

CITY OF WINCHESTER
COMMON COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2013

Pledge of Allegiance – Mayor Croyle
Prayer – Mayor Croyle

Regular meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
Council Chambers / City Hall / 113 E. Washington St.

Mayor Croyle called the meeting to order and presided over the meeting. Clerk-Treasurer, Vicki Haney, recorded the minutes.

The Clerk's roll call showed four City Council Members present.

Precinct 1	Councilor Larry Preston	
Precinct 2	Councilor Tom Sells	absent
Precinct 3	Councilor Santiago (Jim) Nunez Jr.	
Precinct 4	Councilor Leesa Friend	
At Large	Councilor Todd Schroeder	

Additional Officials Present:

Meeks Cockerill, City Attorney; Frank Lowrance, Street Department Superintendent; Mike Burk, Police Chief; and Bill Yost, Fire Chief

Citizens Present:

Tim Yost

Media Present:

Bill Richmond (News Gazette)

Approval of the Minutes:

Councilor Nunez moved to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2013 meeting. Councilor Friend seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Fountain Park Cemetery Board

Councilor Preston reported the Fountain Park Cemetery Board meeting was held on Thursday, December 12, 2013. The Board has reorganized. Councilor Nunez is the President and Dale Arnett is the Vice President. The business plan for 2014 is going to center on money from the Old National Trust. Currently a part time care taker is working at the cemetery; the position may remain part time for the near future.

NEW BUSINESS

Nepotism Certifications

The anti-nepotism statutes and local policy require Elected Officials to certify that they are not in violation of any nepotism laws by contracting with family members nor do they directly supervise family members, hired after July 1, 2013. The required certificates were presented to the Council.

Street Department Sign

Friendly Media & Promotions is developing a sign to be located by the dumpsters at the Street Department.

Conflict of Interest

Councilor Friend, doing business at Friendly Media & Promotions, requested Council members approve a conflict of interest disclosure statement. Councilor Nunez moved to accept the conflict of interest form signed by Leesa Friend. Councilor Schroeder seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Beeson Southside Park

Mayor Croyle is suggesting the City include a Bark Park and new playground equipment with soft surface landing at the Beeson Southside Park. Mayor Croyle is asking the Council to approve Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) for this project. Councilor Nunez asked if adding electricity to the shelter in the Park is part of this project. Councilor Preston asked if some of the money could be expensed from the Goodrich Trust and some out of the Beeson Farm Fund. Councilor Schroeder moved to allow Mayor Croyle and the Parks Department to move forward with the project that is estimated at Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) and possibly add electricity to the shelter. Councilor Nunez seconded. Motion passed 4-0. Clerk-Treasurer Haney stated an additional appropriation will be necessary during the 2014 budget year for the Beeson Farm Fund.

Public Concerns

Council Nunez asked for the Street Department to replace the missing street sign at the intersection of Washington Street and North East Street.

Department Reports

Bill Yost, Fire Department – submitted a written report.

Kathy Bond, Parks Department Superintendent – submitted a written report.

Mike Burk, Police Department – submitted a written report.

Frank Lowrance, Street Department – everything is going great. The streets are being cleaned and the trash is being collected. Mayor Croyle was complimented because of the Street Department’s efforts this month.

Accounts Payable Vouchers

The end of November accounts payable vouchers (APV) totaled Eight Thousand Six Hundred Thirty One Dollars and Eighteen Cents (\$8,631.18).

General Fund	\$4,862.81
Motor Vehicle Highway Fund	\$467.11
LLE Continuing Ed. Fund	\$2,163.84

Win Fire Dept Prof Development	\$11.90
Cum. Capital Development Fund	\$1.32
Animal Control Fund	\$126.20
Animal Control Donation Fund	\$998.00

The December 1 thru December 11 accounts payable vouchers totaled One Hundred Fifty Four Thousand Four Hundred Seventy Seven Dollars and Twenty Three Cents (\$154,477.23). Clerk-Treasurer Haney stated bonds needed to be added to the invoice report after it was given to the Council Members. The total amount that was added was Four Hundred Twenty Two Dollars (\$422.00).

