

THE CITY OF MOMENCE

Momence, IL 60954

MICK PORTER, Mayor
JENENE HENSON, Clerk
MARGARET PETERSON, Treasurer

ALDERMEN

Diann Denton	Richard Kupferer
Bonnie Straley	
Nova Metz	Mark Lesyna
Charles Steele	Steve Puglise

MOMENCE CITY COUNCIL Monday, November 2, 2009 Council Meeting

Time: 7:30 P.M.

The City Council Meeting of the City of Momence was held in the Council Chambers at 123 W. River Street, Momence.

Mayor Mick Porter called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Roll was called by the Clerk with Aldermen Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Lesyna and Puglise present. Also present were Mayor Mick Porter and City Attorney Michael Parish.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Alderman Straley made the motion to approve the minutes of the October 12 and 14, 2009, Emergency Council and Executive Sessions and to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2009, Council Meeting as presented. Alderman Lesyna seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

Alderman Lesyna made a motion to approve the bills for payment. Alderman Kupferer seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Kupferer, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes. Alderman Steele abstained.

CITIZEN FORUM

Nadine Blanchette – Main Street requested the use of City Hall for a Christmas play. Mayor Porter volunteered to monitor City Hall while this event was going on. Alderman Straley made motion to allow Main Street to use City Hall for the Christmas play on December 5 from 3:30-5:30PM. Alderman Lesyna seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes.

Jay Kerouac questioned Ordinance 662: Adult Use Ordinance. The concern involved the permitted distance an adult use establishment could be located from other zones. Mr. Kerouac wondered why 1,000 instead of 500 feet was not used. Alderman Lesyna stated that there is no place in town these establishments could occupy with the 1,000 foot stipulation.

OLD BUSINESS

Alderman Lesyna: Had an Ordinance meeting at 6pm tonight and discussed 9 potential ordinances that the committee would be working on and presenting to the council in the near future.

ALDERMANIC REPORTS

Alderman Puglise: Discuss and possibly vote on Tree Board proposal for fall plantings. Tree Board met and did an extensive inventory of the trees in town. Identified locations on public areas where trees could be added. Requests have been received and identified key places where trees should be planted to enhance the City. Bids were put out for prices to plant trees; not knowing what was budgeted. Total of \$3760 for a total of 16 trees. Citizen trees request total \$1,073 for 5 trees. Alderman Straley stated that tree planting was not in the budget. Alderman Straley would like to see Scott Behrends involved in the project since he is the one who has to maintain the City trees. Mayor Porter thanked the Tree Board for the amount of time spent on this project.

Alderman Lesyna: Discuss and vote on Building Permit Administrative Fee. Alderman Lesyna made a motion to pass an ordinance amending the City code 4-1-2 repealing the administrative fee. The ordinance was given number 666. Alderman Straley seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes.

Alderman Steele: November 17 is the last day city workers will do chipping; they will continue to pick up leaves every day.

Alderwoman Metz: Discuss and possibly vote on credit card system. Alderman Metz discussed her research of 3 different credit card machines. The recommended system was E-Pay through the state of Illinois, which only works with municipalities. Machine is \$440, which is a one time fee, and it comes with a 1 year warranty and a \$5 monthly statement fee. It would cost \$160.00 for extra debit card pin pad machine. Average interest rate is between 2.1 - 2.8%. This system is to be set up with a phone line; the City plans on setting it up with the fax machine line. Alderwoman Metz made a motion to go through E pay with the state of Illinois not to exceed \$440 for the credit card machine. Application will need to be filled out. It will take 4-6 weeks to receive. Alderman Kupferer seconded with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes.

Two bids for concrete work on East Washington and North Maple. Mayor Porter stated that it did not require a vote. Contois Masonry will do the concrete work for \$1,275.00. Called a Water and Sewer meeting for 7P.M. on November 16.

Alderwoman Straley: The craft and flea market held on Saturday, October 24, went very well. Planning a holiday craft and flea market at the community center on December 5, 2009, from 9-1P.M. Called a Budget and Finance Meeting for November 16, at 6:30P.M., to discuss Tax Levy.

Mayor Porter called a Local Improvement meeting for 6P.M. on November 16, to discuss the community center and the museum concept.

