

The City Council of the City of Du Quoin

Minutes of the April 25 Meeting

**Minutes:**

The Minutes of the City Council of the City of Du Quoin, County of Perry, held on this 25th day of April in the year 2016, said meeting held in the Council Chambers of the Du Quoin City Hall.

**Invocation:**

City Attorney Aaron Atkins gave the invocation.

**Call to Order:**

Mayor Alongi called the meeting to order at 6 pm with the following individuals present: Commissioners Michael Ward, Dale Spencer, Charles Genesisio, and Gerald Whitley. City staff included City Attorney Aaron Atkins, City Treasurer Stephanie Cravens, and City Clerk Andrew Croessman.

**Previous Meeting Minutes:**

The Council reviewed the minutes of the meeting held on the 11th day of April. Commissioner Spencer moved, Commissioner Genesisio seconded a motion to approve the minutes. Motion passed; all ayes.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Monthly Treasurer's Report for March 2016: City Treasurer Stephanie Cravens said that the opening balance for the General Fund was \$382,227 and the closing balance was \$454,887. Total General Fund income was \$366,697, with expenses of \$319,981. In regards to the Water/Sewer Fund, she said that the opening balance was \$90,285, and the closing balance was \$114,407. Water/Sewer Fund income was \$177,408, with expenses of \$180,265. She said that total cash for all the City's funds increased from \$1.55 million to \$1.56 million, resulting in a net income of \$13,156 for March. Commissioner Ward moved, Commissioner Whitley seconded a motion to approve the Monthly Treasurer's Report for March 2016. Motion passed; all ayes.

**Approval of Bills:**

Commissioner Spencer moved, Commissioner Genesisio seconded a motion to approve the bill list for April 25, 2016. Motion passed; all ayes.

**Guests:**

The Du Quoin Lions' Club and Commissioner Spencer presented a \$500 donation to the City for its Pool restoration.

**Appointments:**

Mayor Alongi appointed Mr. Doug Clark to the Police Pension Board. Commissioner Ward moved, Commissioner Whitley seconded a motion to approve appointment. Motion passed; all ayes.

**Ordinances:**

A. 2016-O04-01: Rural Fire Call Ordinance. Commissioner Spencer moved, Commissioner Ward seconded a motion that 2016-O04-01 be approved. Motion passed; all ayes.

B. 2016-O04-02: Ordinance approving Vandevanter Engineering Contract for maintenance of Water Department Pumps. Commissioner Whitley moved, Commissioner Genesisio seconded a motion that 2016-O04-02 be approved. Motion passed; all ayes.

C. 2016-O04-03: Ordinance approving Vandevanter Engineering Contract for maintenance of Waste Water Treatment Plant Pumps. Commissioner Whitley moved, Commissioner Spencer seconded a motion that 2016-O04-03 be approved. Motion passed; all ayes.

D. 2016-O04-04: Ordinance amending Article VIII, Chapter 36, providing for imposition of Amusement Tax. City Attorney Aaron Atkins said that this Ordinance replaces the City's Entertainment Tax. He said that it imposes a 5% tax on participative and exhibitive entertainment. However, this tax will not apply to any bona fide religious, charitable, or not for profit organizations. Commissioner Spencer asked how this is going to be enforced. Mr. Atkins said that it will be enforced through forms. Mayor Alongi added that it can be made a part of the promoter's contract, or the City can enforce unilaterally. He added that the intent is to recoup City costs associated with added police and fire protection for events. Moreover, the tax revenues would be split between the City and State, given that the State is current on its bills to the City. Commissioner Spencer moved, Commissioner Genesisio seconded a motion that 2016-O04-04 be put on public display. Motion passed; all ayes.

E. 2016-O04-05: Ordinance approving Direct Energy Contract. City Clerk Andrew Croessman said that it is time for the City to renew its electric supply contract. He said that the City's current electric supplier, Direct Energy, is offering the best rates among six other competitors. Commissioner Ward moved, Commissioner Whitley seconded a motion that 2016-O04-05 be put on public display. Motion passed; all ayes.

