

FINANCE COMMITTEE

December 20, 2012

MEMBERS

Chairman Lawrence
Alderman Jones
Alderman Vota
Mayor Brotherton

ALSO PRESENT

Alderman Walters
Alderman Koonce
Gisele Hamm
Shirley Sams

MEMBERS ABSENT

Alderman Burtle

Chairman Lawrence called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M.

Mapping - A Long-Range Vision for the Economic Development of the Community and a Plan of Action for Achieving It

Gisele Hamm, Manager of MAPPING from the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs, Western Illinois University addressed the Committee to discuss the Mapping Program which is a strategic visioning for Rural Development. She presented a program in which she explained that this program came about to give communities a vision and how to work towards achieving it. The Mapping Program, which has a staff of forty, was started in 1991 for rural areas that have a population of less than 25,000. Many communities come to them for research of data and statistics to help them work towards receiving grants. She said they have been in over 130 communities in Illinois, which were provided in her informational packets. She also advised that they have helped these communities to receive grants. She read some quotations which stated “The best way to predict the future is to create it” and “Never doubt that a small group of committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has”, explaining that if the communities don’t believe change is possible it will not happen.

She advised they are only here to help; they cannot guarantee that the program is going to be successful. You need to start with a group of five to eight people to steer the Committee and to do the paperwork etc., then recruit a minimum of twenty-five committed participants from different groups to help the program work. She passed a notebook of pictures of Shelbyville around the room and discussed how their program had been successful.

She was asked what the cost of this program would be – there is a community sponsorship fee that is based on the population of the community (based on census data) and the distance from Macomb, IL, and median household income (based on census data),.

Population: The minimum base fee is \$2,000.00 for communities with populations of 1,000 or less. For communities over 1,000, the base fee increases on a per capita rate as follows:
\$0.50 per capita additional for populations between 1,000-9,999
\$0.33 per capita additional for populations over 10,000.

Taylorville’s is less 31.88% for median household income discount, which makes our cost \$5,518.76.

The Committee informed her that the City already has a Main Street, Economic Development and a Chamber of Commerce. She stated it is good that the City has these groups in place but all groups of people need to be involved not just financiers and the movers and shakers of the community. She stated there is strength in numbers and their job is to try to funnel everyone towards the same goals.

She was informed that there was recently a group that was trying to work together but it dwindled down and there was some doubt as to whether or not they could get that many people to participate. She advised the Committee that if they are not ready to go forward it was up to them that she is here to offer support to the community to achieve their goals. She stated they are only able to help five communities at a time and she has already had a couple approach her for the fall sessions.

Alderman Vota asked if this program would tie in with a review of the City's existing Comprehensive Plan. The Mayor stated that it was his intent to make it a part of an overall planning project that would include a review and update of the 2006 Comprehensive Plan. There was no action taken at this time.

Treasurer's Report

The September 2012 Sales Tax (received in December 2012) was \$192,125.88 compared to \$168,868.37 in September 2011 and year-to-date is \$26,379.05 more than last year.

The September 2012 Non-Home Rule Sales Tax (received in December 2012) was \$81,963.56 compared to \$60,222.54 in September 2011 and year-to-date is \$7,395.32 more than last year.

The interest earned on the Sewer Project Fund Account to date is \$178,453.94 and the current balance is \$1,144,779.18.

Motion by Alderman Vota and seconded by Alderman Burtle to adjourn. Motion carried 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:42 P.M.

John Lawrence, Chairman
Finance Committee