

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE NORMAL TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, NORMAL CITY HALL, FOURTH FLOOR UPTOWN STATION, 11 UPTOWN CIRCLE, NORMAL, MCLEAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS – MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2012.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Chris Koos called the Regular Meeting of the Normal Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m., Monday, October 15, 2012.

2. ROLL CALL:

The Clerk called the roll with the following persons physically

PRESENT: Mayor Chris Koos and Councilmembers Sonja Reece, Adam Nielsen, Jeff Fritzen, Kevin McCarthy, and Chuck Scott. Also present were City Manager Mark Peterson, Deputy City Manager Pamela Reece, Corporation Counsel Steve Mahrt, and Town Clerk Wendy Briggs.

ABSENT: Councilmember Cheryl Gaines.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Koos led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

4. OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA:

Mayor Koos excused himself from voting on any expenses he may have incurred while performing his Mayoral duties.

Councilmember Reece excused herself from any bills submitted by Advocate BroMenn Healthcare or any expenses she may have incurred while performing Council duties.

Items C, E, and F were removed from the Omnibus Vote Agenda.

MOTION:

Councilmember Reece moved, seconded by Councilmember Fritzen, the Council Approve the Omnibus Vote Agenda.

AYES: Reece, Nielsen, Fritzen, McCarthy, Scott, Koos.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Gaines.

Motion declared carried.

A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 1, 2012: Omnibus Vote.

B. APPROVAL OF TOWN OF NORMAL EXPENDITURES FOR PAYMENT AS OF OCTOBER 10, 2012: Omnibus Vote.

D. RESOLUTION ACCEPTING WARRANTY DEED FROM ARK V, INC., - EAGLE'S LANDING DETENTION BASIN: Resolution No. 4821: Omnibus Vote.

- G. ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TOWN OF NORMAL FIRE CODE TO PERMIT 1,000 GALLON ABOVE-GROUND STORAGE TANKS: Ordinance No. 5457: Omnibus Vote.
- H. ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 8.6-6 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE – FEE FOR UNAUTHORIZED USE OF STREET ROW: Ordinance No. 5458: Omnibus Vote.

5. ITEMS REMOVED FROM OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA:

- C. MOTION TO PURCHASE A STREET SWEEPER FROM KEY EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLY COMPANY OF MARYLAND HEIGHTS, MO AT THE STATE OF MISSOURI LOW BID AMOUNT OF \$245,230 LESS TRADE-IN FOR A NET PRICE OF \$212,730:

MOTION:

Councilmember Scott moved, seconded by Councilmember Reece, the Council Approve the Purchase of a Street Sweeper from Key Equipment and Supply Company of Maryland Heights, MO, at the State of Missouri Low Bid Amount of \$245,230 Less Trade-In for a Net Price of \$212,730.

Councilmember Scott voiced his appreciation for Staff working to find the best pricing available for the Street Sweeper, which ended up being a reciprocal agreement with the State of Missouri.

AYES: Nielsen, Fritzen, McCarthy, Scott, Reece, Koos.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT: Gaines.
Motion declared carried.

- E. RESOLUTION CONDITIONALLY APPROVING WAIVERS FROM THE UPTOWN DESIGN REVIEW CODE, CHAPTER 15, DIVISION 17, FOR THE “UPTOWN NORTH” LINER HOUSING PROJECT AT 102 W. COLLEGE (G BLOCK APARTMENTS, LLC): Resolution No. 4822:

MOTION:

Councilmember Scott moved, seconded by Councilmember Reece, the Council Adopt a Resolution Conditionally Approving Waivers from the Uptown Design Review Code, Chapter 15, Division 17, for the “Uptown North” Liner Housing Project at 102 W. College (G Block Apartments, LLC).

Mayor Koos expressed concern with the proposal to use split face block on the exterior of the proposed building, considering split face block is prohibited by Code. Mayor Koos suggested the developer explore another material that would conform more to the surrounding buildings. Councilmember Fritzen posed questions concerning the reason split face block was prohibited in the Uptown area. City Manager Mark Peterson responded to Councilmember Fritzen’s questions, indicating split face block is generally not considered highly desirable building material.

AMENDMENT TO MOTION:

Councilmember Scott moved, seconded by Councilmember McCarthy, the Council Remove the Waiver to Allow Split Face Block from the Approving Resolution.

Councilmember Reece expressed concern with the change in number of units and bedrooms from the preliminary submittal. Town Planner Mercy Davison explained this change resulted from changes in the market plan for the building.

Councilmember Nielsen commented he believed the Children's Discovery Museum used some façade that was not in-line with the Design Code. Councilmember Nielsen expressed concern with the first floor of this area currently being used for storage for building materials, as it is unsightly. Councilmember Nielsen further commented the unfinished portion of the City Hall Parking Deck was also being used to house building materials and it too is unsightly.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON AMENDMENT TO MOTION:

AYES: McCarthy, Scott, Reece, Koos.

NAYS: Fritzen, Nielsen.

ABSENT: Gaines.

Motion declared carried.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION, AS AMENDED:

AYES: McCarthy, Scott, Reece, Nielsen, Fritzen, Koos.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Gaines.

Motion declared carried.

F. RESOLUTION CONDITIONALLY AND PARTIALLY APPROVING THE FINAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR LANDMARK PLAZA PUD – DAIRY QUEEN (1528 E. COLLEGE AVENUE): Resolution No. 4823:

MOTION:

Councilmember Fritzen moved, seconded by Councilmember Reece, the Council Adopt a Resolution Conditionally and Partially Approving the Final Development Plan for Landmark Plaza PUD – Dairy Queen (1528 E. College Avenue).

