

18 December 2018 Minutes of the Regular and Committee of the Whole Meetings of the Silvis City Council held in Silvis City Hall, Council Chambers, 121 11th Street Silvis at 6:30pm.

1) Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Matt Carter called the 18 December 2018 Regular meeting of the Silvis City Council to order at 6:30pm and asked retiring City Attorney Graham Lee to lead the Silvis City Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2) Roll Call:

Mayor Matt Carter asked Deputy City Clerk Andrea Gryp to call the Roll.

Members present: Tony Trulson, Larry York, Kathy Hall, Caryn Unsicker, Joshua Dyer, Bob Rockwell, Rick Lohse

Member absent: Ian Pavelonis

3) Proclamations: None

4) Guest Speaker:

Ryan Wobler a representative of ESG (Energy Systems Group). Mr. Wobler explained the goals and objectives of the energy savings feasibility study to help reduce energy expenditures by 10% and will pay for itself within 10 years.

Next speaker was Darrell Terronez son of Former Mayor and Alderman Joe Terronez.

Darrell stated that he was here tonight to speak about the ordinance issue between 124 3rd Street and 120 3rd Street. Darrell asked Council to consider the best way to handle an ordinance violation in a timelier manner and a more civil manner. Darrell asked to begin by stating that he and his family love this city. This City has provided my family with a lot of opportunities and memories. Hopefully we have given back and contributed to the history of this city. Darrell went on to say that the last several months have not been very pleasant due to the fence issue. I have questions and concerns regarding the handling of this issue. My first question is why it has been so difficult for the city to enforce the city fence ordinance. Secondly why does the city not utilize its resources like the City Attorney in authority to promptly stop violations of city ordinances? From my first meeting with the Building Inspector and the Mayor, I was told that the fence did violate the city code of ordinances regarding fencing requirements and standards. The violation is that the finished side is supposed to face out and it is facing in. The zoning board of appeals was in agreement. Yet the improperly installed fence still stands. Darrell explained his Dad (Joe Terronez owner of the adjacent property to the fence 124 3rd Street). Next year will mark the 70th year that Joe Terronez has resided in the home that he and his father built in 1949. He served this city for 30 plus years as an Alderman and a Mayor. Darrell said he met with the City Clerk and was told it doesn't matter who you are all Silvis residents are treated the same. Darrell then said he hopes all residents are not being treated as his father has been treated these last several months. I am certain if this happened to you, one of your family members, or friends or someone from this Council this issue would have been resolved in a timelier manner. Up to this point my Dad has paid to have his property surveyed and for legal consultation and it should have never come to this point, it should have never taken this long, 4 months and the improperly installed fence still stands. Again, twenty discussions which I have documented and two planning and zoning board of appeal meetings and we are still at the same point as day one. Now we have a pending Municipal court hearing and to put this all into perspective look at the progress made on the new I 74 Bridge, the John Deere Expressway, the Bend Hotel and various Silvis projects in the last

4) Guest Speaker: (continued)

four months and here we can't resolve an improperly installed residential fence issue. Lastly in working with this fence issue I have become aware decisions that lead to other questions or maybe changes needed or at least some discussion. First, should the Mayor have full authority to override the City Inspector's decision and grant variances? Second, should the Aldermen on the Ordinance Committee be informed of such Mayoral overrides? Third, should the neighbor of the adjoining property be advised of variances to the ordinance decided by the Mayor? Why does the City of Silvis have a code of ordinances if they are not enforced and apply fair consideration to all citizens? I do agree to variances for hardships and for good reason this fence does not fall into that category. Mayor Carter asked Mr. Terronez to explain what override he did in this matter? Alderman Tony Trulson asked Inspector Lupinski where the City is legally on this matter. Inspector Lupinski answered that he has sent the case to MUNICIPALITIES, it was scheduled to be heard on the 20th of December, the ordinance violator was called to appear and he informed the Hearing Judge he has stage 4 cancer so the case has been postponed until the 17th of January 2019. Alderman Trulson asked Inspector Lupinski if we have pursued every legal option that we have and are still in that process and have to allow the courts to litigate. Alderman Trulson said we cannot just tear it down we need to pursue all legal avenues. Inspector Lupinski said that is correct. Mayor Carter informed Council that throughout this process we have had to complete every step because we need to anticipate litigation. Mayor Carter noted that unfortunately it has taken a long time the violator has the right to appeal and ask for postponements and he has. If we do not follow the proper steps this will come back and bite us. We will ask our Attorney to move this forward without any more delays as it seems like he has asked for a continuance at every step.

