



MINUTES COMMITTEE AGENDA

Tuesday, October 25, 2011

City Council Chambers

5:30 p.m.

Ward 1	Frank Edwards	Ward 6	Cory Jobe
Ward 2	Gail Simpson	Ward 7	Joe McMenamin
Ward 3	Doris Turner	Ward 8	Kris Theilen
Ward 4	Frank Lesko (Vice Chair)	Ward 9	Steve Dove
Ward 5	Sam Cahnman (Chair)	Ward 10	Tim Griffin

Chairman Sam Cahnman called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Clerk Tumulty called the roll of members.

Present: Ald. Edwards☒, Simpson☒, Turner☒, Lesko☒, Cahnman☒, Jobe☒, McMenamin☒, Theilen☒, Dove☒ and Griffin☒ were all were present.

Alderman Simpson made a motion to approve the October 11, 2011 Committee meeting minutes. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin. The motion passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

Next, Clerk Tumulty read the ordinances tabled or remaining in Committee.

2010-158 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 1988 CITY OF SPRINGFIELD CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED, BY ADDING CHAPTER 154: EROSION CONTROL REGULATIONS (**Requested By Mayor Timothy J. Davlin**) (**Remains In Committee 7/26/11**)

2011-104 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 100 OF THE 1988 CITY OF SPRINGFIELD CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED, BY IMPOSING A 1.5% TAX ON THE PRIVILEGE OF PURCHASING ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR AND PREPARED FOOD ITEMS FOR IMMEDIATE CONSUMPTION (**Requested By Ald. Simpson**) (**Committee Of The Whole**) (**Remains In Committee 3/8/11**)

2011-224 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 1988 CITY OF SPRINGFIELD CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED, BY AMENDING SECTION 36.04(A) TO CORRECT A TECHNICAL ERROR PERTAINING TO EXEMPTIONS UNDER CERTAIN JURISDICTIONS OF THE CITY PERSONNEL SYSTEM AND BY ADDING SECTION 36.65 REGARDING SUSPENSIONS RESULTING FROM ARREST OR INDICTMENT, **AS AMENDED** (**Requested by**

Mayor J. Michael Houston) (Remains in Committee 6/28/11)

2011-344 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO JAMES TAYLOR, AN OFFICE OF PUBLIC UTILITIES EMPLOYEE, FOR SETTLEMENT OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIM NUMBER 10-WC-43534 **(Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston) (Remains in Committee 9/20/11)**

2011-392 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 36 AND CHAPTER 38 OF THE 1988 CITY OF SPRINGFIELD CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED, PERTAINING TO EMPLOYMENT OF, AND CONTRACTING WITH, CLOSE RELATIVES **(Requested by Alderman Steve Dove) (Remains in Committee 10/18/11)**

2011-393 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 36, SECTION 36.05, OF THE 1988 CITY OF SPRINGFIELD CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED, PERTAINING TO THE OBLIGATORY RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT FOR EMPLOYEES HIRED ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 28, 2011, BY THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS **(Requested by Alderman Joe McMenamin) (Remains in Committee 10/18/11)**

Alderman Dove stated that there is an amendment to Agenda Item 2011-392 that will be before the Council for their consideration next Tuesday. Corporation Counsel Cullen distributed the amendment to the members.

Next, Clerk Tumulty read the ordinances for Committee consideration.

2011-419 A RESOLUTION ESTIMATING REAL PROPERTY TAXES TO BE LEVIED AGAINST FISCAL YEAR 2012 AND FINANCE EXPENDITURES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013 **(Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston)**

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-419 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

Alderman Edwards asked if the rate of 0.9385% remains the same as last year. Budget Director McCarty responded that it is the same.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-419 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

2011-420 A RESOLUTIONS OPPOSING THE CLOSURE OF POST OFFICES IN THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS **(Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston, Alderman Frank Edwards, Alderman Gail Simpson, Alderman Doris Turner, Alderman Frank Lesko, Alderman Sam Cahnman, Alderman Cory Jobe, Alderman Joe McMenamin, Alderman Kris Theilen, Alderman Steve Dove and Alderman Tim Griffin)**

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-420 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Dove.

Alderman Simpson pointed out that there were drafting errors in previous versions of the resolution and she had not yet seen a corrected version.

Alderman Simpson stated that the errors included language that she had requested about including the name of the post office and language that details the concerns of the Council's should the post office close.

CC Cullen stated that there are other revisions that he wanted to make as well.

Alderman Simpson withdrew her motion and requested that Agenda Item 2011-420 be held in committee.

Agenda Item 2011-420 is held in Committee.

2011-421 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 221-6-11 TO CORRECT THE PAYMENT PERIOD TO SANGAMON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH FOR BOARDING SERVICES OF UNCLAIMED, IMPOUNDED ANIMALS (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-421 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

Alderman Simpson asked about the intent of the ordinance. CC Cullen responded that the ordinance changes the timeframe of when the City would pay Sangamon County for this service.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-421 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

2011-422 AN ORDINANCE DECLARING TWENTY PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY TO BE SURPLUS PROPERTY, DIRECTING THE SALE OF SAID REAL PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZING THE PUBLICATION OF A NOTICE OF SAID SALE AND REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-422 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

Alderman Turner asked about the process by which the City will sell the properties. She also asked if there would be any requirements on what the purchasers would be able to do with the property.

Budget Director McCarty responded that the process would be similar to the recent sale of the Public Health Building. He went on to explain that once the property is declared surplus property, there will be a Request for Proposal that will be published and there will be a period of time for people to bid on the properties. He added that there will be language included that allows the City and the City Council to decide what is in the best interest of the City. There is also a meeting set up next week to discuss what a proper use of the lots would be for the City. No Request for Proposal will go out until that meeting.

Alderman Turner stated that there is concern about what will happen to the properties once they are sold.

City Purchasing Agenda Jay Wavering stated that in the language of the Request for Proposal (RFP), it will state that price will not be the only determining factor in the sale. There will also be language

included that states that the intended use of the property will also be a factor in the sale of the property.

Alderman Turner asked if there will be an opportunity for the Aldermen to review the RFP before it goes out. Mr. Wavering stated that he will make that available.

Director McCarty stated that the meeting is in regards to what the intended use of the properties should be and the legal requirements that they can place on the sale through the language of the RFP.

Alderman Simpson expressed concern about a recent article in the newspaper that only named not for profit entities and affordable housing options for the properties. She stated that she hoped that the City would not give the impression that the properties are only for affordable housing. She expressed her desire to see the community be more of a blended community. She cited examples that she had visited in Indianapolis.

Director McCarty apologized if that impression was given in the article. He stated that the properties are open to anyone that wishes to build on the properties.

Alderman Jobe stated that even after passing the abandoned building ordinance at the last Council meeting, there is still a discussion about an "end game". He went on to state that all City Departments, the realtor community and lending institutions need to work together. This is a good opportunity to start that cooperation and to lead by example. Alderman Turner agreed and echoed his statements.

Alderman Griffin stated that he would like to see everyone involved know the rules of the game going forward so that there are not any misunderstandings. Alderman Simpson agreed and stated that it is the purpose of her upcoming meeting with Director McCarty.

Alderman McMenamin stated that he agreed with all of the comments that had been made and to ensure that the goals that the City Council has set forth are followed through. He also cautioned that there may be upset persons with the City's decision. But waiting for the right person with the right plan for the properties is the right course of action.

Alderman Cahnman asked which ward the properties are located in. Director McCarty stated that the properties are mostly in Wards 2 and 3. Alderman Cahnman also requested that he be included in the meeting. CC Cullen cautioned about a potential violation of the Open Meetings Act if too many Aldermen attend the meeting and stated that he would get back to Alderman Cahnman.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-422 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

2011-423 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF CONTRACT CS09-07-59 THROUGH NOVEMBER 5, 2011, WITH ALLIED WASTE TRANSPORTATION, INC. D/B/A CAPITOL WASTE SYSTEMS AND ILLINI DISPOSAL, INC. FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$94,267.00 FOR DUMPSTER AND ROLL OFF BOX SERVICES FOR THE OFFICE OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-423 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Lesko.