F. 2016-O04-06: An Ordinance Pursuant to Section 1-2-43 (B) of the Ordinances of the City of Du Quoin Waiving the Necessity of Bidding on the Pool Restoration Project due to the special nature of the material being utilized and the lack of competitors in the field. Commissioner Spencer moved, Commissioner Whitley seconded a motion that 2016-O04-06 be put on public display. Motion passed; all ayes.

G. 2016-O04-07: An Ordinance Revising Section 23-4-2 (A) of the Ordinances of the City of Du Quoin Relating to Careless Driving. City Attorney Aaron Atkins said that the City's Ordinance regarding careless driving included language "in the street", rendering it useless when acts of careless driving occurred in public places other than "streets". This Ordinance closes that loophole. Commissioner Ward moved, Commissioner Genesio seconded a motion that 2016-O04-07 be put on public display. Motion passed; all ayes.

**Resolutions:**

A. 2016-R04-02: A Resolution Authorizing a Redevelopment Agreement between the City of Du Quoin, Perry County, Illinois and Slainte Real Estate, LLC. Commissioner Spencer moved, Commissioner Genesio seconded a motion that 2016-R04-02 be approved. Motion passed; all ayes.

B. 2016-R04-03: A Resolution Authorizing Condemnation of Property at 423 West Main Street. City Health Officer said that a car accident damaged the front of the building, and it is an imminent danger to the public. He said that work has already begun to correct the building, and that the Condemnation would be rescinded once it passed inspection. Commissioner Whitley moved, Commissioner Spencer seconded a motion that 2016-R04-03 be approved. Motion passed; all ayes.

C. 2016-R04-04: A Resolution Approving City Emergency Operations Plan. Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Director Doug Clark said that the City's Emergency Operations Plan is reviewed every two years and then submitted to the State. He said it was amended to include name change to EMA and the transfer of a vehicle to the City's Water Department. Commissioner Ward moved, Commissioner Genesio seconded a motion that 2016-R04-04 be approved. Motion passed; all ayes.

**Public Agenda:**

A. Mayor Alongi introduced discussion of proposed City logo artwork. The consensus of the Council was to include a touch of Native American heritage in the logo. After much discussion, the Council agreed to the logo variant that included a spear and a feather.

B. Commissioner Ward moved, Commissioner Whitley seconded a motion to approve and adopt the proposed City logo artwork that includes a spear and a feather. Motion passed; all ayes.

**Commissioners' Comments:**

City Treasurer Stephanie Cravens presented a donation of \$4,825 on behalf of the Du Quoin Swimming Indians to the City for its Pool restoration.

Commissioner Ward thanked the Du Quoin Lions' Club and Swimming Indians for their contributions towards restoration of the City Pool.

Commissioner Spencer said that Modern Woodmen Fraternal Financial agreed to match the proceeds of the City Pool gun raffle up to \$2,500. Secondly, he said that the City will be actively issuing tickets for property maintenance. Lastly, he said that the City has made its final payment of \$38,445 on the Sewer Truck.

Commissioner Genesio said that the City received over two inches of rain the other night, and received a complaint on social media regarding drainage issues. He said that he investigated it to find out that the homeowner that complained had not cleaned out leaves from their catch basin. Lastly, he asked for the Public's patience and cooperation before complaining on social media.

Mayor Alongi said that the City owes the State over \$6,000 due to the State overpaying the City for Personal Property Replacement Tax. Secondly, he said that a formal proposal to restore the City Pool would be addressed at the next meeting. Next, Mayor Alongi said that painting was ongoing inside City Hall, and that Artist Keith Bell would be doing a mural of Keyes Park in the entrance of City Hall. Lastly, he said that the Downtown lantern bulbs would be changed to red and blue to recognize firefighters and police officers.

**Public Comment:**

Du Quoin City Lake residents Roy and Glenna Blythe addressed the Council regarding the possibility of purchasing City owned land adjacent to the boat ramp. Commissioner Spencer said that the City does not have a clear title to that property, but is willing to work with them going forward.

**Adjournment:**

The City Council adjourned at 7:14 p.m., motion by Commissioner Genesio, seconded by Commissioner Whitley; all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

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Andrew Croessman, City Clerk