5) Public Comment:

Amanda Sherwood, Silvis Main Street Director, gave a report on the Christmas in Silvis Event. Amanda noted that the weather inhibited a large turnout, but the numbers were still very encouraging. Amanda said she was very impressed with the businesses that decorated and after talking to them they had a good evening. Amanda said that there were well over 60. Santa was at the Library and he received over 100 Christmas letters. Amanda noted that was just counting young children. Amanda said she tracked from the letters to Santa over 40 Silvis residents, 21 from Moline, 15 from East Moline, 9 from Iowa, 3 from Hampton, 2 from Rock Island, 2 from Carbon Cliff and 1 from Rock Island. Amanda noted that this event did bring in people from all the Quad Cities. Amanda Thanked Alderwoman Unsicker for coming late and helping clean up. Amanda said they had 15 raffle baskets, we sold over 1,460 raffle tickets and we needed to sell 1,550 tickets to break even.

6) Consent Agenda:

Mayor Matt Carter asked Deputy City Clerk Andrea Gryp to read the Consent Agenda dated 18 December 2018. Deputy Clerk Gryp read the Consent Agenda dated 18 December 2018. Mayor Carter asked if anything needed to be removed from the Consent Agenda dated 18 December 2018.

Motion:

Alderman Joshua Dyer made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda dated 18 December 2018. Motion was seconded by Alderman Rick Lohse

Regular Meeting of the Silvis City Council

18 December 2018

6) Consent Agenda: (continued)

Vote:

Members voting aye: Tony Trulson, Larry York, Kathy Hall, Caryn Unsicker, Joshua Dyer, Bob Rockwell, Rick Lohse.

Motion carried 7 ayes 0 nays 1 absent

7) Items removed from the Consent Agenda: None

8) Special Non-Consent:

A) Ordinance

Item 1) Ordinance 2018-60-A

Motion:

Aldерwoman Caryn Unsicker made a motion to suspend the rules to consider ordinance 2018-60-A amending chapter 10, Article 3, section 119 employment of minors.

Motion was seconded by Alderman Tony Trulson.

*****Motion carried via voice vote*****

Motion:

Aldерwoman Caryn Unsicker made a motion to adopt ordinance 2018-60-A amending chapter 10, Article 3, section 119 employment of minors.

Members voting aye: Tony Trulson, Larry York, Kathy Hall, Caryn Unsicker, Bob Rockwell, Rick Lohse.

Member voting nay: Joshua Dyer

Motion carried 7 ayes 1 nay 1 absent

B) Economic Development

Motion: Aldерwoman Kathy Hall made a motion to suspend the rules to consider 2018-61-A an ordinance amending ordinance 2018-54 to include exhibits A,B, and C.

Motion was seconded by Alderman Rick Lohse.

Vote:

Motion carried via voice vote.

Motion:

Motion: Aldерwoman Kathy Hall made a motion to adopt 2018-61-A an ordinance amending ordinance 2018-54 to include exhibits A,B, and C.

Motion was seconded by Alderman Rick Lohse.

Vote:

Members voting aye: Tony Trulson, Larry York, Kathy Hall, Caryn Unsicker, Joshua Dyer, Bob Rockwell, Rick Lohse.

Motion carried 7 ayes 0 nays 1 absent

9) Attorney's Report:

Mayor Carter noted that this evening was Attorney Gray Lee's last night serving as Municipal Attorney in Silvis. Mayor Matt Carter noted that Gray's Father began representing the City of Silvis in January of 1937 Graham began representing the municipality in May of 1974 through the mid 1990's, Gray's firm came back to represent the City of Silvis in 2013 and either Gray or his son Clayton have represented us since. Today is your last day. Mayor Carter thanked Attorney Lee for his legal counsel and your dedication to the City of Silvis through the years. Attorney Graham Lee asked to make one statement, he has worked for the City of Silvis on two separate occasions back in the 90's and earlier and now he noted that this City has really taken off. I have had the good fortune to meet all of the Department heads and I am very impressed with them. Gray said one of the most impressive things is the Council, you are truly into this and

9) Attorney's Report: (continued)

You are engaged with the City. You work with your committees to better this community. That type of work ethic is not always true. I also have to say because of the Mayor, Jim & Jim this ship has been running really well and you guys should be extremely proud of yourselves. I am impressed and I have worked for 7 different Cities. You are among the best if not the best run, truly you have something to be really proud of here. Mayor Carter added that today is not like the early 1990's.

10) City Administrator's Report:

Mr. Jim Grafton reported that it has been truly an honor and a privilege to work with Attorney Lee for all these years 8 contract negotiations, between you and your son, countless phone calls, many development agreements and everyone working together and that makes the job enjoyable. Mr. Grafton shared with Graham that he was sure that the Lee team will keep us moving forward. Mr. Grafton noted that he saw in a tiny article in the paper that a grant was awarded a grant with the City of Moline for lead abatement for \$2.4M. That money will be used to abate homes that would have been built before 1978 and children live in the home. That grant will be applied to 151 homes and we are a part of that group. We have also partnered in two other grants and applications with the City of Moline.

11) City Engineer's Report: None

12) City Treasurer's Report: None

13) City Clerk's Report:

Clerk Nelson stated that this evening is Deputy Andrea Gryp's last night working at a Council meeting. She and her family will move to Overland Park Kansas. Andrea has been a joy and a pleasure to work alongside me in the Clerk's office. Andrea has completed all of her studies and will receive her certified municipal clerk rating. Whichever community in Kansas that lands Andrea will get a fully qualified municipal clerk and a loyal employee. Andrea thanked the Council and everyone in Silvis, it has been a pleasure and I have learned so much by attending Municipal Clerks of Illinois Institute in Springfield. You can look at other municipalities and how difficult it is to work with each other and I feel like Silvis has something very special. Silvis is an amazing City and on a professional level it has been amazing to work here behind the scenes here and learn how government runs. On a personal level I have lived in Silvis my whole life and I will have trouble moving away. I feel Silvis has prepared my husband and I for this move (also born and raised in Silvis) out into the world and make a place for ourselves. Thank you to Silvis!

14) Mayor's Report:

Mayor Matt Carter said he had a couple of things, first of All Chris Baker is considering the position on the Playground and Rec Board as she attended the last Board meeting.

15) Call for adjournment from the Regular Meeting of the Silvis City Council.

Mayor Matt Carter said if there was no more business to be brought before the 18 December 2018 Regular Meeting of the Silvis City Council he would entertain a motion to adjourn.

Motion:

Alderman Larry York made a motion to adjourn from the 18 December 2018 Regular Meeting of the Silvis City Council. Motion was seconded by Alderwoman Kathy Hall.

Vote:

Motion carried via voice vote.

The 18 December 2018 Regular Meeting of the Silvis City Council adjourned at 7:11pm.

Committee of the Whole Meeting

18 December 2018

16) Call Committee of the Whole to Order & Roll Call

Mayor Matt Carter called the 18 December 2018 Silvis City Council Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 6:51pm and asked Deputy City Clerk Andrea Gryp to call the Roll.

Roll Call

Members present: Tony Trulson, Josh Dyer, Kathy Hall, Caryn Unsicker, Larry York, Bob Rockwell, Rick Lohse.

