



City of SANDWICH, ILLINOIS

City Hall Annex · 128 East Railroad Street

Committee-of-the-Whole Council Meeting

May 21, 2018 @ 7:00 PM

MINUTES

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

Roll call was taken:

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

Absent: Alderman Kelleher

Also present: Attorney Harrill, Department of Public Works / City Engineer Horak & Chief Bianchi

City Treasurer Webber arrived at 7:05 PM

EMA Director Ciciora arrived at 7:12 PM

Mayor Olson:

Discussion on “DeKalb County Sheriff’s Radio Communication System Loan Program”: The DeKalb County Sheriff’s Department will be acquiring a bulk purchase of digital radio equipment to be offered throughout the County. A 3% loan is being offered that will mature in December, 2022. The City plans to purchase 25 radios and 2 dispatch consoles for a total cost of \$133,955.80. The Sheriff’s Department will be applying for a grant after the bulk purchase to be distributed to those participating entities in the purchase of the updated equipment. Chief Bianchi explained that there should be no cost to the City apart from the initial upfront money for the purchase that is reimbursable through the grant. Alderman Redden pointed out that by purchasing outright and avoiding the loan program, the City will save \$4,000.00 in interest. Council was not in favor of financing the digital radio equipment.

Discussion on “Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement / Police Security Services & School Resource Officers”: With the recent passage of the school referendum for State mandated life-safety issues, the school district is requesting an intergovernmental cooperation agreement for a resource officer who would patrol all the schools on a daily basis. The resource office position would commence with the 2018-2019 school year starting in August, and the cost would be a 50-50 split between the school district and the city. The program would last for 3 years with annual reviews. Chief Bianchi indicated that a trained officer would be hired to fill the position. Council questioned if an existing police officer could qualify for the position, and Chief Bianchi indicated the position requires specialized training. Other questions posed were police pension, officer’s duties when school is not in session, and use of vehicle.

Discussion on proposed raffle ordinance: Council asked the need for a raffle ordinance. In the past, if a local jurisdiction did not have a raffle ordinance in place, the burden fell on the County for

regulation. Council felt the proposed ordinance is too intrusive, cumbersome, and creating a lot of unnecessary paperwork for the applicant and City Hall to police. Chief Bianchi explained that the County's ordinance is too stringent when compared to the State's raffle ordinance. The goal is to coincide with that of the State. The Chief further stated that if the City does not pass the ordinance, various social clubs and schools cannot hold raffles under the County's raffle ordinance.

Discussion on recodification of City's Municipal Code: The new Municipal Code has been distributed to the Council for review. Mayor Olson will place this on the agenda next week for passage.

Continued discussion on proposed Gjovik Ford sales tax rebate agreement: After a joint meeting earlier in the day with Mayor Olson, Alderman Pete Dell, Scott Gjovik and General Manager Tom Conlin, a new proposal was presented to the Council for consideration. The new proposal states a cap on the current sales tax contributed that is estimated to be \$250,000.00 annually, and Gjovik Ford would receive a tax rebate in any amount exceeding the \$250,000.00 for a determinable period of time. Additionally, the time period would increase to span 15 years instead of the originally proposed 10 years.

The original proposal offered at last week's meeting was a rebate equal to the greater of 15% of the total annual sales tax revenue generated by Gjovik Ford or 100% of any excess over \$245,690.00 of annual sales tax revenues. The rebates would commence in 2020 through 2029, or until the rebates equal \$750,000.00, whichever occurs first. Gjovik is also asking that all utility connections and building permit fees be waived or refunded to Gjovik Ford. Additionally, if requested by Gjovik, the City shall procure a qualified engineering assistant at no cost to Gjovik or their construction team to assist in securing necessary government approvals for their plans and specifications.

A letter of support was read by Sandwich School Superintendent Rick Schmitt stating that increased assessment value means increased revenue to the school district and other taxing bodies through real estate property taxes. DeKalb County Board Member John Frieders spoke from the audience about the partnership between the City and the Gjovik dealerships, and felt it is a necessity that each party comes to an agreement. General Manager Tom Conlin was present in Scott Gjovik's absence, and noted that Plano is eager to welcome the dealership adding that if the City does not come to an agreement, Gjovik Chevy will also be relocating. Aldermen McMahon and Redden are openly opposed to the agreement; after further discussion, Council leaned toward the original agreement proposed last week of a 10-year rebate with a \$750,000.00 cap. Tom Conlin, alluded that the original proposal was now off the table, and they were asking for \$800,000.00. He stressed that time was of the essence, and Gjovik Ford was ready to start negotiating talks with neighboring communities.

Council will hold a special meeting on Thursday, May 24th, at 9 AM on the final terms of a proposal and subsequent vote.

Announcement: Due to the Memorial Day holiday, the next regular council meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 29th at 7:00 PM/

Foster, Buick, Conklin & Lundgren LLC: No report

City Clerk Ii: No report

City Treasurer reported that a 4th Certificate of Deposit for \$400,000.00 was reinvested at 2.45% for five years.

Director of Public Works / City Engineer Horak:

Zoning Board of Appeals regular meeting for Tuesday, May 22nd, has been cancelled.

2017 Center Street Light Project: Pay Request # 1 and Final has been received from Elmund & Nelson in the amount of \$141,386.85. Engineer Horak is reviewing paperwork, and awaiting spare parts before presenting to the Council for payment approval. He also reported that the contractor that handled the Henderson demolition and damaged one of the new light poles has been in contact with Elmund & Nelson for repairs.

2018 Sanitary Sewer System Conveyance Analysis – Phase 1: Flow monitoring devices were installed last week, and monitoring is scheduled for 8 weeks, ending July 10th. Without calibration, Engineer Horak was unsure if monitoring was achieved from today's storm. There were no flooding issues reported today, and only a complaint of a plugged culvert at Arnold and Reimann.

Downtown Street Lighting: Council was provided a downtown lighting study update a few weeks ago, and need to identify what areas to consider for future lighting. The CBD (Central Business District) would consist of lighting south on Main Street to Route 34, Route 34 participation from IDOT, north on Main Street to 2nd Street, and east on Railroad Street to the City parking lot at Terry and Railroad Streets. Engineer Horak suggested the Council set aside money each year for the project. The project was originally divided into three sections, with one section completed each year, at a cost of \$350,000 - \$400,000 per section. Both Aldermen Dell and Redden expressed they would prefer to table the project until the Council has a better understanding of the City's budget and cash flow.

50/50 Sidewalk Program: Engineer Horak had distributed information on the City's 50/50 sidewalk replacement program from 2006. The program was deactivated for a nearly 5 years due to lack of funds. Initially, the homeowner would be responsible for the installation of the sidewalk, and the City would be responsible for the cement. With new codes and ADA regulations, Council felt that the City should be responsible for the sidewalk installation, and the homeowner provide the cement.

Chief Bianchi: No report

EMA reported he was late for the Council Meeting due to a meeting with the City's building official regarding the erection of a proposed 300-foot radio tower.

Alderman Chiemlewski: No report

Alderman Dell: No report

Alderman Kelleher: Absent

Alderman Killey advised that the finance committee would meet immediately following this evenings Council meeting.

Alderman McMahon: No report

Alderman Redden: No report

Alderman Robinson said that Yvonne Marsh has requested a payout of 50 unused vacation hours. No action was required by the Council.

New Business: None

Audience Comments: None

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Council, **motion made by Alderman Redden and seconded by Alderman Robinson to adjourn the Committee-of-the-Whole Council meeting at 9:00 PM. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.**

/s/ Denise Li – City Clerk