

*December 5, 2016*

The public hearing on the proposed 2017 budget was called to order at 6:30 pm by Mayor Kevin Hutter. Alderpersons present: Judith Ganger, Gwen Katula, Bobbi Farrand, Sol Simon and John Sagan. Absent: Barb Schmidtknecht. Others present: Keith Slocum, David Brommerich (arrived at 6:34pm) and Ann Bohri (arrived at 6:55pm). In the Finance Chairperson's absence, the budgets we reviewed amongst the Council. (John left at 6:35pm and returned at 6:40pm.) Sol asked about the surplus amount used, and Janet advised it was in the transfer to balance amount listed under revenue. Janet further outlined cash flow as well as restricted and designated funds. Gwen noted the expenses are going up, but revenues have remained flat. She further noted that a huge expense was having a police officer; with Kevin/Judith interjecting that the public wanted law enforcement. Kevin stated he will be meeting with Governor Walker next week and will express his desire that local government be funded. Gwen noted that we are paying for three people from Donohue to attend construction meetings. Kevin felt that we need to try to cut out any unnecessary committee meetings – perhaps only meeting every couple of months with the agenda loaded with items. Departmental budgets have come down very well cutting corners wherever possible. Kevin would really like the Finance Committee to continue their quarterly meetings to review numbers. Ann noted that the street lights were not very bright now, and that brush needs to be cut along the railroad tracks. Kevin suggested that citizens call the railroad directly. Motion Gwen, second Judith, all present agreed to adjourn the public hearing at 7:00pm. Motion carried. Mayor Hutter called for a 5 minutes recess.

A special meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fountain City was called to order at 7:05 p.m. on Monday, December 5, 2016 by Mayor Kevin Hutter. Alderpersons present: Judith Ganger, John Sagan, Gwen Katula, Bobbi Farrand and Sol Simon. Absent: Barb Schmidtknecht. Others present: Keith Slocum, David Brommerich and Ann Bohri.

Motion Gwen, second Bobbi, all alderpersons agreed to approve the minutes submitted for the November 15, 2016 regular council meeting. Motion carried.

Committee Discussions: PPHS: Hopeful to have a police officer by Monday as only one item on DOJ list to finish. Park-Rec/Tourism/City Properties/Cemetery: Proclamations for volunteers and another for David Fugina should be done. Planning-Zoning/Economic Development: Met recently – some delay of property demolition on STH 95 and Jefferson Street. Will wait until new attorney takes over on Jan 1<sup>st</sup> and then will plan to send him a formal letter. Keith advised he did call today about placement of a dumpster. Public hearing for lawn/weeds, snow removal and dumpster ordinance at the same time. Trees to be removed on city property by maintenance personnel with an officer in attendance. Probably wait until spring so he can relocate them if he chooses. WWTP Plan Committee: Meeting on Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> at 4PM to go over wish list, compliance report, process for change orders and more. Public Works: Jan 4<sup>th</sup> at 6pm will be the next meeting. (John left at 7:15pm and returned at 7:17pm.) DNR is still wanting something done and would like input from new Public Works Supervisor. Kevin wants to encourage use of the pool well and will reach out to Virgil to see if they have anything. Mayor's Report: Kevin will miss the next meeting, but noted that he is pleased with how the Council/Committees are operating. He is happy with the employees and the City Christmas lights look better than they have in years. New wiring needs to be done on some poles for the lights to work. Ann questioned about lights for the small tree at the fountain area – would like to see white lights draped around it year round. All agreed it would look nice and if Ann finds the donated lights at the Historical Society, Keith will put them up. Keith then noted that the brining tank will not hold because of a small leak. Need to purchase another one in the future.

Motion Gwen, second Judith, all alderpersons agreed, after much discussion to not set a precedence, to deny the bill from Schaffner's Plumbing and Heating LLC for Rhoda Abt's plugged sewer and send it back to Schaffners. Motion carried.

Motion Judith, second Sol, all alderpersons, with the exception of John who opposed, agreed to liquid treatment of some streets for snow removal ease per the recommendation of the Public Works Supervisor as well as the equipment needed. Motion carried. John's concerns were with more salt being put down and thought this issue was going to Streets/Roads/Recycling Committee first. Keith explained that we will use less salt with this method than if we salted directly only. Also, less expensive and more effective with less environmental contamination.

Motion Gwen, second John, all alderpersons agreed to correct the minutes back to what they were originally of the October 11, 2016 Council meeting, duly noting John's requested clarification. Motion carried. It was noted that what John said was not exactly what he meant. Clarification was noted that John misspoke about the Corp.'s projection of dollars as he meant projected sand.

Motion Gwen, second John, all alderpersons agreed to adjust the fees to reflect that all other light bulbs not listed would be a \$2 charge and obtain boxes for recycling bulbs from Hilltopper's at a cost less than \$100. Motion carried. Keith will run all current bulbs down there to get rid of them. Idea of adding notation to the recycling calendar stipulating that "if you are not using your blue recycling bin, please return to the City" was discussed. Log of items to be put in the roll off is now reoccurring again, as two years ago we lost over \$900 because of this dept. not doing this. The Mayor added to change the lock on the recycling center on January 1, 2017 as well. Keith will get the area cleaned up and then monitor it better.

Emergency 2" snowfall removal procedure needed to be tabled since Streets/Roads/Recycling hasn't met to address this. Motion Gwen, second Sol, all alderpersons agreed to table and perhaps bring back at the January meeting. Motion carried. Keith also noted that the state signage is not enforceable.

Motion Judith, second Gwen, all alderpersons agreed to adopt the general, water, wastewater and cemetery 2017 budgets as reviewed at the public hearing. Motion carried.

Motion Gwen, second Bobbi, all alderpersons agreed to place delinquent sewer/water account amounts up to \$16,484.61 on the tax roll. Motion carried.

Motion Sol, second John, all alderpersons agreed to the mill rates as stated on the mill rate spreadsheet. Motion carried. Mill rates approved were: Buffalo County .005639969; C-FC School .009310838; WWTC .001555266; and Fountain City .003049278.

Motion John, second Judith, all alderpersons agreed to adopt Budget Resolution #0316 for expenditures from capital funds in 2016. Motion carried.

Motion Sol, second John, all alderpersons agreed to give authority to the Park-Recreation/Tourism/City Properties & Cemetery Chairperson to hire someone for Open Gym Supervisor at a rate up to \$9 per hour for Mondays and Wednesdays from 6-8PM. Motion carried. The committee is hopeful that they can find someone over 16 years of age to possibly do this through the end of March.

Motion Sol, second Judith, all alderpersons agreed to adjournment at 8:10pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet LaDuke, Clerk-Treasurer