City Manager Mark Peterson clarified the Resolution before the Council was approving the staff recommendations of allowing two menu boards, rather than the three requested by the Applicant and recommended by the Planning Commission.

Councilmember Fritzen questioned if there is an issue with vehicles backing up in the drive-thru area. City Manager Mark Peterson responded occasionally the vehicles do get stacked up, but generally not to the street. Council discussion ensued pertaining to the possibility of pavement markings within the PUD parking lot to direct the line-up of vehicles in the drive-thru.

Councilmember Reece commented she would like to see the additional menu board, as she finds it advantageous to have more menu boards in the drive-thru line so she can make up her mind before placing her order.

AMENDMENT TO MOTION:

Councilmember Fritzen moved, seconded by Councilmember Reece, the Council Amend the Approving Resolution to Allow a Waiver to Allow Two Menu and One Pre-Order Boards as Depicted on the Amended Final Plan.

AYES: Scott, Reece, Nielsen, Fritzen, McCarthy, Koos.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT: Gaines.
Motion declared carried.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION, AS AMENDED:

AYES: Reece, Nielsen, Fritzen, McCarthy, Scott, Koos.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT: Gaines.
Motion declared carried.

GENERAL ORDERS

6. MOTION TO AUTHORIZE STAFF TO SOLICIT BIDS FOR THE REPURPOSING OF THE CITY HALL ANNEX, REMODELING OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT VICE UNIT AND WOMEN’S LOCKER ROOM:

MOTION:

Councilmember Reece moved, seconded by Councilmember Scott, the Council Authorize Staff to Solicit Bids for the Repurposing of the City Hall Annex, Remodeling of the Police Department Vice Unit and Women’s Locker Room.

City Manager Mark Peterson presented a brief overview of the proposed Repurposing Project for the City Hall Annex.

Director of Facilities Mark Clinch, Police Chief Rick Bleichner, and Mr. Dave Burnison from the Farnsworth Group, presented a short power point of the proposed changes to the building, setting forth the “needs” and the “wants” for the repurposing.

Councilmember Scott questioned if the project was completed as presented, would this allow for future growth of the Parks and Recreation Department and the Police Department. City Manager Mark Peterson replied this plan does not allow for a lot of “growth room”, basically it is just catching up on required needed space for the two departments. Considerable Council discussion ensued pertaining to the proposed base remodeling and the suggested alternatives.

AYES: Nielsen, Fritzen, McCarthy, Scott, Reece, Koos.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT: Gaines.
Motion declared carried.

7. MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE PREPARATION OF THE 2012 PROPERTY TAX ORDINANCE:

MOTION:

Councilmember Fritzen moved, seconded by Councilmember Scott, the Council Authorize the Preparation of the 2012 Property Tax Ordinance.

Councilmember Reece posed questions concerning the anticipated decrease in the Town's total assessed value, which questions were responded to by City Manager Mark Peterson. Finance Director Andrew Huhn reiterated all of the rates furnished by the County are preliminary figures at this time.

Councilmember Fritzen commented on the efforts Town Staff puts forth to keep the property taxes under control. Councilmember Nielsen expressed concern with the fact the Town's proposed tax rate is the highest rate for the Town for the past twenty years and suggested lowering the rate for a year and cutting back on expenses for next year. Councilmember McCarthy questioned the overall effect the increase would have on an average taxpayer in Normal. Finance Director Andrew Huhn responded that based on the current preliminary figures, the increase an average homeowner would see on his tax bill for Normal's share of the bill would be in the neighborhood of under \$30 per year. Councilmember Fritzen expressed concern with lowering the rate for a year, indicating the Town was attempting to increase funds for street repair and expressed the need to be cautious in trimming the funds available to the Town to supply the citizens with Town provided services.

AMENDMENT TO MOTION:

Councilmember Nielsen moved the Motion to Authorize the Preparation of the 2012 Property Tax Levy Ordinance be Amended to Reduce the General Fund Proposed 2012 Levy from \$1,600,000 to \$1,350,000.

The Motion died from a lack of a second.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION:

AYES: Fritzen, McCarthy, Scott, Reece, Nielsen, Koos.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT: Gaines.
Motion declared carried.

NEW BUSINESS

8. PRESENTATION TO THE COUNCIL BY THE GENERAL MANAGER OF CONNECT TRANSIT, MR. ANDREW JOHNSON:

Mr. Andrew Johnson, General Manager of the Bloomington Normal Public Transit System, addressed the Council, highlighting some of the system changes which have been made over the past several months. Mr. Johnson outlined some anticipated changes scheduled to be implemented within the next few months. Mr. Johnson responded to comments and questions from Council.

9. MOTION TO APPROVE AN APPOINTMENT TO THE UPTOWN DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION:

MOTION:

Councilmember Fritzen moved, seconded by Councilmember Scott, the Council Approve the Recommended Appointment to the Uptown Design Review Commission.

AYES: McCarthy, Scott, Reece, Nielsen, Fritzen, Koos.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Gaines.

Motion declared carried.

Councilmember Reece announced Mr. Charles McGuire had been appointed to the Uptown Design Review Commission to fill the vacancy created with the resignation of Mr. A. J. Zimmerman. Mr. McGuire's term of office will expire March 31, 2014.

10: CONCERNS:

There were no concerns.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Koos called for a Motion to Adjourn.

MOTION:

Councilmember Fritzen moved, seconded by Councilmember Scott, the Regular Meeting of the Normal Town Council be Adjourned.

AYES: Scott, Reece, Nielsen, Fritzen, McCarthy, Koos.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Gaines.

Motion declared carried.

Mayor Chris Koos adjourned the regular meeting of the Normal Town Council at 8:27 p.m., Monday, October 15, 2012.