The motion carried with a vote of 10-0.

2011-424 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT AMENDMENT NO. 1 FOR ADDITIONAL WORK SCOPES IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$385,600.00 UNDER THE ORIGINAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH CRAWFORD, MURPHY & TILLY, INC. FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF A WATER PURIFICATION PLANT IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$7,335,600.00 PAYABLE TO SAID COMPANY FOR THE WATER DIVISION (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-424 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

Alderman Griffin asked why the scope had changed in the work. City Water Light and Power Director Eric Hobbie responded that the original contract was a catch all contract. As they moved through the process and gathered more information on what is needed to be done and the timeline for the work, there needed to be a change made. Alderman Griffin asked if everyone that was involved with the original bid understood that this is the way that the process would potentially happen. Director Hobbie explained that all of the bidders had the same information at the same time and that it is known upfront that a situation where the scope needed to be change could happen ahead of time.

Alderman McMenamin asked if the intake structure that is referenced in the contract is in Lake Springfield. Director Hobbie responded that it is. Alderman McMenamin asked if the contract includes services and construction materials. Director Hobbie responded that the contract is for engineering and design support. He also pointed out that the actual construction will be put out for bid.

Alderman Griffin asked if the water rate increases will cover the outstanding bills. Director Hobbie responded that they are on schedule to meet their expenses.

Alderman Cahnman asked if this is related to the project that was approved at the same time that a water rate increase was approved. Director Hobbie answered yes.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-424 onto the consent agenda passed with a vote of 10-0.

2011-425 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A CHANGE IN SCOPE OF ENGINEERING PROCUREMENT CONSTRUCTION (EPC) CONTRACT NO. 200 – ELECTRIC GENERATION UNIT BY APPROVING A CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH KBV SPRINGFIELD POWER PARTNERS, A JOINT VENTURE OF KIEWIT INDUSTRIAL CO., A DELAWARE CORPORATION, FOR THE DESIGN, PROCUREMENT AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE DALLMAN UNIT 4 GENERATION FACILITY FOR THE ELECTRIC DIVISION (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-425 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

Alderman Griffin asked for details about a bonus that was paid to the company for their work being completed early, but there is still work that is being done on the facility. Director Hobbie responded that since substantial completion, Unit 4 has generated over 2 million megawatt hours of energy. If the unit was still in control of KBV, they would have no reason to run the unit. Alderman Griffin asked if

the unit had been done by the original estimated completion date instead of early (and therefore triggering the bonus payment) would the City still be ahead of the game. Director Hobbie used an analogy to describe the situation as having a house where only minor work needs to be done as opposed to paying for the house to be completed while still paying rent. He went on to state that overall, the new plant has been a positive addition to CWLP in receiving additional energy and benefits from the Unit. Alderman Griffin expressed frustration in trying to explain to his constituents the additional work that needs to be done when a substantial bonus was paid out. Director Hobbie responded that the plant (Unit 4) is relatively small in comparison with other power plants. There was a window that KBV took advantage of in order to build the new unit.

Alderman Edwards pointed to a recent example about rebuilding pumps and the choice was made to shut down the unit and completely re-engineer it to fix the problem. Director Hobbie added that it was the right thing to do. He also pointed to other examples of problems that had existed for a long time which were corrected when the units were completely overhauled. He stated that with this ordinance, they are asking the vendor to do the same sort of work so that the City can receive 30 years of service for the unit.

Alderman Edwards pointed again to the fixing of the pump problem and making them work better than they did before. He stated that the ordinance makes them spend their money instead of putting the work on the City's expenses.

Alderman Griffin stated that if the City is paying for a job to be done, and a bonus for it to be done early, it should be done right. Alderman Edwards pointed out that having the plant done according to industry standards is standard language in the industry. Director Hobbie pointed out that other plants of similar size still have not been completed. He pointed out that the speed at which the plant was completed and the ability to have the additional power be available to the consumers has definitely been of benefit.

Alderman Griffin asked how much longer before the Unit is completely done. Director Hobbie responded that they are close, but there are still a few issues that are being worked out.

Alderman Simpson withdrew her motion to place Agenda Item 2011-425 onto the consent agenda and made a motion that it be placed on the debate agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Theilen. She also asked that Director Hobbie be able to explain to the citizens about how this additional work will be of benefit to them and how it will not cost them anything additionally. Director Hobbie responded that everything in the plant is custom made.

Alderman Theilen asked if the extension is of zero cost to the City of Springfield. Director Hobbie responded that it is and that if we do not extend the contract, it will be a cost because the City will have to pay for it to be repaired.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-425 onto the debate agenda passed with a vote of 10-0.

2011-426 AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF PROPOSAL NO. SO-1109141 WITH EFOFX INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$152,830.00 FOR THE PURCHASE OF SPARE PARTS FOR THE DALLMAN POWER PLANT UNIT NOS. 31 AND 32 BOOSTER FAN OUTLET DAMPERS FOR THE ELECTRIC DIVISION (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-426 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

Alderman Dove asked how many outlet dampers are on Units 31 or 32. Director Hobbie responded that there is one per fan. Alderman Dove asked if the ordinance is just for replacing the seals. Director Hobbie responded that it is replacing the seals and having enough inventory on hand to make the unit operational.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-426 onto the consent agenda passed with a vote of 10-0.

2011-427 AN ORDINANCE DECLARING ONE SUBSTATION POWER TRANSFORMER AS SURPLUS PROPERTY AND ACCEPTING THE BID AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF CONTRACT UE12-08-59 – SALE OF ONE SUBSTATION POWER TRANSFORMER WITH TRANSFORMER DECOMMISSIONING, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$38,559.42 FOR THE ELECTRIC DIVISION (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-427 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Edwards.

The motion passed with a vote of 10-0.

2011-428 AN ORDINANCE DECLARING VARIOUS TYPES OF CITY OF SPRINGFIELD COMPUTER AND COMPUTER-RELATED ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT AS SURPLUS PROPERTY, AND APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH BLH ENTERPRISES, INC. FOR DISPOSAL OF SAID SURPLUS EQUIPMENT FOR A THREE-YEAR TERM (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman McMenamin made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-428 onto the debate agenda. His motion was seconded by Alderman Dove.

Alderman Edwards asked if any of the computers could be donated to the Boys and Girls Club for their use. Director Hobbie responded that they will recycle as much as they can and clean up hand me down computers as much as possible. The computers that are being declared surplus are the oldest versions of the computers with old software that would not be able to be supported on the City's network. And while he is not opposed to giving the computers away, he cautioned that the computers would need to be disposed of in a safe manner.

Alderman Cahnman asked if the contract prohibits the City from donating any future computers, but instead they would have to go through BLH. CC Cullen responded that he would look into that for them and get an answer for next week's Council meeting.

Alderman Dove asked if the surplus property needs to have requests for proposals done. CC Cullen responded that it does not and that the City has options. He went on to state that the value of the equipment is zero.

Alderman McMenamin asked if BLH is a local business. Director Hobbie and Alderman Theilen both responded that it is. Alderman McMenamin asked how striped down the computers are. Director Hobbie responded that the operating systems are old enough that they cannot take anti-virus software

in order to access the network.

Alderman Griffin suggested looking at the computers to see if any of them could be donated.

Alderman McMenamini if this is a first time contract with BLH. Director Hobbie stated that while he cannot say specifically, but they have done work with the City before. He stated that he will have an answer at the next Council meeting.

Alderman Griffin pointed out that BLH has a program that if anyone within the City of Springfield can drop off their old equipment free of charge to them.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-428 onto the debate agenda passed with a vote of 10-0.

2011-429 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE FINAL PLAT OF BUCKLEY RIDGE ESTATES, SECOND ADDITION, FOR THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC WORKS (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-429 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

The motion passed with a vote of 10-0.

2011-430 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH ALLEN HENDERSON & ASSOCIATES, INC., FOR PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE CHATHAM ROAD BRIDGE AND AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL PAYMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,336.45 AND AUTHORIZING A WAIVER OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 38.48(B) OF THE CITY'S PURCHASING CODE FOR THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC WORKS (**Requested By Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-430 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

Alderman Griffin asked to which bridge this is referring. Public Works Director Mahoney responded that it is the bridge near the Schnucks, just off of Isles and Chatham Road intersection.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-430 onto the consent agenda passed with a vote of 10-0.

