

THE CITY OF MOMENCE

Momence, IL 60954

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

ALDERMEN

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

MOMENCE CITY COUNCIL Monday, May 21, 2012 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, Cook, Lesyna and Puglise present. Also present was Mayor Mick Porter.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Alderman Straley made a motion to approve the Regular Session minutes of the May 7, 2012, Council Meeting with the change of Alderman Puglise and Metz yes vote to a pass vote for approval of April 16, 2012 Regular and Executive Session meeting minutes. Alderman Metz seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Cook, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

Alderman Straley stated that all bills were reviewed at tonight's Budget and Finance Committee Meeting. Alderman Kupferer made a motion to approve the bills for payment. Alderman Cook seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Cook, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes.

CITIZEN FORUM

Ernie Hart – Permission for Antique Car Club banners. Mr. Hart requested permission to put up Antique Car Club banners throughout town after Dixie Daze as has been done in years past. Alderman Straley made motion to permit the placement of Antique Car Club banners throughout town. Alderman Metz seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Cook, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes.

Thomas Turrell questioned if the policy of tree removal and brush pick up has changed. Mayor Porter stated that they are to be laid out a certain way, on the curb, if contractor is hired then the contractor is to remove entire tree. Brush goes to curb and the City has to take it, as long as limbs are not too large. No changes have been made to policy.

OLD BUSINESS - none

ALDERMANIC REPORTS

Alderman Denton: Discuss/Vote Board of Appeals' recommendation to deny variance for fencing at 303 N Maple. Board of Appeals met May 9, to discuss a variance request to install a 6 foot privacy fence along the yard. Residents presented to Council pictures and drawings of variance request discussing appearance, aesthetic value and stated that none of the neighbors were opposed. Alderman Denton stated that the main reason for variance being denied was because of the blocking of the house. Residents would like to include side porch gaining 500 square feet and north side 21 feet back from corner of house to extend patio and create storage. Concern at other meeting, neighbor would be seeing a fence off the side porch. Alderman Denton made a motion to deny the

request for the variance based on the the Board of Appeals recommendation. Alderman Kupferer seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Kupferer, Cook and Puglise voting yes and Alderman Straley, Metz, Steele and Lesyna voting no. Mayor Porter then voted yes to deny the variance.

Alderman Straley stated that she erred when having made a motion to approve the previous minutes and should of passed instead of voting yes. Alderman Kupferer made motion to approve this change. Alderman Metz seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Cook, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes. Alderman Straley stated that Riverfront Berry Farm called requesting to have a special Farmers Market offering many varieties of fruits and vegetables on May 31, at the old Finer Foods parking lot from 3-6PM.

Alderman Metz: Discuss/Vote Planning Commissions' recommendation of Master Plan acceptance. Nick Kalogeresis, from the Lakota Group, presented to the Council a project overview. A twenty-one member Master Plan Steering Committee's goal was to create a vision and consensus for Downtown Momence's revitalization potential. This plan builds on the city's 2010 Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Concepts to preserve downtown and create new infill development, improve street-scape conditions, implement financing tools, enhance Building Improvement and Zoning Ordinance Changes, Street-scape and way-finding and Riverfront development were presented. Suggestions for the city to consider in the future involved: Implementation roles and committees: Implementation Committee, Street-scape Task Force and Riverfront Task Force. Mayor Porter stated that the committee did review the plan and are voting on what is the final Master Plan. Discussion involved: acquiring funding to implement a plan like this is necessary. Clarification was made that the master Plan in no way is meant to drive businesses out of the downtown. It was stated that if at some point in the future Gilster Mary Lee were to leave or relocate, having a conceptualization of what could be done with vacant property is important. River usage and condition was also discussed. Voting for the Master Plan would provide the Council with a vision of what could be used as a guide. The Planning and Zoning committee voted in favor to recommend the Master plan to the council for acceptance. Mayor Porter stated that this would be a motion seeking council approval to accept the Master Plan as a guide, an idea giver. NOT driving any businesses out. New building construction and design standard codes were discussed and suggestions are included in the Master Plan supporting designs that fit with the historic era of the City. Alderman Metz stated that funding is a big issue. Portions of this plan can hopefully be completed in stages. The Planning and Zone Commission met May 2; Vote was four yes and two no. On behalf of the planning and zone commission, motion was made. Alderman Denton made a motion to adopt the Downtown Momence Master Plan as a guide for future development. Alderman Lesyna seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Straley, Kupferer, Cook, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes. Alderman Metz voted no. Alderman Steele abstained.