General Fund	\$84,699.41
Motor Vehicle Highway Fund	\$4,464.05
Light Fund	\$4,853.50
Court Cash Due County Fund	\$1,222.00
City Court User Fee Fund	\$952.00
Beeson Estate Farm Fund	\$517.19
Fire Department Non-Reverting Fund	\$2.78
Fire Pension Fund	\$3,084.76
Ambulance Non Reverting Fund	\$1,028.44
Employee Welfare Benefit Plan	\$53.653.10

The Payroll accounts payable vouchers totaled One Hundred Thousand Four Hundred Sixty Four Dollars and Seventy Cents (\$100,464.70). The total of all accounts payable vouchers totaled Two Hundred Sixty Three Thousand Five Hundred Seventy Two Dollars and Eleven Cents (\$263,572.11). Councilor Schroeder moved to approve the accounts payable vouchers. Councilor Nunez seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Clerk-Treasurer's Report

Clerk-Treasurer Haney reported the Budget for 2014 was approved by the DLGF (Department of Local Government and Finance). The 2014 tax rate was decreased by five cents (\$0.05) and the 2014 assessed valuation increased Three Million Three Hundred Thirty Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty Nine Dollars (\$3,337,959.00) in comparison to the 2013 Budget. The City has not received the fall property tax revenue distribution. Clerk-Treasurer Haney anticipated the City will have a balanced budget providing the fall revenue is fairly equal to the revenue received in the 2014 spring revenue. Not including the year end claims, the total expensed from the General Fund is approximately 83 percent of the total budget; the MVH Fund is approximately 80 percent; the Parks Fund is approximately 96 percent. The Street

Light Fund may need an additional appropriation due to rate increases. The City Funds will have a balanced budget for 2013.

End of Year Accounts Payable Vouchers (Claims)

Mayor Croyle asked for the Council to allow the Clerk-Treasurer to disburse end of year claims. Councilor Schroeder moved to allow the end of year claims to be approved and disbursed. Councilor Nunez seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Mayor's Report

The Common Council discussed and adopted Resolution No. 2013-5 at the August 19, 2013 meeting. Mayor Croyle explained the Resolution stated a portion of the City's tax levy would be transferred to Randolph County for the 911 System to offset the cost of the additional dispatcher needed for Winchester. Because of calendar date issues, this was postponed until 2015. This puts the county with a shortfall for funding 911 in 2014. Mayor Croyle recommended entering into a special contract with the County for one year to monitor the Code Red System, Tornado Warning System, Alarms at the Waste Water Treatment Plant, and monitoring the fire hydrants. This will ensure the position will be funded and the safety of the citizens will not be in jeopardy. The levy can be transferred next year. Councilor Nunez moved to have Mayor Croyle negotiate a deal with the County. Councilor Schroeder seconded. Motion passed 4-0. Mayor Croyle stated since the City no longer has a dispatch center these services are only monitored when the City offices are open (8 am to 5 pm Monday to Friday).

Mayor Croyle reported the Redevelopment Commission is making progress on the Greenville Avenue Turn Lane Project. Phases one and two will be to install curbs and sidewalks from the Medical Pavilion to the intersection of Greenville Avenue and US Highway 27. Phase three will be to install curbs and sidewalks from the intersection of US Highway 27 and Greenville Avenue to the Wal-Mart entrance. Part of this project will be under construction this spring. Storm water construction will be under way along with this sidewalk project. Turn lanes will also be installed with this project. Mayor Croyle has been given authorization and the contract has been signed to complete the survey work on phase one and phase two of this project. This should be completed within 20 to 25 days. A title search and a right of way acquisition process will begin after the survey. The Redevelopment Commission could possibly do a bond based on the projected revenues of the project. The Redevelopment Commission currently has four bonds.

Announcements

December 17, 2013 - Board of Public Works and Safety Meeting at 8:00 a.m.

December 17, 2013 – Randolph County Economic Development Corporation Christmas Party at 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further matters to discuss, Councilor Schroeder moved to adjourn. Councilor Preston seconded. Motion passed 4-0. The December 16, 2013 meeting was adjourned at 7:02 pm.

Mayor, Steve Croyle

ATTEST: _____
Clerk-Treasurer, Vicki Haney

