

CITY OF SHULLSBURG
COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 17, 2009
6:30 P.M.

A regular meeting of the Common Council was held at 6:30 p.m. November 17, 2009 in the Community Room of the Shullsburg Community Townsend Center, 190 N. Judgement 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- Darrell Morrissey, Carol Korn, Dan Spillane- Present. Carl Ballard- Absent. Others present: Cheryl Fink, Pam Paquette, Deb Blackburn, Pam Wymore, Don White, Tom Lethlean, Dave Leahy, Rick Moyer, Bob Edge, Margaret Spillane, Don Dickinson, Carol Stoudt, Harry L. Blackburn and Dan Morrissey.

Motion by Morrissey second by Korn to approve the minutes of the November 4, 2009 meeting. All aye, motion carried.

Wayne Gehrt and Donna Shepherd arrived.

Committee Reports:

Einsweiler reported purchase order 1580- \$800 Reline box and tailgate of the 1995 street truck and 1581- \$280 to purchase a time clock for the city garage.

Ald Dan Spillane reported that a discussion was held at the Street Committee meeting regarding the “yield to pedestrians” that was placed at the intersection of Judgement and Peace Streets. The sign has caused some confusion and Spillane suggested moving the sign to the intersection of Judgement and Diagonal Streets. Ballard and Morrissey feel that the sign should be left at the intersection of Judgement and Peace for a longer period of time to allow residents to adjust to the change. Mayor Curran asked Chief Moyer for his opinion. Moyer suggested moving the sign to Diagonal Street and turn the red light back on. Don Dickinson suggested placing the sign between school and the church on Peace Street. Mayor Curran asked Moyer and Dickinson to work together to place the sign in the best location.

Ald Korn reported that a Utility Meeting was held at which the 2010 budgets and the possible purchase of meters were discussed.

Motion by Spillane second by Korn to approve the purchase orders and committee reports. All aye, motion carried.

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

Mike Reuter, Wisconsin Municipal Building Inspections, was not present therefore no discussion or action was taken.

Motion by Korn second by Morrissey to close the Burning Grounds for the season the last Saturday in November. All aye, motion carried.

Carol Stoudt, Library Director, was present to discuss the 2010 library budget. At the November 4th council meeting the council opted to lower the 2010 library budget to the minimum, the average of the last three years, which would be a cut of \$687. Stoudt asked the council to reconsider cutting the budget and asked the council to consider raising the budget to allow for wage increases. The budget that Mayor Curran is proposing to the council at tonight’s meeting has an increase of \$860 over the 2009 budget to allow a 2.5% wage increase for the library director and the assistant. Stoudt

explained the shared automation fees. This fee is set by the SWLS system and is calculated using a formula based on how many sites, how much circulation and the size of the collection. The 2010 automation fee is \$5,095 which is an increase of \$813. Ald Spillane inquired about the funds the library has in reserves. Stoudt explained that some of the funds that are in reserves are from private donations from previous years. Wayne Gehrt inquired about the amount of Act 150 Funds that are remaining. Stoudt stated that she does not have her budget in front of her therefore she does not have that information available. Stoudt explained that the Act 150 Funds are based on a formula and is not a part of the city's general budget.

Carol Stoudt left the meeting.

Mike Reuter arrived.

A discussion was held regarding the 2010 budget. Several changes were made to the budget by the street, park and police committees at the November 17 committee meetings. Mayor Curran is not in favor of cutting the police part time help and stated that in 2008 one full time officer was cut. Mayor Curran feels that without part time police help the police department is being set up for failure. The cost of painting the pool and the pool outlay account were discussed. The 2010 pool outlay amount is proposed at \$3,000 and the amount in reserves is over \$18,000. The cost of painting the pool is estimated at \$27,000. It has been talked about that the pool painting be done as a community project but it has not been determined that this will be possible. Dan Morrissey expressed his opinion regarding the sheriff department's responsibility to help cover the city. Morrissey also expressed his opinion regarding the hydrant rent and the utilities forgiving some of the city utilities. Einsweiler stated that she had spoke with the auditors and in order to move the hydrant to the utility bills the Public Service Commission would have to approve a rate increase. Einsweiler will ask the auditors about the utilities forgiving utility charges. Mayor Curran proposed that \$3,400 from the contingency fund, \$1,000 from the pool outlay, \$600 from the Street Equipment Outlay be moved to the Police Part Time wages. Korn and Spillane are in favor of these changes, Morrissey is not in favor of the changes.

Motion by Korn second by Spillane to go back to item number 6 on the agenda. All aye, motion carried.

A discussion was held regarding the expiration of the contract with Mike Reuter, Wisconsin Municipal Building Inspections. Reuter explained that in 2004 the state required that state building permits and inspections be required for new 1 & 2 family homes built and improvements made to homes built from 1980 to present. In 2004 the city contracted with Mike Reuter to enforce the Uniform Dwelling Code. Reuter explained that the new contract would require a retainer fee of \$50 per month or \$100 per month depending on the option taken. No action was taken.

Mike Reuter left the meeting.

Kimberlee Jacobsen arrived.

Future Agenda Items- Mayor Curran stated that a representative from the Department of Tourism will be at the December 18th meeting to discuss creating a Chamber of Commerce. Curran invited the Community Development Corporation and the Farmers and Merchants Group to attend this meeting.

Clerk/Treasurer's report: Einsweiler presented the October Treasurer's report.

During the public comment session of the meeting the following comments were made: 1. Dave Leahy asked the council to consider moving some of the 2010 legal wages to the flowers. The proposed 2010 budget contains \$1,250 budgeted for music in the park (\$250) and flowers (\$1,000) in the donations/celebrations account. 2. Don White inquired about the amount in the 2010 budget for the visitor guide. There is \$2,400 in the 2010 proposed budget for the visitor guides. 3. Tom Lethlean informed the council that he and siblings would possible be donating 80% of the cost of the new outdoor sign for the Shullsburg Community Townsend Center with the condition that the city keep and maintain the sign with the words “Shullsburg Lions Club Burl Lethlean Memorial” inscribed on the bottom. 4. Dan Spillane inquired about the Fireworks on November 28. Don White stated that everything has been approved.

At 7:45 p.m. a motion was made by Korn second by Spillane to adjourn. All aye, motion carried.

Marsha Einsweiler
City Clerk/Treasurer