

ROCKPORT COMMON COUNCIL
JANUARY 11, 2016 5:15 PM

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Connie Hargis, Ferman Yearby, Roxie Decker, Donna Lashley, Joe Carpenter, Mayor Gay Ann Harney, Clerk-Treasurer Susie Roberts, Council Attorney Bryan Rudisill and City Attorney John Wetherill.

PLEDGE: The *Pledge of Allegiance* was said by all in attendance.

MINUTES APPROVAL: Connie made a motion to approve the minutes of our previous meeting; Ferman seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

ELECT COMMON COUNCIL PRESIDENT: Ferman nominated Connie Hargis for Council President, with no other nominations, Ferman moved to close the nominations. Donna Lashley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

COMMON COUNCIL ATTORNEY: Ferman made a motion to retain Bryan Rudisill as the City Council attorney; Donna seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

MIDWESTERN ENGINEERING REPORT: Mayor Harney discussed the bill we received from Midwestern – for Blankenberger’s work. Ferman made a motion to pay the \$132,193.53 bill that was submitted; Connie seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

UPDATE ON OWNER OCCUPIED GRANT: Mayor Harney has met with Tony Popanno to discuss this grant. He explained that we have been approved, but we are waiting to get a contract from the State, before we can go forward.

METER UPDATE: Utility Clerk, Andrea Lester, came before the council to update them on the current meter information she has received.

FIFTH STREET PROJECT: Mayor Harney met with Morley and Assoc. on the Fifth Street project, along with Terry Davis. They will meet again on Friday.

ONE-TON PICKUP: We are in need of a one-ton truck for the street department. It was discussed to take the \$49,565 from the Sanitation Reserve fund and additional funds from Sewer and AEP funds. Ferman made a motion to allow the mayor to go with the low bid and purchase a one-ton truck, 4x4, with salt spreader and snowplow, not to exceed \$80,000; Roxie seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved. Council attorney Rudisill stated that we need to mail invitations to receive quotes at least seven days before time fixed to receive quotes.

LOT ON MAIN STREET: Discussion was brought up about the decision to purchase two lots on Main Street at the December meeting. The city had agreed to purchase these

lots for \$18,000 with the understanding that ABR would donate \$6,000 toward this purchase. ABR has withdrawn their original consideration to pay the \$6,000 toward this purchase. It was also stated that the corner lots are now available to the City for purchase of \$17,500. If we purchase all of these lots we would own the southwest corner of the 300 block of Main Street. Ferman made a motion to purchase the two lots from Physicians Affiliated and the lots from Toliver's to be paid from the AEP fund; Joe Carpenter seconded the motion. Ferman, Donna, Roxie and Joe were in favor with Connie abstaining.

AUTO PARTS BUILDING STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING ANALYSIS: Mayor Harney spoke to Lisa Gehlhausen today regarding grants for the Auto Parts building. Mayor Harney is concerned that by the time we go through the grant process for this structure – it might be too late to do anything with it. She suggested we go ahead and invite Universal Designs to do a structural analysis, approx \$3,000, and if they do a feasibility study it might run \$5,000 to \$7,000. Connie made a motion that we get Universal Designs to do a feasibility study and structural analysis; Joe seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

OLD BUSINESS: Ferman discussed the need to get our agreement renewed with AEP. Our attorneys will look into this.

NEW BUSINESS: Mayor Harney stated that she did not address that Donnie Winkler would be retained as the Building Inspector in her previous list of appointments.

SIGN CLAIMS: Claims were signed.

ADJOURNMENT: Connie made a motion to adjourn; Roxie seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.