Webber; Chief Bianchi

Mayor Olson:

Cenergy Power Solar Presentation: Chad Chahbazi, Director of Project Development & Strategic Business Development, proposed a solar program launch this summer at the southeast corner of Gletty Road and Center Street. The California based company would lease 10 acres at a cost of \$2,000/acre for 21 years. It is estimated to take six months to development and build the site. In order for the program to be successful, three offtakers (purchasers of power) are required such as the City, the school district and commercial industry. Stressing time is of the essence for any available grant money, the company would like to enter into a lease with the City by the end of the month.

Progressive Energy Solar Update: Arnie Schramel, founder and managing partner of Progressive Energy, provided study results for the solar "behind meter" array to be located at the City's waste water treatment plant. It is his recommendation to move forward with the solar field project, adding a contingent clause, that would save approximately \$13,400 in annual electrical savings for the sewer treatment plant.. In order to qualify for limited grant money offered by ComEd and the State, the City must commit by the end of the month. The site consists of 2.5 acres that is in a flood plain, and will require a waiver from the City and a study that the solar field will not hinder the flood zone.

At a previous meeting, Alderman Redden had questioned how the residents would benefit from this particular solar field. Progressive Energy presented another alternative called "community solar aggregation" for residents and small commercial businesses. Residents would see an annual savings of \$65 - \$100. In order to realize the savings, 49 acres of green area would be required.

This would include 6 acres at the waste water treatment facility, 10 acres at the southeast corner of Gletty Road and Center Street (same site proposed for the Cenergy project), 5 acres from the water pumping site at the end of Hall Street, and 10 acres at the water detention basin east of the fairgrounds.

Proposed Class K Liquor License: Council has been undecided if the number of Class K liquor licenses should be increased. State law mandates that a coffee shop type establishment offering video gaming must also hold a liquor license. Several aldermen felt the market is saturated based on monthly tallies that have remained constant since summer. An ordinance will be presented next week for a vote.

2018-2019 Budget Update: The budget meeting of March 5th will reconvene immediately following this evening's meeting. The next budget meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 12th immediately following the regular Council meeting.

Foster, Buick, Conklin, Lundgren & Tritt, LLC: No report

City Clerk Ii: No report

City Treasurer: Absent

Director of Public Works / City Engineer Horak announced that the electronic recycling program will discontinue after this weekend's collection. DC Trash, the County's vendor, has expressed it is cost prohibitive to offer the service due to rising costs affiliated with the labor and disposal of electronic waste. DC Trash will continue to accept electronic waste at their facility in Cortland at a cost.

Chief Bianchi: Sergeant Paletta was present in the Chief's absence. No report.

EMA Director Ciciora reported that the statewide tornado drill be held tomorrow, March 6th. Additionally, he will be attending an all-day seminar at Wheaton College on storms. He will also be conducting traffic training class for the police cadets.

Alderman Chiemlewski : No report

Alderman Dell: Absent

Alderman Kelleher: No report

Alderman Killey advised that the finance committee will meet immediately following the budget reconvened meeting

Alderman McMahon: No report

Alderman O'Sullivan: Absent

Alderman Redden: Absent

Alderman Robinson: No report

New Business: None

Audience Comments: None

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Council, **motion made by Alderman Robinson and seconded by Alderman Kelleher to adjourn the Committee-of-the-Whole Council meeting at 8:12 PM. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.**

/s/ Denise Li – City Clerk