

At the regular meeting held in the Council Chambers by the City Council, January 18, 2022, the following proceedings were held and entered in this record in the following words and figures to wit:

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City Clerk

Mayor

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

The Invocation was given by Alderman Driskell. Mayor Barry led the Council and the assembled group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call - Aldermen Brown, Bryant, Budd, Dorchinecz, Driskell, Olive, Skultety, and Wilson were present.

OATH OF OFFICE – FIRE CAPTAIN NICK ZEPIN

City Clerk Lilly administered the Oath of Office to Fire Department Captain Nick Zepin.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Alderman Bryant and seconded by Alderman Skultety to utilize the Omnibus Vote Designation for various meetings. Roll Call – Aldermen Brown, Bryant, Budd, Dorchinecz, Driskell, Olive, Skultety, and Wilson voted YEA. The Mayor announced the motion carried.

Motion by Alderman Bryant and seconded by Alderman Dorchinecz to approve the regular City Council Meeting held January 4, 2022; the Emergency Services Committee Meeting held January 6, 2022; the Personnel Committee Meeting held January 6, 2022; the Lake/Airport Committee Meeting held January 13, 2022; and the Water/Environmental Committee Meeting held January 13, 2022. OMNIBUS VOTE

PLAN COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

Chairman Kretzer informed the Council that the Plan Commission could take no action regarding the Special Use Permit for the development and operation of an approximately 1.125 megawatt (MW-ac) solar energy generation facility to be located at GSI Group, LLC on IL Route 48, Taylorville. The developer/operator for this facility is SolAmerica Energy, LLC. Additional information is needed to proceed with the Special Use, as well as an additional fee. Another meeting to address this topic will be held in the future.

APPOINTMENT OF TRACI BENTLEY – HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGER

Motion by Alderman Budd and seconded by Alderman Skultety to approve the Mayor's Appointment of Traci Bentley to the Office of Human Resource Manager at an annual salary of \$60,079.50. Alderman Budd stated that the City needs to get off the trainwreck, and although he does not like the salary, he will support the motion. Alderman Driskell stated that she is in support of Traci Bentley as the Human Resource Manager, but not at that salary. She felt the salary should have gone through the Personnel committee; the appointment should be made at the last pay rate of the previous Human Resource Manager. The Mayor stated that he had negotiated this salary with Traci at 130% of her current salary and this was discussed at the previous Council in closed session. He is in full support of her in this position at that rate given her experience with the City in various roles, her knowledge of Incode, payroll and union contracts, and her ability to work with all departments. Roll Call – Aldermen Brown, Budd, Olive, Skultety, and Wilson voted YEA. Aldermen Bryant and Driskell voted NAY. Alderman Dorchinecz voted Present. The Mayor announced the motion carried.

OATH OF OFFICE – HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGER TRACI BENTLEY

City Clerk Lilly administered the Oath of Office to Human Resource Manager Traci Bentley.

BID AND/OR ADVERTISE DEPUTY CLERK POSITION

Motion by Alderman Budd and seconded by Alderman Bryant to bid and/or advertise the Deputy Clerk Position. Roll Call – Aldermen Brown, Bryant, Budd, Dorchinecz, Driskell, Olive, Skultety, and Wilson voted YEA. The Mayor announced the motion carried.

REVISIONS TO COVID-19 POLICY

Motion by Alderman Budd and seconded by Alderman Driskell to **table** the revisions of the City of Taylorville COVID-19 policy and procedures for employees and managers. The policy will be sent to the Personnel Committee for review and discussion. Roll Call – Aldermen Brown, Bryant, Budd, Dorchinecz, Driskell, Olive, Skultety, and Wilson voted YEA. The Mayor announced the motion to **table** carried.

PURCHASE OF SECOND K-9 UNIT

Motion by Alderman Skultety and seconded by Alderman Bryant to approve the purchase of a second K-9 unit at a cost not to exceed \$16,500.00 to include the cost of the K-9, training, and equipment, with funds to come from the Cannabis Tax. Chief Wheeler has spoken with the Illinois Municipal League and confirmed this tax revenue is eligible for use for this purchase. Roll Call – Aldermen Brown, Bryant, Dorchinecz, Driskell, Olive, Skultety, and Wilson voted YEA. Alderman Budd voted NAY. The Mayor announced the motion carried.

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

### LAKE/AIRPORT

#### ADVERTISE FOR AIRPORT CONSULTANT

Motion by Alderman Budd and seconded by Alderman Olive to approve the request to advertise for the Airport Consultant position. Roll Call – Aldermen Brown, Bryant, Budd, Driskell, Olive, Skultety, and Wilson voted YEA. Alderman Dorchinecz voted NAY. The Mayor announced the motion carried.

### PAYMENT OF BILLS

Motion by Alderman Bryant and seconded by Alderman Dorchinecz to authorize payment of bills. Roll Call – Aldermen Brown, Bryant, Budd, Dorchinecz, Driskell, Olive, Skultety, and Wilson voted YEA. The Mayor announced the motion carried.

### BUSINESS FROM THE PUBLIC

The Mayor asked if anyone wished to address the Council. No one present addressed the Council.

### CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Alderman Budd and seconded by Alderman Skultety to go into Closed Session, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1) and (c)(3) to discuss the following subject matters: (a) the performance, employment and/or resignation of the City Treasurer; (b) the appointment of a person to fill the vacancy of the Office of City Treasurer; and duties of such Office and any persons to assist the City Treasurer with her duties; (c) the creation of the Office of Comptroller; and the duties and compensation for such office; and the appointment of a person to be Comptroller; (d) the performance, employment, dismissal and/or resignation and/or any severance agreement concerning the previous Human Resource Manager; and (e) the appointment of a person to fill the Office of Deputy Treasurer and the duties and compensation for such Office; and (f) any and all subject matters relating to any of the aforesaid subject matters, and to include, if present, the following persons to be present during all or part of such closed session, namely: the Mayor Aldermen, City Attorney, City Clerk, City Treasurer, and such other person or persons as the Mayor may decide and announce during this City Council meeting and/or during such closed session.

The City Council recessed at 7:16 P.M. and went into Closed Session at 7:18 P.M. The City Council returned to Open Session at 8:13 P.M.

Roll Call – Aldermen Brown, Bryant, Budd, Dorchinecz, Driskell, Olive, Skultety, and Wilson reported present.

City Treasurer Hamell discussed the confusion regarding the salary rate increases for the Superintendents. It was noted that the increases were first to be given based on the evaluation increases, with an additional increase based on the respective Union increases per the Council vote on December 18, 2021. For example, if a superintendent of AFSCME Union employees were to receive a 2% merit increase, the same superintendent would receive the additional 2% increase corresponding to the AFSCME Union contract increase. Treasurer Hamell noted that these increases were not calculated correctly and will be recalculated moving forward.

Motion by Alderman Bryant and seconded by Alderman Skultety to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried (8-0).

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.