

City of Elk Run Heights
Regular Council Meeting
City Hall Council Chambers
February 10, 2015
City Hall 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Swope called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All present recited the pledge of Allegiance. Roll call of Council Members: Present – Wilson, Smock, Bass and Heideman. Absent – Heth. Quorum present. Wilson/Bass motion to approve the February 10, 2015 Agenda. Ayes – 4. Motion carried.

Bass/Wilson motion to accept the Consent Agenda approving the January 13, 2015 regular council meeting minutes and the January 28, 2015 Budget Workshop meeting minutes, the City Clerk's Reports, Investment Report, the Revenue and Expenditure Reports as of January 31, 2015 as presented, approving Resolution 2730 authorizing the payment of city bills, approving Resolution 2731 authorizing the city clerk to publish the employee and elected officials wages for the calendar year 2014, approving Resolution 2732 the transfer of monies of \$54, 841.13 from the LOST Fund to the Trailer Court Capital Project Fund, approving Resolution 2733 agreeing to become a member of the FY 2015/2016 INRCOG Safety Program. Roll call: Ayes – 4. Motion carried.

Bob Dieter, the consultant for the Waterloo Regionalization Contract made a presentation outlining the history of the Wastewater Treatment Plant and the connection with Raymond. He reviewed option cost from the study prepared by Bolten & Menk estimating to rebuild a plant was 6.5 million and the estimate to connect with Waterloo was 1.6 million being shared 50/50 with Raymond. Bob explained the benefits of going with Waterloo and the expected bond financing cost to residents of Elk Run Heights would be \$37 to \$41 per month over ten years. If the city were to build a new facility the bond financing would be \$102 to \$110 per month over twenty years. In conclusion Bob felt the connection to Waterloo would be the most reliable solution for decades and the council can rest assured they are providing the fundamental needs to the residents of the community. Council shared concerns that although Elk Run residents will pay the same sewer rate as Waterloo residents we will not be getting the same services. Bass stated that is the agreement that has been on the table since day one. Mayor Swope was concerned about the need to comply with the Infiltration/Inflow requirements. Bob states that will take a community effort to lower the infiltration. Al Cross, 434 Amber Lane, states the city has three options and they need to get prices for all three options before they proceed with Waterloo. Ed Winstead, 701 McCoy Road, stated his problem is the maintenance for Waterloo is built into the price but not for Elk Run.

Mayor Swope opened the discussion on the Fire/Ambulance Contract. Arlan Shellhorn, 216 Sutton Avenue, expressed his concerns with changing our service from Waterloo Fire Rescue to the Evansdale Volunteer Fire Department. Arlan has a scanner and has heard numerous second calls for Evansdale. He believes with our contract with Waterloo Fire Rescue we are getting the best professional service money can buy and by changing to Evansdale would be setting us back 25 years. Tim Ratchford, 315 Gilbertville Road, questioned the statistics on no-show calls and shared an instance where there was a 911 call placed and nobody from Evansdale showed up. Tim stated let's not fix what isn't broken. Ed Winstead,

701 McCoy Road, agreed with the need to save money and keep taxes down but not to the extent of a life. He added Evansdale has a good department but if there was a problem with one of his family members he would want the professionals there to respond. He states it shouldn't even be considered. Smock responded that Evansdale came to us and asked if they could give a quote and we gave them the consideration to do so. She states it was never about the money it was the response times that gave them influence. Smock also noted she was glad to hear response from the community. Wilson stated it was never about money for him, it was about what is best for the residents. Bass asked if the Waterloo Fire Chief could come to the council and make a presentation. Council decided they should get more citizens feedback. Smock/Wilson to table the discussion. Ayes – 4. Motion carried.

City Engineer Mike Dryden presented the preliminary construction plans for the Plaza Drive Reconstruction Project for council review. The total project estimate is \$790,846. Mike believes a July letting is possible if the IDOT gets the environmental study done and two months for construction. Mike discussed the re-routing of traffic on Plaza Drive and hopefully eliminates any truck traffic on Gilbertville Road. Mike added Dubuque Road will not be completely closed down. City Clerk ask what the traffic count was for Plaza Drive. Mike replied 1800 vehicles a day with 30% being trucks. Mike added for the design phase there won't be any reimbursement for engineering fee, but the overall project will be within a budget and will let you have the construction phase engineering fees reimbursed at 80%/20%.

Smock/Heideman motion to approve Resolution 2734 authorizing the Mayor to sign the IDOT funding agreement for the Plaza Drive Reconstruction Project. Roll call: Ayes – 4. Motion carried.

Bass/Wilson motion to approve Resolution 2735 accepting and approving the preliminary and final replat of the Huff Subdivision. Roll call: Ayes – 4. Motion carried.

City Attorney Heather Prendergast updated the council on the Trailer Court legal proceedings stating the lawsuit has been filed and served. The opposing attorney communicated a desire to dispense with this. She will keep council informed if she gets a response to settle.

Mayor Swope informed the council there was nothing new on the Request For Proposal for the Trailer Court. City Engineer Dryden mentioned he had an inquiry call from a gentleman, Mike sent him a utility map of the trailer court. Smock suggest calling a special meeting to make plans to move forward with the development of the property.

City Clerk Lundy explained city currently covers 95% of health insurance. Council discussed this will stay effective with the new budget. Smock and Heth are reviewing employee policies and health insurance will be included. Mayor Swope ask council if this would apply to new employees. Wilson replied yes. Smock suggested advising him or her it could change in the future.

Council reviewed the Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Budget. The only uncertain number would be for the Fire Ambulance Contract no other changes were made. Bass stated he could not pass the budget without knowing exactly what the fire contract would cost. Council discussed the Fire Ambulance Contract again and decided to stay with Waterloo Fire Rescue. City Clerk Lundy referred to the new tax rate asking of seven percent.

Wilson/Smock motion to set the Public Hearing for the Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Budget for March 10, 2015. Roll call: Ayes – 4. Motion carried.

Mayor Swope gave his monthly report stating the Waste Water Treatment man hired by the city to sign off on the monthly water and sewer reports had fallen at the plant injuring his arm and wrist. City Clerk Lundy explained she has notified our insurance company. Mayor Swope noted the minimal cost to the city to have Schaefer Tree Service put up/take down the city's Christmas decorations. Discussion was held on other options for the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Mayor Swope reported that Gilbertville, Readlyn and Fairbank are putting in Aero mod plants. Smock asked if Raymond would be interested in an Aero mod plant. City Attorney Prendergast reported Raymond is going to Waterloo. Resident Al Cross, 434 Amber Lane, felt an Aero mod plant was still a possibility. Smock is reluctant to take on Waterloo's problems. Bass thought this had already been discussed. City Attorney Prendergast recommended these thoughts be communicated to Bob Dieter. Smock would like to see the cost. Wilson is concerned about losing control of plant and having no control over the expenses.

Heideman/Wilson motion to adjourn at 9:12 p.m. Ayes – 4. Motion carried.

Tim Swope, Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Kristi Lundy, CMC, City Clerk