Alderman Cook: Discuss and vote on approval for Downtown Theater production of "Chicago" for July, 2013. The Acting Out Theater Company would like to utilize the downtown business area of East Washington with a festival and performances of the production "Chicago." Alderman Cook made motion to allow The Acting Out Theater Company to perform and utilize the downtown area for a performance of "Chicago, in July, 2013. Alderman Straley seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Cook, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes.

Alderman Lesyna: Discuss and vote on ordinance's for Part-time Police Officers: The Illinois Law Enforcement and Training Standards Board states that an ordinance must be on file before an officer can be hired. Proposed ordinance will meet the requirements.. Alderman Lesyna made a motion to pass an ordinance amending an ordinance concerning part time police officers. Alderman Kupferer seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Cook, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes. Ordinance #736.

Golf Cart registration: To change the required month of registration from January to May. Alderman Lesyna made a motion to pass an ordinance amending an ordinance regulating the registration of golf carts within the city limits. Alderman Metz seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Cook, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes. Ordinance #735.

Online Gambling. An Ordinance amending regulations to grant authority for the operation of video gaming terminals licensed by the Illinois Gaming Board. City will receive 5% on the proceeds. Alderman Lesyna made a motion to pass an ordinance amending the gambling regulations to grant authority for the operation of video gaming terminals. Alderman Straley seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Cook, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes. Ordinance #734.

Alderman Puglise: Bluestar Energy presentation by George Voorhees to discuss and vote for contract extension. Current electric contract became effective September of 2011. At time of signing, the approximate savings on the electric bill was anticipated to be \$46,000 annually. Currently, the city is six months into an existing contract at 5.9 cents per kilowatt hour, saving 1.8 cents per kilowatt hour over Commonwealth Edison. Starting next month, if approved, the amended agreement would be 4.6 cents per kilowatt for a 30 month term for a savings of \$80,000 over the life of the contract (30 months). Commonwealth Edison rates were discussed. Opt out option was discussed (offered to residential customers and small businesses-done by referendum). Opt In option (select supplier, fix the price and allow residents to sign up themselves). To date, there has been \$27,790 in savings with current contract with no disruption in service. Alderman Denton made a motion to authorize Mayor Porter to sign new contract to approve an amended contract (30 month) at 4.6 cents per kilowatt. Alderman Kupferer seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Cook, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS - none

TREASURER REPORT – Treasurer Becky Peterson -none

MAYORAL REPORT

Discuss and vote Enterprise Zone expansion funding for legal description/administration costs. Mayor Porter stated that tonight's 5PM public hearing went well. Initial cost for a new legal description came from one vendor and may be less than what was originally thought. Following the 5PM Hearing, the map was viewed as acceptable with no additions or deletions suggested. Mike VanMill, EZ Administrator, received another bid for 50% less than the original. To move forward with the EZ additions, a legal description must be obtained. Alderman Kupferer made a motion to approve funding for the legal description and administrative costs not to exceed \$2500. Alderman Denton seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Cook, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes.

Discuss and vote on the resolution for the intermittent street closure for the Gladiolus Festival parades. This resolution is required by IDOT and it specifies the occasional stoppage on Dixie / Fifth Street and Dixie/Washington. Alderman Straley made a motion to approve authorization to sign resolution for intermittent street closure for the Gladiolus Festival Parades. Alderman Metz seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Cook, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes. Resolution #153.

Received preliminary financial reports of the 2010-2011 audit from Sikich. The Mayor is to confirm with auditors when they are coming for a presentation (preferably in June).

EXECUTIVE SESSION-none

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenene Henson, City Clerk