DEPARTMENT HEAD

Chief Swanson: Working on going over list of fees and fines. Ordinance updates, possible adjudication hearing program on east side of county to do some follow up of violations. Met with webmasters to do a newsletter semiannually. New form made available to commend or complain about police officers.

MAYORAL REPORT

Discuss and vote on Flanders tax abatement. Representative from Flanders as well as Kirk Andrenia from Cornerstone Engineering and Mike Van Mill to discuss the tax abatement. Mayor Porter stated that the City has received the "welcome" packet/letter from the grant. Kirk Andrenia stated that Flanders has approached the City and they want to explore the possibility of the addition, and see what the City can offer them to get them to put their addition in Momence. Grant will serve Momence and Flanders with the new 12 inch line. Other items of incentives are the grant that is job based; Momence has partnered with Flanders to get this grant. According to a representative from Flanders, over 75 Flanders employees have Momence addresses out of 300 total employees. Flanders discussed the fact that this addition would bring an increase in production, the machinery from Mexico will require more workers, which is where a majority of the 30 jobs are going to be coming from. The vision is that long term there could be more industry in Momence and to shed a brighter light that Flanders would be an industry out there for long term. Alderman Steele stated that he would like to see that the City does tax abatements for all new construction. Mike Van Mill stated that we have to look at ways to stimulate our community. Momence Township's tax base is on a decline because of lack of investment; Momence Township needs an investment in their tax base to stabilize their community. Mike Van Mill also stated that by accepting this abatement could set a precedent for future property tax abatements in Momence. Marsha Tedford stated that nothing is happening/moving in the town of Momence. This should be considered as growth for the future with minimal actual tax dollar loss over a period of time. On an estimated \$2 Million improvement to real estate: Over 5 years, the estimated tax without the tax abatement that the City would receive would be \$16,430. If the tax abatement would be approved the estimated tax receipts would be \$9,858. \$6,572 would be the estimated amount of taxes lost due to the abatement participation. Over 5 years the total per year loss would be \$1,314. Alderman Kupferer made a motion to approve the tax abatement for 5 years with Flanders. Alderman Lesyna seconded the motion. Alderman Puglise, Kupferer and Denton voted yes. Alderman Lesyna, Steele, Metz and Straley voted no.

Alderman Steele put a second motion out that the City would do an abatement on any new construction in the City, that would include Flanders. It was discussed that this would be an ordinance issue.

Mayor Porter questioned as to whether he could veto a NO vote. The answer was no.

Alderman Straley made a motion to approve the appointment of Nova Metz as Chairman of Water & Sewer committee. Alderman Lesyna seconded with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes..

Discuss and vote on Log Cabin account. Council discussed overages on the budget of the Log Cabin account totaling \$1,583.69. According to a member of the log cabin board the overages came from things that they had no idea was in their expenses (electricity, extensive electrical repairs). Alderman Straley made a motion to move \$1583.69 out of contingencies line item #104333

to line item #104341.1 to clear up the overages. Alderman Puglise seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes.

Public Hearing for the DCEO (Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity) Grant on November 16, 2009, at 7:15P.M. Alderman Kupferer made a motion to approve the hearing. Alderman Puglise seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes.

Mayor Porter stated that he would like Council to consider the vote on tax abatement with an opportunity to bring it back to vote at the next City Council meeting. Also, add to the list of ordinance things to look into: blanket tax abatements.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Alderman Straley made a motion to go into executive session to discuss: 1. Contractual – Baxter Woodman, possibly to come out and do business and 2. Contractual – Collections, possibly to come out and do business. Michael Parish added a discussion on the possibility of imminent litigation. Alderman Kupferer seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes. Council went into executive session at 8:50P.M.

Alderman Kupferer made a motion to go with a 30 day grace period / press release for retrieving past unpaid fines. Alderman Metz seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes.

Alderman Puglise made a motion to authorize the city attorney to begin civil litigation as soon as possible to attempt to compel the owner of 5 North Dixie Highway to do something with the building (restore or demolish) or the city to proceed with demolition or any alternatives. Alderman Denton seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes.

Alderman Straley made a motion to allow Mayor Porter to sign the agreement with Baxter Woodman for the land comprehension plan not to exceed the City's portion totaling \$4.000 . Alderman Lesyna seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes.

Alderman Straley made a motion to adjourn. Alderman Metz seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenene Henson, City Clerk