

MEETING MINUTES
Monday, February 16, 2004

Invocation was given by Rev. John Simms of the Trinity United Methodist Church.

Present on Roll Call: Mayor Tom Meeks, Commissioners, Mike Witters, Jack Emmons, John Fearheiley, and Norm Brunson.

Also Present: City Administrator Merle Weems, City Attorney Tom Price, City Inspector Don Price, Police Chief Tony Compton, Street Superintendent Dave Easter, Fire Chief Steve Partee, Water Plant Superintendent Mark Weirich, Waste Water Treatment Manager Rob Windes, City Engineer Dave Dallas, and Economic Development Manager Bill Maples.

Absent: Airport Manager Ken Wood and Library Director Louise Taylor

MAYOR COMMENTS

The Merchant's Banquet will be held in the Community Room on February 24th at 6:30. Tickets are \$10 each.

February 28th is the College Foundation's Crystal Ball which will also be held in the Community Room.

Today we are celebrating Mt. Carmel's 140th Birthday. Mt. Carmel became a town back in 1817. A ham and bean dinner is being held at Snooker's Café after the meeting for the occasion.

Mayor Meeks appointed Commissioner Mike Witters a member of the Revolving Loan Committee. *A motion was made by Commissioner Emmons and seconded by Commissioner Brunson to appoint Commissioner Witters to the Revolving Loan Committee replacing Tom Ford. All present voted Aye. Commissioner Witters abstained.*

Mayor Meeks proposed that the City salary employees pay full price for both green fees and carts. Hourly City employees will not pay for green fees, but will pay for cart fees. Golf course employees who work 25 hours or more per week will play at no charge. Commissioners will vote on the matter at the next council meeting.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

COMMISSIONER JACK EMMONS - FINANCE AND SENIOR CITIZENS

Cash Investment balance as of 2/16/04:	\$214,291.00
Receipts:	31,932.00
Expenses:	99,241.00
Cash Investment Balance:	146,982.00
 Recreation Fund:	 7,767.00
Receipts:	17,901.00
Expenditures:	221.00
Balance:	25,447.00
Accounts Payable:	506.00
 Garbage Fund Account beginning Balance:	 \$35,333.00
Receipts:	13,226.00
Expenses:	19,031.00
Balance:	29,528.00
Accounts Payable:	1,711.00
 Airport Fund:	 (12,365.00)
Receipts:	1,887.00
Expenditures:	4,123.00
Balance:	(14,601.00)
Accounts Receivable:	2,179.00
Accounts Payable:	591.00

Water Fund Account beginning Balance:	\$20,442.00
Receipts:	35,120.00
Expenses:	40,453.00
Balance:	15,109.00
Accounts Payable:	18,467.00
Sewer Fund Account:	\$15,206.00
Receipts:	\$23,214.00
Expenses:	24,627.00
Balance:	13,793.00
Accounts Payable:	1,988.00
Golf Course Fund:	(\$107,152.00)
Receipts:	14,065.00
Expenses:	10,704.00
Balance:	(103,791.00)
Accounts Payable:	675.00

COMMISSIONER WITTERS - STREETS, CEMETERIES AND PARKS

The City received a lot of calls from citizens during all the snow and icy weather. Many residents wanted their driveways salted, but the City can not do that. All the snow and ice that melted down to slush and then refroze created bad situations. The city snow plows can not remove ice. To save money, the street department has sanded and painted all the equipment.

COMMISSIONER BRUNSON - FIRE, HEALTH & SAFETY, GARBAGE, CITY HALL AND CIVIL DEFENSE

The fire department has been running smoothly. The Mt. Carmel Area Industrial Development Committee invited the Mayor and City Council to their meeting last Monday. Commissioner Brunson said that he was very impressed with all the ideas people had to try and sell the city. With their help and our input, maybe we can get something out of that.