2011-431 A SUPPLEMENTAL RESOLUTION NOTIFYING THE STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION THAT MOTOR FUEL TAX FUNDS IN THE ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OF \$10,336.45 MAY BE SPENT FOR THE CHATHAM ROAD BRIDGE OVER THE JACKSONVILLE BRANCH PROJECT, MFT SECTION 10-00470-00-BR, FOR THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC WORKS (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-431 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

The motion passed with a vote of 10-0.

2011-432 AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE LOWEST EVALUATED BID AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF CONTRACT NUMBER PW 12-07-53 WITH OTTO BAUM COMPANY, INC. FOR THE PEPSI PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$117,545.40, FOR THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC WORKS (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-432 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

Alderman Cahnman asked if the ordinance is part of the deal that was made with Pepsi for them not to move out of the City. Director Mahoney responded that it is and that Public Works is overseeing the work. He also pointed out that it is Community Development Block Grant money. Economic Development Director Mike Farmer added that it is an agreement to use the money with Pepsi.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-432 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

2011-433 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,130,000.00 FOR THE PURPOSE OF EARLY REDEMPTION OF THE CITY'S SEWER REVENUE REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 1998, FOR THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC WORKS (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-433 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Lesko.

Alderman Cahnman asked about the details about the ordinance and if the City is in the position not to borrow the money again after just paying it off. Director Mahoney responded that it would save the City money.

Director McCarty added that there is enough money in reserve accounts to pay off the debt and to release additional funds for use. This also will save over \$50,000 in interest payments and allow for \$1.2 million to be available to do much needed sewer repairs.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-433 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

2011-434 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE APPOINTMENTS OF REV. DR. LEE E. FIELDS II AND DONNA L. FERGUSON AND THE REAPPOINTMENT OF MARTIN RYAN TO THE LINCOLN LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-434 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

The motion passed with a vote of 10-0.

The Committee returned to Agenda Item 2011-392. Alderman Cahnman asked Alderman Dove if he would be willing to hold the item in Committee in order to give the Council enough time to study the amendment. Alderman Dove agreed.

Alderman McMenamin asked about the refinancing of the Prairie Capitol Convention Center and the payment by the City to them of \$100,000 each year. Alderman Edwards explained that there was a deal struck during the budget hearings regarding use of Tax Increment Financing District money which would allow the City to avoid lay offs. He pointed out that the Visitors and Convention Center spends over \$346,000 overseas to get people to visit Springfield. He pointed out that the Convention Center brings more people into the community outside of the Lincoln Home. He supports giving the money to the Convention Center because there is a return on the investment.

Alderman Theilen also pointed out that the Convention Center turns down more lucrative offers of concerts in favor of conventions. The conventions lead to more sales that accumulate more than \$100,000 in sales tax through the conventions. He theorized that they are second only to the State Fair in bringing things into the City. He also stated his support for continuing the payments.

Alderman Griffin agreed with the points made by Aldermen Edwards and Theilen. He also pointed out that the payment has been an annual commitment, but not a requirement.

Alderman Simpson suggested that the new Alderman sit with Brian Oaks, the manager of the Prairie Capitol Convention Center. She also stressed the importance of tourism to the City. She also pointed out that the money spent is not coming from the corporate fund of the City, but are instead money raised from the hotel/motel tax.

Alderman Edwards reiterated his point and stated that it is a needed investment.

Alderman Cahnman stated that in the recent years, the City has raised the hotel/motel tax over the objections of the Prairie Capitol Convention Center in order to fund infrastructure improvements.

Alderman Griffin asked if the City is going to make it through the year without lay offs or furlough days. Director McCarty responded no – there would be no layoffs. .

Alderman Griffin made a motion to adjourn. His motion was seconded by Alderman Simpson. The motion passed with a vote of 10-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm.

Cecilia K. Tumulty
Cecilia K. Tumulty
City Clerk