

The Dallas City Council held its regular meeting on February 27, 2014, at 6 p.m. Mayor Higgins called the meeting to order with the following commissioners present: Esther Newberry, Harold Northup, Tom Schaefer, and Bob Weese.

Others attending the meeting were Jerry Bartell, Dustin Berg, Harold Northup III, Jim Melton, Chris Classen, Dennis Hilliard, and Eric Icenogle.

A motion was made by Weese, and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Schaefer to accept the minutes of the February 13, 2014, meeting. Newberry, Northup, Schaefer, and Weese AYE.

Dustin Berg and Jerry Bartell appeared on behalf of the Hancock County Economic Development Corporation. They discussed community and economic development in Hancock County and the possible development of an entrepreneurship program for the high school aged residents of Hancock County. They also reported that an Economic Development Summit will be held on March 31, 2014, at the Marine Bank Community Room in Carthage, Illinois, at 7 p.m.

Chris Classen reported that there have been two water breaks on West Fourth Street. Both breaks have been repaired, but K & N Excavating had to bring in their backhoe to assist with one of the breaks. The water salesman at the old water plant recently froze up, and a valve on it needs to be repaired. A pump in the lift station at the intersection of East First Street and East Second Street needs to be repaired. The parts needed to make these repairs have been ordered.

Discussed a proposal from Benton & Associates of Macomb, Illinois, for the engineering and technical services associated with the demolition and re-purposing of the old water plant on West First Street. The estimated cost of engineering and technical services for Task 1, Conceptual Layouts for Proposed Maintenance Building, is between \$2,500 and \$3,500. They have been asked to attend the city council meeting on March 13, 2014, to discuss this project in more detail with the mayor and council. A motion was made by Schaefer, and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Newberry to hire Benton & Associates to do the engineering and technical services for Task 1 at the estimated cost of between \$2,500 and \$3,500. Newberry, Northup, Schaefer, and Weese AYE.

Harold Northup III and Jim Melton appeared regarding the community project that Harold is required to perform in order to receive his Eagle Rank in Boy Scouts. For his project, Harold is going to be cleaning and removing all of the trash along the riverbank from the recreation park to the elevator. Harold asked the council's permission to put the trash that he collects in the city dumpster, as well as use of the city backhoe and truck to help dispose of the tires that he collects. A motion was made by Schaefer, and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Weese to support Harold Northup III's community project for obtaining his Eagle Rank in Boy Scouts and provide a dumpster for the project, as well as allow the use of the city's backhoe and truck. Newberry, Northup, Schaefer, and Weese AYE.

Discussed snow removal and possibly creating a snow ordinance regarding the parking on Oak Street during times of snow removal. The city attorney will work on drawing up this ordinance. Also discussed trying to find someone to hire as a backup in case the city's street employee would be out of town, ill, etc. when there is a snowstorm, water break, or other situation that requires immediate attention.

Discussed the pickup the city has gained possession of from a forfeiture. The mayor asked the council members to take a look at the truck so that a decision can be made at the next council meeting as to what the council wants to do with the pickup.

The city attorney discussed the city property at 387 Oak Street that the city would like to transfer to the Dallas City Park District. He informed the council that it appears that the transfer can be done with a statutory authority. A motion was made by Schaefer, and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Northup to have the city attorney continue working on the project of transferring the property at 387 Oak Street to the Dallas City Park District for public purposes. Newberry, Northup, Schaefer, and Weese AYE.

The city attorney has spoken to someone at Sterling Codifiers about updating the city's codified ordinance books. The present codified ordinance books were last updated in 1994. The estimated cost to do the updating is \$3,000 to \$6,000. A motion was made by Schaefer, and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Northup to update the city's codified ordinance books for an estimated cost of \$3,000 to \$6,000. Newberry, Northup, Schaefer, and Weese AYE.

Discussed the driveway off of West Fifth Street that goes up to Tom Durand's house. The city attorney has checked at the Hancock County Courthouse and there is no indication that since 1941 that the city has ever owned this property. It, therefore, is the city attorney's opinion that this is a private driveway and that the city has no obligation to maintain it or repair it.

A motion was made by Newberry, and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Northup to adjourn the meeting. Newberry, Northup, Schaefer, and Weese AYE.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Steven K Vorhies, City Clerk