



City of **SANDWICH, ILLINOIS**

City Hall Annex · 128 East Railroad Street

Committee-of-the-Whole Council Meeting

May 15, 2017 @ 7:00 PM

MINUTES

Mayor Olson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Roll call was taken:

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

Also present: Attorney Buick, Department of Public Works / City Engineer Horak, Chief Bianchi, Building Official Steffens & EMA Director Ciciora

Absent: City Treasurer Webber & Alderman Kelleher

Mayor Olson

Conservation Foundation Presentation: Jim Kleinwachter gave a presentation promoting wildflowers and grasses as an alternative to mowed turf grass for detention areas. Promoting that plants are a life source for the planet, he explained how mowed grass will attract geese, a problem that the City is starting to see in detention areas holding water. The cost is \$3,500 - \$4,000 per acre, and a burn off by a trained professional would be required every 2-3 years to deter weed growth.

International Police Week Recognition: Mayor Olson read a tribute honoring the police officers that risk their lives on a daily basis to protect the community. He shared some of his own experiences as a former law enforcement officer, and concluded with a benediction prayer.

Sandwich Sportman's Club Kid's Fishing Day will be held on Saturday, June 3rd from 9 AM until 1 PM. The free event, that includes a free lunch and prizes, is open to kids 16 and under.

Ordinance 2017-09 entitled "An Ordinance Granting a Special Use in the B-3 Service, Automotive, and Wholesale Business District Permitting the Operation of a Body Art Establishment at 122 Indian Springs Drive, Unit 4, by Outer Beauty Ink LLC" was presented for first reading. Randy Goodwin, co-applicant was present to answer questions.

Foster, Buick, Conklin, Lundgren & Tritt, LLC: Attorney Kevin Buick reminded the Council of their obligation to take the online training for the Open Meetings Act. As aldermen, they are required to take the online training once, and upon completion, a certificate is to be printed and returned to the City Clerk.

City Clerk reported that the Illinois Municipal League (IML) will be hosting a newly elected officials workshop on Friday, June 30th in Rochelle. The workshop is not restrictive to newly elected officials, and Clerk Li will be placing reservations on Tuesday, May 16th. The workshop will cover topics such as Sunshine Laws, municipal meetings and budgeting, ethics and conflicts of interest.

City Treasurer: Absent

Director of Public Works / City Engineer Horak:

Motion to Approve Resolution 17-06 entitled “Resolution for Maintenance of Streets and Highways by Municipality Under the Illinois Highway Code”: Engineer Horak requested a motion to approve Resolution 17-06. Passage of this Resolution will request approval from IDOT (Illinois Department of Transportation) to spend \$320,000 between January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017. This resolution is a revision of Resolution 17-03 that initially appropriated \$250,000.00.

So moved by Alderman Redden, and seconded by Alderman McMahon. Aye: Aldermen Chmielewski, Dell, Killey, McMahon, Redden & Robinson Nay:0 Motion carried 6:0

Brush Pickup is complete in Ward 3

PC2017-02 Plan Commission Recommendation: At the regular meeting for the Plan Commission on May 9, 2017, request of a special use permit for a body art establishment at 122 Indian Springs Drive, Unit 4, was approved by a vote of 5:1.

Property Maintenance Ordinance 2017-07 entitled “An Ordinance Amending Sections 18-111 and 18-113 of Chapter 18 of the Municipal Code of the City of Sandwich to Incorporate and Adopt the International Property Maintenance Code, 2015 Edition”. Building Official Todd Steffens was present to answer questions from the Council. The Ordinance addresses such items as swimming pool safety measures, exterior maintenance of buildings, and options for tenants regarding property maintenance if landlord does not comply. The Ordinance will be placed on next week’s agenda for passage.

Fire Code & Life Safety Code: Building Official Todd Steffens continued the discussion on the adoption of the International Fire Code, 2015 Edition with City amendments and the NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) 101 Safety Code, 2015 Edition with City amendments. Since the City does not have a fire code, the City relies on the International Fire Code, 2006 Edition, by default. Mr. Steffens recommended that the City transition to the 2015 Edition as will the fire department. In a situation where the City and fire department may disagree on a code implementation, the City will have priority for the final enforcement. The City will be drafting their own ordinance that will be similar to that of the fire department.

Public Works Part-Time Position: Engineer Horak requested a motion to advertise for a seasonal public work part-time employee at \$14.50 per hour and a maximum of 29 hours per week through October, 2017. He added that it is not his intent to have the employee do foreclosure forced mows on residential properties because (1) may not be cost effective, and (2) the City’s equipment is too big for residential lots.

Motion made by Alderman Robinson to hire a part-time employee for the public works department at a salary of \$14.50 per hour, and a maximum of 29 hours per week through the mowing season ending approximately in October, 2017. Motion was seconded by Alderman Redden. Aye: Aldermen Chmielewski, Dell, Killey, McMahon, Redden & Redden Nay:0 Motion carried 6:0

2017 Pavement Crack Sealing: The DeKalb County project is scheduled to begin work on Friday, May 12, 2017; and the City project is tentatively scheduled to begin on Wednesday, May 17th.

2017 Street Maintenance Project (17-00000-01-GM): Paperwork has been approved by IDOT (Illinois Department of Transportation). Bid opening is scheduled for Wednesday, June 7, 2017 at 10:00 AM.

2017 Lisbon Street – Green to Main Reconstruction Project: Bid opening is scheduled for Wednesday, May 24th, 2017 at 10:00 AM.

2017 Main Street & Eddy Street Railroad Crossings: The work conducted by BNSF (Burlington Northern Santa Fe) appears to be complete.

2017 Center Street Lighting Project: Preconstruction meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 31st at 10:00 AM.

Other: Engineer Horak asked the council, after viewing the Conservation Foundation presentation, if the City is interested in pursuing prairie grass and natural landscaping for detention basins. He noted that the Subdivision Ordinance will need to be amended to allow the alternative landscaping option. The Council should also consider parkway trees (what type of trees, for example) and amend the City's ordinance accordingly. Council was favorable in proceeding forward with the natural landscaping, and further discussion is warranted.

A quote was received from Bonnell Industries to refurbish the 2005 International 7300 truck at a cost of \$6,400.00. Repairs would include blast and repaint of the exterior. There have been no mechanical issues with the truck, and Engineer Horak expressed confidence that the truck will remain serviceable for another 10-15 years.

Chief Bianchi: No report

EMA Director Ciciora: No report

Alderwoman Chiemlewski: No report

Alderman Dell: No report

Alderman Kelleher: Absent

Alderwoman Killey advised that the finance committee would meet immediately following this evening's meeting.

Alderman McMahon: No report

Alderman Redden: No report

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 Redden to adjourn the Committee-of-the-Whole Council meeting at 8:25 PM. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.**

/s/ Denise Li – City Clerk