Members absent: Ian Pavelonis

17) Public Comment: None

18) Agenda items for discussion: None

19) Staff Reports

A) Fire Department

Fire Chief John Winters wished Attorney Graham Lee many good times on the golf course. Chief Winters noted that Firefighter Jason Flugel just completed his advanced Technical Firefighter certification. This replaces the Firefighter III certification a few years ago and as far as we know he is the second Firefighter in the Quad City Area to receive this designation. Jason has taken a lot of classes over the last couple of years and is a huge asset for our Department. January 5th the Fire Department will have a blood drive. February 9th at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish Hall the Fire Department will host a Trivia Night anyone interested in reserving a table the tables are \$80 each.

B) Inspections:

Inspector Tom Lupinski thanked Attorney Graham Lee for all the assistance, advice and guidance he has given to him over the years.

C) Police:

Police Chief Mark VanKlaveren noted that QCOMM will be up and active the 1st of January 2019. Chief VanKlaveren said the switch over should be very seamless, the only change is if a call comes into QCOMM for administrative it will be transferred to Silvis. Chief Mark said they are testing the equipment and everything should go fairly well. Chief Mark informed Council he would be interviewing 7 prospective Police Officers Thursday night with the Civil Service. There were 19 applicants a couple did not pass the physical part of the test and a few did not pass the exam. This number of applicants is way down and that is being reported by all departments in the area. Chief said all area Chiefs are getting together trying to figure out how to recruit more applicants. Chief Mark noted that this is a good place to work for and we are going through a lot of changes right now at the PD and in the city, but this is truly a really remarkable place to work for. It is really easy to go down a negative path and lose sight of that. It takes a little bit of effort to make sure you stay positive. Chief VanKlaveren thanked Council for their support

D) Public Works & Parks:

Public Works Parks Director Jim Grafton noted that it is nice to have the continuity of the Council as Graham eluded to how they all work together as a great team and that is how we are able to get things accomplished and make tough times easy to get through. Mr. Grafton noted that it is a pleasure to attend these Council meeting that last an hour or less and they are

Committee of the Whole Meeting

18 December 2018

19) Staff Reports

D) Public Works & Parks: (continued)

productive and that is what it is all about, agree to disagree and then move forward and things get accomplished I truly appreciate the Aldermen's efforts the cooperation and the team work. As department heads there is a lot of stress we have to deal with every day and knowing that we have a good team of Aldermen backing us that is what it is all about.

20) Comments from the Alderpersons:

Alderman Tony Trulson noted that at the end of the year it is always bittersweet to see good friends leave it is always sad, but we know that with a new year comes a lot of hope, we have a great team with the City Staff, all portions of the staff, the Clerk's Office, Street Department, Parks Department, even the Fire & Police Departments. Alderman Larry York wished everyone well. Alderwoman Kathy Hall told Attorney Lee he will be missed. Alderwoman Hall wished all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Alderwoman Caryn Unsicker wished all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Alderman Josh Dyer wished everyone a Happy Holiday and a good New Year. Alderman Bob Rockwell told Council he enjoyed all the speeches and for everyone to have a Merry Christmas. Alderman Rick Lohse thanked Attorney Lee and Deputy Clerk Andrea and wished the both well. Alderman Lohse wished everyone a Happy Holiday and Happy New Year.

21) Closed Session-None

22) Adjournment

Mayor Matt Carter asked for a motion to adjourn from the 18 December 2018 Committee of the Whole meeting of the Silvis City Council.

Motion:

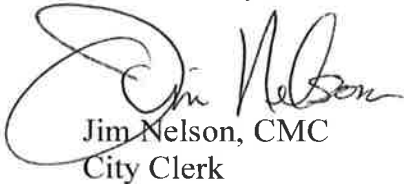
Alderman Tony Trulson made a motion to adjourn from the 18 December 2018 Silvis City Council Committee of the Whole meeting.

Motion was seconded by Alderman Rick Lohse

Motion carried via voice vote:

The 18 December 2018 Committee of the Whole meeting of the Silvis City Council adjourned at 7:24pm

Submitted by,



Jim Nelson, CMC
City Clerk