

CITY OF WINCHESTER  
COMMON COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2014

Pledge of Allegiance – Mayor Croyle  
Prayer – Tom Sells

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 five City Council Members present.

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

Additional Officials Present:

Gary Girton, County Commissioner; Meeks Cockerill, City Attorney; Mike Burk, Police Chief; and Bill Yost, Fire Chief

Citizens Present:

Debbie Henning and Jan Ledyard

Media Present:

No news media represented.

Approval of the Minutes:

Councilor Nunez moved to approve the minutes of the November 3, 2014 meeting. Councilor Friend seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Additional Appropriation for Year Ending 2014

Clerk-Treasurer Haney requested Council consider establishing a public hearing for Additional Appropriations for Year Ending 2014, on December 1, 2014 at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers. Councilor Schroeder moved to schedule the public hearing on the proposed date and time. Councilor Nunez seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

### 229 Carl Street

Mr. Jan Ledyard, C&J Acquisitions LLC, was present at the last meeting to discuss the mowing liens filed on the property located at 229 Carl Street. This property was purchased at the Randolph County Certificate sale on April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Sewage, Refuse and Mowing Liens prior to the Certificate Sale were forgiven at the original tax sale on October, 2013. Mr. Ledyard presented a written proposal (attached to the minutes) to the City to pay less of the liens because they were not allowed on the property until recently. Mr. Ledyard explained which liens were taken off of the property and when the liens started accumulating again. This property was purchased in April 2014. The homeowner has a chance to redeem the property after the sale. The refuse and sewage liens were paid. The mowing liens were in excess. Mr. Ledyard believes the yard was mowed too often. The liens have been paid in full. Mr. Ledyard would like to be reimbursed for some of the liens. He would like to be reimbursed for 2/3 of the fees paid. Councilor Friend asked if the City could give notice to County stating the City may be mowing this property so that information could be given to whoever purchases it at a tax sale or commissioner's sale. Attorney Cockerill stated it is state law that liens follow the property and have to be paid after these types of sales. Attorney Cockerill explained the laws for liens. It is the Council's decision if a rebate will be granted. Councilor Nunez asked what amount Mr. Ledyard wants relief from. Two mowing charges have not been filed. The total amount is Two Thousand Nine Hundred Ten Dollars (\$2,910.00). Councilor Nunez asked if every other lien was charged the amount would be reduced by One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00). The protocol for the Street Department is to mow properties every two weeks after the first mowing violation notice is served. Councilor Nunez stated this could be a good will gesture for other people wanting to purchase homes to rehabilitate them in Winchester. Mr. Ledyard would like to be reimbursed for 2/3 of the amount paid. Several different ideas were discussed to prevent this issue from happening again in the future. Councilor Sells moved to reimburse Mr. Ledyard One Thousand Four Hundred Ten Dollars (\$1,410.00) for the mowing liens. Councilor Lennington seconded. Motion passed 4-1 with Councilor Friend casting the negative vote.

### Fountain Park Cemetery

Councilor Nunez stated the Fountain Park Cemetery Board met on November 11, 2014. The items that were discussed were presented. In December, the board will be considering Officers for 2015. The winter maintenance was completed. A road has been developed around the entire cemetery.

### 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 Elected Officials and each Elected Officials signed a certificate.

Public Concerns

Councilor Nunez stated the property located at 506 S. Meridian Street is an eyesore. It is boarded up and kids throw rocks at it. The residents in that area wanted Councilor Nunez to find out about the property. Now, graffiti has been painted on the house and garage.

Councilor Lennington stated the street lights at Summer’s Pointe need to be discussed. Councilor Nunez viewed the area where the additional condominiums were recently constructed. The property owner should purchase the lights and have them installed; then the City could take over the bill. Councilor Nunez wants the light poles to match. In the future, the new road could be extended to the Randolph County Nursing Home to make another outlet in the addition. Councilor Friend asked how much a regular street light costs to purchase and install. Summers Pointe addition has special light poles that are very expensive. The costs associated with light poles were discussed. The property owners should install the lights. The City is currently waiting on the property owner to bring in the road survey so the new road can become a City street. The sewer system is privately owned and is not managed by the City. The owner should come to a meeting to present their costs and ask the City to take over the bill.

Councilor Friend stated the Council needs to decide how much the credit would be if the Council decides to give them money for the lights.

