

The Dallas City Council held its regular meeting on April 10, 2008, at 5:30 P.M. Mayor Higgins called the meeting to order with the following commissioners present: Joyce Ellison, Jason Gold, Esther Newberry, and Harold Northup.

Others attending the meeting were Steve Roberts, Sharon Huffman, Chris Classen, Rod Clark, and Chuck Leake.

A motion was made by Newberry, and 2nd by Ellison to accept the minutes of the March 27, 2008, meeting. Ellison, Gold, Newberry, and Northup AYE.

A motion was made by Gold, and 2nd by Newberry to pay bills. Ellison, Gold, Newberry, and Northup AYE.

Steve Roberts and Sharon Huffman appeared regarding some properties in Dallas City that they feel need to be cleaned up. They would like to see the City's nuisance ordinance more fully enforced.

Chris Classen has received an estimate from USA Bluebook for shoring equipment. Their estimate for a 6' X 6' steel shoring package with a 43" spreader kit is \$2728.08. This price includes shipping charges.

A motion was made by Northup, and 2nd by Newberry to purchase a 6' X 6' steel shoring package with 43" spreader kit from USA Bluebook for \$2728.08, shipping including. Ellison, Gold, Newberry, and Northup AYE.

Chris Classen reported that a water line on East 3rd Street recently broke and that it has been repaired. He is in the process of getting a time set up to have the water tower inspected and getting bids on painting it when the weather improves and is dryer. He also reported that the phone line to the new lift station is not working and that he is working on getting it repaired.

Mayor Higgins read a letter of thanks from the Illini West High School After Prom Committee for the city's recent donation. She also informed the council that on March 29, 2008, 8 nesting boxes on 4 poles and 2 nesting boxes in trees were put up at the wetlands area.

The city has received an agreement from the Illinois Ducks Unlimited that will give the city a \$5000 expense reimbursement grant. The city attorney looked the agreement over and feels it is satisfactory for the mayor to sign this agreement.

Discussed the Hancock County Economic Development Association. A motion was made by Gold, and 2nd by Northup to contribute \$1319 to the Hancock County Economic Development Association for their 2007-2008 fiscal year. Ellison, Gold, Newberry, and Northup AYE.

Discussed the bathrooms at the boat docks. A motion was made by Ellison, and 2nd by Gold to hire Sharon Kline to clean the bathrooms at the boat docks for \$5 per day. Ellison, Gold, Newberry, and Northup AYE.

Discussed the use of water by McDonough Telephone Cooperative for the job they are doing in town of burying a fiber optic line. The amount of water being used by them is being monitored, and the city will bill them for the water that they use.

A motion was made by Northup, and 2nd by Gold to pass a motor fuel tax resolution for the maintenance of the city streets in the amount of \$75,000. Ellison, Gold, Newberry, and Northup AYE.

Discussed water and sewer rates and the fact that the City's cost to buy water is rising from \$2.10 per 1,000 gallons to \$2.50 per 1,000 gallons. It was decided to raise the minimum water rate from \$9.00 for the first 1,000gallons to \$9.50. It was also decided to raise the rate for water used in excess of 1,000 gallons from \$2.80 per 1,000 gallons to \$3.20 per 1,000 gallons. It was decided to leave the sewer rates at 50% of the amount for water plus a \$9.00 bonding fee. These new rates will take effect with the June 1, 2008, bills.

Chuck Leake requested that the city would vacate East Fifth Street east of Maple Street. The city attorney advised Mr. Leake that he needs to have all property owners, that would be affected by such a vacation of the street, sign an agreement stating that they do not have an objection to the vacating of this street. Once Mr. Leake gets such an agreement signed by all the affected property owners, the council will then consider this request.

A letter was read from the Dallas City PTO organization requesting a donation for their Penny Carnival that will be held April 11, 2008. They are attempting to raise money to purchase new playground equipment at the elementary school. A motion was made by Newberry, and 2nd by Ellison to donate \$300 to the Dallas City PTO. Ellison, Gold, Newberry, and Northup AYE.

A motion was made by Ellison, and 2nd by Gold to adjourn the meeting. Ellison, Gold, Newberry, and Northup AYE.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 P.M.

Steven K Vorhies, City Clerk