

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL-AS-A-WHOLE COMMITTEE MEETING
CITY OF SANDWICH, ILLINOIS - COUNCIL CHAMBERS
128 E. Railroad Street
September 21, 2009**

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

Roll call was taken:

Present: Mayor Thomas, Aldermen Beverley, Dannewitz, Hyatt, Keene, Killey, McMahon and Robinson

Absent: Alderman Moran

Prindi's Antiques: Roger Prindiville explained to the Council problems he is encountering on his proposed store expansion. He noted the costs to install an elevator if he expands upward, and the cost to have a sprinkler system installed as required by IBC (International Building Codes). Building Engineer Jim Smith suggested 5/8th fire rated drywall on the ceiling could eliminate the need for a sprinkler system. Smith also noted additional upgrading needed if there is major rehabilitation (ie ADA requirements regarding ramps). Mr. Prindiville is requesting an extension on his July 1, 2009 agreement to meet City requirements. Council agreed to have Mr. Prindiville return for a status report at the November 2nd meeting.

Sandwich Park District: President Steve Wolf introduced Warren Spurgeon as the new director. Mayor Thomas welcomed Mr. Spurgeon to Sandwich.

Progressive Energy Group: A presentation was given by Arnie Schramel on how Progressive Energy Group could save the City money in utility costs. He has reviewed the City's utility costs and also reviewed the franchise agreements the City currently holds with Nicor. He indicated that the lift stations would not benefit from his program, and warned that in 2010, rates will be converted to hourly rates as opposed to tariff rates. Alderman Keene questioned how Mr. Schramel would be compensated, and he acknowledged that he would receive 50% of the first year's savings and also compensated by the supplier. Mayor Thomas said that by Ordinance 92-10, the City has a 50-year agreement with ComEd but recognized that the Ordinance needs to be reviewed after all these years.

128 Knights Road: Monty Reiners and Don Morris were present seeking help from the City regarding abandoned property at 128 Knights Road. Mr. Reiners detailed the dilapidated condition of the property, and the fear that a child in the neighborhood might be injured playing on the property. Don Morris added that kids throw rocks through the windows, and he would like to see the property boarded up. Mayor Thomas asked Chief Olson to inspect the property on Tuesday, and to secure the property the best the City is able under the circumstances.

Touch of the West: David Kuck, owner of Touch of the West, would like to become a drinking establishment and continue to sell furniture at his present business. Mayor Thomas said his request would qualify for an A-1 liquor license but added there are no more licenses available. He added the Council could approve to add an additional A-1 license. Mr. Kuck said he had no business plans to present to the Council because he wanted to be assured of a liquor license before he proceeded. Alderman Keene expressed concern about taking business away from other businesses in town, and Alderman Dannewitz expressed desire to wait and see the

outcome of Club Sandwich and the new business, Knuckle Hedz. Alderman Keene asked that Mr. Kuck return to the Council in two (2) weeks with additional information on his project.

Taste of Sandwich Street Closures: Alderman Beverley made a motion to accept the street and parking lots closures as requested for the Taste of Sandwich to be held on Wednesday, September 23rd. Alderman Keene seconded. Aye: Aldermen Beverley, Dannewitz, Hyatt, Keene, Killey, McMahon & Robinson. Motion carried: 7:0

417 & 419 Lafayette Street: City Engineer Tom Horak said this area is holding water. Bristol Blacktop has prepared a proposal to be signed by the homeowners that they will pay for the 4' area from the sidewalk to the street. The agreement specifies that the area is not designed for garbage trucks to drive upon, and that the City will not maintain this area after completion. This will be put on the agenda for next week.

Northwest Water Extension: Mayor Thomas said there will be a meeting with the participants of the Northwest Water Extension on Wednesday, September 23rd at 4:30 PM. The Letters of Credit that the City is presenting holding will not be renewed.

Railroad Crossing Closings: Mayor Thomas reported that he closed the Duvick Road crossing earlier in the day because of a broken rail that had done damage to car. He added that the repairs had been made in the afternoon, and the road re-opened. Lafayette Street crossing will be closed for continued repairs on Tuesday because of a third sinkhole this year.

Mayor Thomas requested an executive session for pending litigation under Section 2(c)(11).

Attorney Paul: Ordinance 2009-11 regarding closing portions of Pleasant Avenue during school hours has been tabled until the Safety Committee for the school district can meet. Alderwoman Killey said the Committee is aware that additional parking is necessary.

Chief Olson reported that typically after the fair residents that participated in the demolition derby store their vehicles at their residences. He said owners of these vehicles are being notified.

Engineer Horak gave a report on the Railroad Street project to be funded with ARRA funds. Plans need to be submitted to IDOT by September 25th.

Fairwind Blvd / US Route 34 Project: Dave Luttrell, owner of LDL Transfer, said there are discrepancies with his figures, and that he will need a couple of weeks before coming before the Council.

3 N. Main Street: Building Inspector Jim Smith noted that no work has been done on the property since Spring. He acknowledged there is current activity but that the owner is removing carpeting. The current permit is over six (6) months old, and he suggests that the permit be suspended. Smith also noted that the City was operating under the 1999 BOCA code at the time the permit was initially issued, but has since adopted the 2006 International Building Codes (IBC).

Superintendent Hake reported that the removal of sewer taps is almost completed.

Alderman Beverley reported that he and City Engineer Horak attended the recent workshop hosted by the DeKalb County Regional Planning Commission. He said they learned about new

ways to handle stormwater but added it was not cheap. Beverley emphasized the goal is to infiltrate the water into the ground, and not push it away.

Alderman Dannewitz reminded the Council about the Finance Committee meeting on Tuesday, September 22nd at 5:30 PM.

Alderman Dannewitz said he had received a request from the Federated Church to paint a portion of the curbing yellow in front the church indicating no parking. The Church requests a space painted to equal to 2 parking spaces North and South of the present entrance to enable a safe exit of cars onto Main Street.

Alderman Keene requested Executive Session for personnel and land acquisition. He also asked the status of removing barricades at (the now closed) Gletty Road. Superintendent Hake said that IDOT will be installing steel rails.

Alderwoman Killey expressed concern for runoff water at 530 W. Third Street. She noted that newer construction in the neighborhood appears to have a higher grade that may be contributing to the problem. City Engineer Horak said there are plans for a culvert cut across Third Street that should alleviate the problem.

Alderman Robinson requested an executive session for pending litigation under Section 2(c)(11).

Executive Session: Motion made by Alderman Keene and seconded by Alderman Robinson to go into executive session at 9:40 PM, pursuant to Section 2(c)(5) Purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body; Section 2(c)(11) Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent; Section(c)(1), The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity. Aye: Aldermen Beverley, Dannewitz, Hyatt, Keene, Killey, McMahan and Robinson. Motion carried 7:0

Motion to return from Executive Session: Motion made by Alderman Beverley and seconded by Alderman Dannewitz to return to regular session of the Committee-As-A-Whole meeting at 10:55 PM. Aye: Alderman Beverley, Dannewitz, Hyatt, Keene, Killey, and McMahan. Motion carried 6:0 Alderman Robinson left the Executive Session at 10:30 PM because he had to report to work.

City Engineer Tom Horak requested confirmation on 3 N. Main Street. Council agreed that over six (6) months have passed, and that the applicant will need to re-submit stamped and sealed construction costs in compliance with the 2006 IBC codes.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, **motion made by Alderman Keene and seconded by Alderman Hyatt to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 PM. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.**

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Denise li, City Clerk