

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, June 4, 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 Cook made a motion to approve the Regular Session minutes of the May 21, 2012, Council Meeting as presented. Alderman Straley seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Cook, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

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

CITIZEN FORUM

First Reformed Church of Wichert – Karen Osterhoff requested permission to place vacation bible school banner at intersection of Route 1/17 and Gladiolus Avenue inviting children and teenagers especially to vacation bible school to assist students to become volunteers. The school will benefit New Trail Outfitters and Hopkins Park Library. Hang banner current through June 22. Alderman Cook made a motion to approve First Reformed Church of Wichert to hang banner at Route 1/17/Gladiolus Avenue through June 22, 2012. Alderman Metz seconded the motion with 8 Ayes and 0 Nays.

Jennifer Mansberger – Discussion about Hardin Street, Mrs. Mansberger is wanting to know what plans have been made to fix the pot holes on Hardin Street. Mr. Behrends had engineers look at the Street recently; the road is not wide enough to use MFT funds. Bob Grosso suggested the following: first 100 feet tar and chipping and after that spray patching at a cost of \$3,100.

Rhiannon Ford – Discuss residential utility alternatives. Referendum would need to be passed or residents can choose themselves. Ambit Energy, American based company rates as of today would be 16% lower than Comm Ed, 5% lower than Nicor. Guarantees you at least a 1% reduction by the end of the year. No fee to get in, no fee to get out, no contracts. Still billed through Nicor or ComEd. Mayor Porter questioned whether City government should get involved with household energy. This option is available to City residents.

Jay Kerouac: Litigation: update on 2 lawsuits city involved in: Patriot and Cromwell. Attempted to serve papers re: Patriot, with problems. Motions for dismissal on Cromwell.

Jay Kerouac: Fiscal Year 2011 – 7months late: Extension was filed and approved. Some issues and glitches with new Audit Company and the City's Accountant. Kerouac questioned why was their fee was paid with nothing received. Bills are been paid when invoices are sent.

OLD BUSINESS

Alderman Straley: Farmers Market this Wednesday 3-6PM, fresh vegetables and fruits, expanding the selection. Several other vendors will be there also.

ALDERMANIC REPORTS

Alderman Denton: Discuss/vote on City employee health insurance. There have been several meetings to discuss renewal rate. Main focus is health insurance coverage, still maintain deductibles, office visits, co-pays and prescription benefits. It was discussed that the best selection would be Option A : Blue Cross Blue Shield, which will maintain same coverage, Select Network has majority of employee's physicians in the network and coverage would be maintained. The employee would determine the coverage, PPO Network or Select Network. City is not paying for the dental and vision insurance premium but employees may pay on their own if they wish to take the option. Alderman Metz asked why several choices are available. It was answered that a majority of employees' physicians are in these networks. Employee contribution is not going up. Alderman Metz made a motion to approve Option A with Blue Cross Blue Shield for the employees of the City of Momence and that dental and vision premiums are employee options at employees costs through the Humana High Low program. Alderman Kupferer seconded the motion with Alderman Denton, Straley, Metz, Steele, Kupferer, Cook, Lesyna and Puglise voting yes.

Alderman Straley: Called a Budget and Finance committee meeting for Monday, June 18 at 6:30PM to discuss current bills, the budget and the audit. Committee members and department heads were requested to please look through the audit and budgets.

Alderman Lesyna: Ordinance meeting tonight-Committee went over changes in Residential and Fire Code. First reading within the next couple meetings. Residential and Fire Code changes were stated.

Alderman Puglise: Call One is doing an audit on all of the City's phone bills and will finish the end of this week. Looking at providing savings.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Mark Nelson stated that they are starting work on the water line on East Washington. Cutting up street and replacing service line, will take several days.

TREASURER REPORT – Treasurer Becky Peterson – none.

MAYORAL REPORT

Enterprise Zone update. No information for additions or deletions locally have been received. Prepared to have legal description done. Discuss Sterling Meadow's sidewalk extension: Waiting for permit from IDOT (could be \$10,000-\$20,000 more to finish). Hardin Road repairs: Spoke about earlier, will be repaired for \$3,100. Sidewalk replacement at Library: Look for ways to replace especially since the Library is planning its 100 year celebration. Tuck pointing of new City Hall: Local brick layer has agreed to assist Mayor in tuck pointing City Hall. Parking lot landscapes: Main Street applied for a foundation grant to do some beautification of a parking lot (west Washington between parking lot and street). Repairs on downtown light poles: In the process of making a bracket so pole does not need to be changed. Lights by NAPA are not working and Mr. Behrends is also looking into repairing them. Painting of downtown light poles black: Alderman Metz suggested Momence High School National Honor Society students volunteer, insurance company will need to be looked into. Downtown sidewalk concerns: under the sidewalk there are areas where there are holes and some have no foundation beneath them. Ways to fix the problem were discussed.

Update on interested purchaser(s) of Community Center. There are a couple people interested in purchasing the Community Center: One would be retail, the other wholesale. No leasing of Community Center beyond August, 2012.

Sewer bills/water bills: Local governments can place debtors on a list, if an individual wins the lottery or receives a State income tax refund, the debt will be taken out of the States Debt Recovery Program. This process can be done individually or an agency can be used as a third party to maintain records with the State. The City's collection agency is knowledgeable about this. State passed the law that debts that are owed to local governments can be recovered through the program. Will look into this in more detail.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - none

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:40P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenene Henson, City Clerk