

CITY OF SHULLSBURG
COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 4, 2009
6:30 P.M.

A regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Shullsburg was held at 6:30 p.m. November 4, 2009 in the Community Room of the Shullsburg Community Townsend Center, 190 N Judgment Street, Shullsburg, Wisconsin. Mayor Tom Curran called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Notice of the meeting was posted and given to the official newspaper. Roll Call- Dan Spillane, Carol Korn, Carl Ballard, Darrell Morrissey. All present. Others present: Jan Haverland, Cheryl Fink, Margaret Spillane, Tom Lethlean, Don White, Carol Stoudt, Jill Heim, Don Dickinson, Louie Landau, Ellie Landau, Chris Mazur, Tom Pedley and Brian Stewart.

Motion by Spillane second by Korn to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2009 meeting. All aye, motion carried.

Committee Reports: Carl Ballard reported that he had gotten bids for the tree removal at the park. The committee will look at options before making a decision.

Motion by Morrissey second by Spillane to approve the bills for the general, water, sewer, electric, pool, museum and library funds. All aye, motion carried.

Dave Leahy and Dan Morrissey, Wayne Gehrt, Jeff Russell, and Marcia Blackbourn, Harry Lee Blackbourn, Donna Shepherd, Pam Wymore and Deb Blackbourn arrived.

A discussion was held regarding a 2010 contribution towards the Shullsburg Visitor Guide and a monthly community page in the shopping news. Representatives from the Shopping News, Jan Haverland and Brian Stewart, gave the council a proposal for the Shullsburg Visitors Guide. The proposal included 7,500 copies of the Shullsburg Visitors Guide and monthly community page for a \$250 monthly contribution from the city. No action was taken.

Jan Haverland and Brian Stewart left the meeting.

Rick Moyer arrived.

Carol Stoudt, Director McCoy Public Library, gave a presentation of library statistics and the impact of a library on the community. Stoudt explained that the Gratiot Library is a branch of the McCoy Public Library. The Gratiot Library is funded by the Village and Town of Gratiot. Stoudt also explained that the Act 150 Funds are used to supplement the general library budget. Margaret Spillane, Member of the Library Board, explained that the library services included the following: 1. Magazines & newspapers. 2. Large print books. 3. Audio books. 4. Computers.

Carol Stoudt left the meeting.

No discussion or action was taken regarding the Wisconsin Uniform Dwelling Code Contract expiration. It will be addressed at the next meeting.

A discussion was held regarding repairs of municipal and utility property caused by storm damage. The council had been given an estimate from the Local Government Property Insurance. Ald Morrissey and Ald Ballard will work on getting the bids for the repairs.

Motion by Korn second by Ballard to approve a payment to the Shullsburg Fire District for the second half of the 2009 assessment in the amount of \$17, 337.86. All aye, motion carried.

A discussion was held regarding the implementing of a business license and a business license fee. Mayor Curran suggested an annual fee of \$200. Mayor Curran feels that if a business license fee is implemented the revenue would be used to offset expenses used for the businesses such as the visitors guide. Mayor Curran also feels that the business should get together and form a chamber.

A brief discussion was held regarding allocating funds for a new digital sign for the community building. Marsha Einsweiler, City Clerk/Treasurer stated that the current sign community building sign is in bad condition. Einsweiler stated that the estimate that she received was \$8,772. The 2009 budgeted building permit revenue is \$800 and the actual amount is over \$5,300. Einsweiler would like the council to consider allocating the revenue over \$800 to purchase a digital sign and to approve fund raising for the remainder of the cost. No action was taken.

Donna Shepherd, Marcia Blackburn, Ellie Landau and Louie Landau left the meeting.

A discussion was held regarding the 2010 budget. The public hearing was scheduled for December 2, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. immediately prior to a regular council meeting. Einsweiler stated that she does not have the numbers for the Fire district assessment or the Ambulance assessment. Discussion included whether or not part time police were needed, the library budget and the street budget. Mayor Curran feels that part time police are needed and suggested giving the library an increase of 2.5 percent over the previous year. Einsweiler stated that the city council only controls the bottom line of the library budget and they cannot be given any less than the average of the last three years. It was decided to give the library the average of the last three years and put the remainder in the contingency fund. The proposed budget will be published

Clerk's Report: Einsweiler presented to the council a copy of the 2009 Wisconsin Act 28. Section 79.07 Wis. Stats was created to ensure that municipalities and counties do not comprise the level of emergency services they provide by reducing expenditures for emergency services. Municipalities are required to report emergency service expenditures to the Department of Revenue beginning in 2010.

During the public comment session of the meeting, the following comments were made: 1. Wayne Gehrt inquired about the general budget being over the past three years. 2. Dan Morrissey inquired about the Utility budgets and the council looking in the future at utility user fees helping to balance the general fund. Morrissey also inquired about the general fund balance.

At 8:15 p.m. a motion was made by Korn second by Ballard to adjourn. All aye, motion carried.

Marsha Einsweiler
City Clerk/Treasurer