Mowing Expenses

Councilor Nunez stated he would like the mowing for the Intersection Enhancement of US Highway 27 and State Highway 32 Corridor (Gateway Signage Project) and the Sandifar property added to the mowing expenses spreadsheet that was in the Council Packets. Mayor Croyle stated Sandifar’s property will be disbursed from the Wastewater Budget.

Department Reports

Frank Lowrance, Street Department Superintendent –submitted a written report.

Mike Burk, Police Chief – submitted a written report.

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

Bill Yost, Fire Chief –submitted a written report.

Chris Martin, Waste Water Treatment Plant Superintendent – no report submitted.

Councilor Schroeder moved to approve the department reports. Councilor Lennington seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Accounts Payable Vouchers

The end of September accounts payable vouchers (APV) totaled Eighty One Thousand Three Hundred Three Dollars and Twenty Five Cents (\$81,303.25).

General Fund	\$3,803.94
Motor Vehicle Highway Fund	\$214.61
Aging in Place	\$54,850.00
K9 Donation Fund	\$50.28
Win Pol Dept. Prof Development	\$109.33
Animal Control Fund	\$535.93

Employee Welfare Benefit Fund	\$21,739.16
-------------------------------	-------------

The November 1 thru November 12 accounts payable vouchers totaled One Hundred Fifty Seven Thousand One Hundred Ninety Eight Dollars and Three Cents (\$157,198.03).

General Fund	\$24,688.82
Motor Vehicle Highway Fund	\$9,116.13
Light Fund	\$4,746.75
Court Cash Due County Fund	\$938.00
City Court User Fee Fund	\$904.00
Fire Pension Fund	\$3,184.05
Ambulance Non Reverting Fund	\$408.07
CEDIT	\$62,000.00
Aging in Place Grant	\$11,205.00
Employee Welfare Benefit Plan	\$24,007.21
Sidewalk Rehabilitation Fund	\$15,940.00
Animal Control Fund	\$60.00

The Payroll accounts payable vouchers totaled One Hundred Eight Thousand Twelve Dollars and Sixty Cents (\$108,012.60). The total of all accounts payable vouchers totaled Three Hundred Forty Six Thousand Five Hundred Thirteen Dollars and Eighty Eight Cents (\$346,513.88). Councilor Sells moved to approve the accounts payable vouchers. Councilor Schroeder seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Clerk-Treasurer’s Report

Clerk-Treasurer’s Haney asked if any of the Council Members had questions regarding the additional appropriations. The legal notice publication will be in the newspaper on November 18, 2014 and a resolution for the transfer of funds will be presented at the next Council Meeting.

Mayor’s Report

Mayor Croyle will be meeting with a representative from the Works Council on Wednesday. The Salvation Army Bell Ringing at the local Wal-Mart Retail Store will start November 28, 2014. Mayor Croyle presented to the Council a Winchester Project Update Report for November, 2014. The update was prepared by the project engineer from Hannum, Wagle, and Cline. Mayor Croyle noted the report does not include all of the City’s projects; however the information should be reviewed. The CodeRed Weather Warning Service system will be going live soon; warnings issued by the weather service will be sent via this system. This will help citizens be alerted and aware of serious weather conditions.

The street (name unknown) which leads to Cash Drive is not in good condition. Cash Drive is a private drive. Mayor Croyle has spoken to the property owner about the street. The Street could be dedicated to the City on the condition that the speed bumps will be removed. Mr. Kota, Kota Holdings, LLP, owner of Cash Drive, stated the speed bumps can be removed. A legal notice was sent to Mr. Kota and the City will be exploring the idea of adopting the street.

Announcements

The Board of Public Works and Safety will meet November 18, 2014 at 8:00 am in the Council Chambers.  
The Randolph County EDIT (Economic Development Income Tax) Board will meeting November 18, 2014 at 6:00 pm.

The Randolph County Extension Club will host Time for Trees on November 20, 2014 at the Randolph County 4-H Fairgrounds from 4 pm to 7 pm.

The Park Board will meet November 20 at 5:30 in the Council Chambers.

Adjournment

There being no further matters to discuss, Councilor Schroeder moved to adjourn. Councilor Lennington seconded. Motion passed 5-0. The November 17, 2014 meeting was adjourned at 7:21 pm.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Steve Croyle

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk-Treasurer, Vicki Haney