

The Dallas City Council held its regular meeting on March 11, 2020, at 5 p.m. Mayor Kevin Six called the meeting to order with the following commissioners present: Lila Gittings, Carole McDowell, Harold Northup Jr., and Greg Olson.

Others attending the meeting were Anne Thompson, Sharon Scott, Deana Ferrill, LeAnn Kennedy, Chris Classen, Doug Erickson, Gary Smith, and Mariah Wallace.

A motion was made by Gittings, and 2nd by Olson to accept the minutes of the February 25, 2020, meeting. Gittings, McDowell, and Olson AYE. Northup ABSTAIN.

A motion was made by Olson, and 2nd by Gittings to pay bills. Gittings, McDowell, Northup, and Olson AYE.

Sharon Scott discussed the ditch and street in front of her house. The council will have the streets employee check on this.

Deana Ferrill informed the council that they are going to be holding the annual Easter Egg Hunt for the local children on April 4, 2020, at the Dallas City Elementary School. She asked the council if they would be willing to make a donation for this year's event. A motion was made by Gittings, and 2nd by Olson to donate \$250 to Deana Ferrill for the 2020 Easter Egg Hunt. Gittings, McDowell, Northup, and Olson AYE.

LeAnn Kennedy presented the council with copies of a report from Carl A Nelson Company showing an estimate of what it would cost to refurbish the old high school building.

Chris Classen reported that he and Brandan Beach have been working on cutting some trees at the Wetlands Area and spraying the stumps. He also informed the council that the two lift station pumps are ready to be rebuilt.

Police Chief Gary Smith gave his report for the month of February. All three city police officers participated in an "active shooter" drill with the Henderson County Sheriff's Department this week. The Hancock County Sheriff's Department is planning on holding a similar drill this summer. The city police officers have also been participating in school walk-thru's at several Hancock County schools, including Dallas City Elementary School and Illini West High School. Chief Smith also reported that the police department has received 2 Portable Starcom Radios from ILEAS. He is planning on assigning one of these to Officer Brown and using the other one for emergency situations.

Doug Erickson reported that the warranty inspection for the Phase 1 Sanitary Sewer project will be done this summer by the contractor. Josh Mercer of Western Illinois Regional Council is looking into a possible grant for the boat dock ramp. Mr. Erickson also discussed the four sewer lift stations that are located in flood plain areas. He is trying to contact FEMA to see if they would be willing to help the city move these lift stations out of the flood plain.

Commissioner McDowell discussed residents burning garbage, barking dogs, and trash in yards.

The city attorney discussed the old high school building. She believes that it has been sold, but she does not know to whom. She is looking into this and trying to find out if it has actually been sold, and if so, to whom. She and Mayor Six have both been contacted by a gentleman that appears to be interested in purchasing it and possibly renovating it. Also, discussed the old Legion Hall building.

She discussed what the city's options are with both properties.

Mayor Six reported that he plans to contact Hancock County Emergency Services Coordinator Jack Curfman to see if it would be possible to get some correctional facility inmates to help with sandbagging this year, if needed.

Discussed culverts that need to be cleaned out.

The city attorney informed the council that the draft of the ordinance codification update should be done in April or May.

A motion was made by Northup, and 2nd by Olson to pass Ordinance #652, to amend Ordinance #600 and make water service subject to being shut off if the bill is not paid by the last day of the month. If water service is shut off for non-payment, there will be a \$50 reconnect fee that must be paid, in addition to the amount of the bill, in order to get the water turned back on. Gittings, McDowell, Northup, and Olson AYE.

A motion was made by Gittings, and 2nd by McDowell to pass Ordinance #653, to amend Ordinance #639 and enter into a reciprocal agreement with the Village of Lomax that allows Non-Highway Vehicle Permits to be honored in both municipalities. Gittings, McDowell, Northup, and Olson AYE.

Discussed getting a hole by the entrance/exit to/from Dollar General filled with some patch. Mayor Six will contact the Illinois Department of Transportation about this.

Discussed having a cannabis ordinance. The commissioners expressed their opinions regarding the subject. The city attorney discussed several options that the city has regarding this type of ordinance. This will be discussed more at the next meeting.

Discussed the shoulder area of East Fourth Street where sewer work was done last year that needs repaired. Mayor Six will contact the city engineer to see if the contractor is responsible for these repairs or if the city is.

Mayor Six discussed leasing or purchasing a skid loader. He will check on prices and discuss it more at the next meeting.

Discussed a person that needs to do some community service work.

Discussed two vacated houses in town. The city attorney will look into these.

The city has received notification from Nicor Gas that contractor Grid One Solutions will have employees in town in the near future doing meter modernization to their gas meters. All Grid One Solution employees will have appropriate identification.

A motion was made by Northup, and 2nd by Olson to adjourn the meeting. Gittings, McDowell, Northup, and Olson AYE.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Steven K Vorhies, City Clerk