COMMISSIONER FEARHEILEY - WATER AND SEWER

The screw pump rehabilitation project has been delayed and will now begin on Monday Feb. 23rd. The project should take one month to complete. The Bobcat at the Waste Water Plant has been cleaned and painted. Water Plant Superintendent Weirich is looking into a possible collapsed water line at 4th and Division. Commissioner Fearheiley and Economic Development Manager Bill Maples will be meeting with a representative from the IL Dept. of Natural Resources Rural Resource Division to discuss the city applying for grant funding to install a new fine air diffuser system at the Waste Water Department.

ADDITIONAL REPORTS

City Attorney Tom Price gave the following report.

A motion was made by Commissioner Witters and seconded by Commissioner Fearheiley to approve Ordinance 813 Amending Zoning Ordinance Definitions. All present voted Aye.

A motion was made by Commissioner Emmons and seconded by Commissioner Brunson to approve Ordinance 814 Establishing a Special Use Classification. All present voted Aye.

City Inspector Don Price gave the following report.

Mr. Price reported that the City received a check last week for more than \$580 releasing a lien that was placed on a property on East 6th street. Price said that the property is in the process of being sold. Mr. Price received a round of applause, as Mayor Meeks congratulated him on being honored by the State of Illinois. Mr. Price was named 2004 Man-of-the-Year for the 511th Parachute Infantry Association.

Fire Chief Steve Partee gave the following report.

The Fire Department is involved with the IL Fire Safety Council. Literature about fire safety that they receive is given to the schools. The Fire Department did their good deed Saturday by using their ladder truck to put up the flag for Old National Bank. A Chief's meeting was held two weeks ago to discuss Automatic Mutual Aid. Fire Departments from the surrounding communities are in agreement to assist our Department in case of a serious fire. Two of the firemen went to Springfield a month ago

to learn more about MABAS, a Mutual Aid Box Alarm System, which is a mutual aid between Mt. Carmel Fire Department and the State of IL.

A motion was made by Commissioner Witters and seconded by Commissioner Brunson to approve Ordinance 815 Authorizing A Mutual Aid Box Alarm System Agreement. All present voted Aye.

Police Chief Tony Compton gave the following report.

There were 110 total arrests in January, 59 verbal warnings, 13 written warnings and 18 complaints. Total complaints received for the month of January were 387.

City Engineer Dave Dallas had no report.

Street Superintendent Dave Easter gave the following report.

Easter reported that the street department has already spent \$8,700 on salt this year. The city spends about \$45 per ton for salt. A dump truck holds about eight tons, so each truckload costs \$360. Should the department have to add thawing agents to the salt; a truckload can cost \$520. The first day the bad weather hit, the department used 4 to 6 truckloads of salt to make roads passable.

Water Plant Superintendent Mark Weirich had no report.

Waste Water Treatment Manager Rob Windes had no report.

Economic Development Manager Bill Maples gave the following report.

Mr. Maples reported that he would be meeting with an IDNR representative to discuss potential fire department grants. Mr. Maples is working with Chief Compton to obtain funding to replace bullet proof vests at the Police Department. He is also working on getting a new bus for the Senior Citizens.

Merle Weems gave the following report.

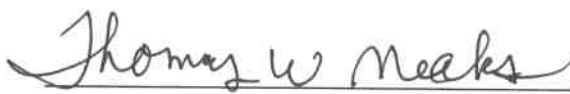
Mr. Weems reported that advertising for bids on a property at 218 W 8th street is beginning. The bids are due right before the next council meeting.

BUSINESS MOTIONS

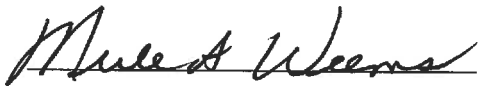
A motion was made by Commissioner Fearheiley and seconded by Commissioner Brunson to pay all bills bearing the proper signatures. All present vote Aye.

A motion was made by Commissioner Emmons seconded by Commissioner Fearheiley to approve the minutes from the last City Council Meeting dated January 19, 2004. All present vote Aye.

Meeting was adjourned.


Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk