

The City Council met in regular session, January 29, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. in the City Hall Council Chamber. Present on roll call: Mayor Vulich; Councilmembers: McGraw, Rowland, Gassman, Determann, Wilke, O'Neill and Allesee.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Mayor Vulich convened a public hearing concerning the proposal to enter into a forgivable loan agreement with Economic Growth Corporation. No comments were received written or oral. M/S, McGraw-Rowland moved that the public hearing concerning the proposal to enter into a forgivable loan agreement with Economic Growth Corporation be entered into the record. On roll call, carried unanimously.

1. M/S, McGraw-Rowland moved the Council adopt Resolution No. 2015-020 approving and authorizing execution of a forgivable loan agreement by and between the City of Clinton, Iowa and Rock Island Economic Growth Corporation d/b/a Economic Growth Corporation. On roll call, carried unanimously.

In discussion before roll call, Councilmember Wilke inquired regarding whether the agreement with the Rock Island Economic Growth Corporation on page 5 section 2.2A stated a corporation of Illinois and the State of Illinois but did not list Iowa and was unclear if that were an important part of the agreement. City Administrator Jessica Kinser advised the Council that it is part of the process to get the agreement ready; Economic Growth Corporation did have to register as a business in the State of Iowa with the Secretary of State's Office and she can confirm that it has been done, however their parent company is an Illinois corporation.

AUDIENCE COMMENT

Ms. Linda Coppess of 764 10th Avenue South stated she was in support of keeping the Student Resource Officer (SRO) Program; however she agrees with Councilmembers O'Neil and Determann in the need to add more officers on the street. In a prior meeting discussion was held to come up with ideas for cutting costs, one idea was to combine the City Assessor's office with the County Assessor's office and she was not sure if that was ever talked about again and that would be one of funding the SRO program. There is a big need for the officer's at the schools. She stated there is a lot that goes on at those schools that Council is unaware of and it doesn't need to be made public and a lot of things go into that school that are unbelievable. She also made reference to a letter written by one of the Councilmembers to the newspaper and felt the letter content was inappropriate in what was said about the school board members manning up, whatever that was supposed to mean, she didn't understand it at all.

Ms. Cammi Bengtson of 1602 2nd Avenue South stated she was a sixth grade student at the new Clinton Middle School and felt the need for the SRO because there is a lot of bullying at school and it would be easier to go the one of the SRO's instead of one of the Counselors or teachers that might be busy. Also, in case of intruders or an

emergency in might be faster for them to react to it rather than calling the Clinton Cops and waiting for them to arrive in a few minutes. There are also a lot of fights, today there were three fights with pocket knives and scissors and I think we need to officer's there to protect us.

Ms. Courtney Bengtson of 1602 2nd Avenue South stated she asked fellow students in her history class about the need for the SRO's and they replied they never really needed them but if someone is getting bullied that is a good place to go. She also asked one of her teachers and they replied that the SRO makes them feel safer and it is good to have someone in the building who follows the law; if someone is in trouble, instead of waiting for the cops to arrive we have someone right down the hall.

Ms. Connie Brashaw of 1506 Prospect stated she is definitely there for a couple of reasons; one is the SRO's and one thing she wanted to suggest for anyone that puts things in the paper and you name people by name and slander their name and say mean things about them, that really makes Clinton look bad; and when you yell at people on the Council. We are the laughing stock of the Quad Cities and DeWitt when you do that. I just hope that a couple of you that kind of do that will mellow out a little bit and try to respect each other a little better. The other thing is the School Resource Officer is paid half by the school; and as a Council I think we should work together with the schools and support the schools. Its 1.8 million given back to the City in 10 years; I'm kind of curious that since that money cannot go the Police Department for putting more officers on the streets, it goes into the City budget. Why don't we take that and increase the Police budget by 180,000 a year so we can get more police officers on the streets. She wasn't sure how many people had scanners but felt the town was turning into a hell basket and it was getting ridiculous how the scanner never stops. There is more domestics, more fights, more abuse and the officers are worn out. They are working an ungodly amount of hours. She know some of the officers personally and feels it is very sad what is being asked of them to do and the safety precautions that are not being done. It was put out on Facebook regarding the SRO program, a Citizens Police Academy Facebook page and there were over 2000 hits regarding this SRO program with people in favor of it and wanting it to stay in the schools. It's not like when we were kids with people having a small fight, these kids today are beating the snot out of each other bringing knives to school; there are kids with guns at this age. How many times have we had younger people out on 7th Avenue and 6th Avenue with guns? When you have a police officer on hand with a gun he is a little better able to take care of things. The other thing is on the City side of it; a lot of you were in favor of getting rid of our city workers. You have done a very good job of that, because of the stress that most of the city workers that most of the street workers have you have lost five good people. We have had Mark Nettle quit, Scott Bengtson quit, his health was suffering, Scott Smith quit, we had Larry retire because he couldn't handle the stress anymore and we had Al Fedderson quit. You had very good people. The City Street Department is down to six people and you want to keep cutting them. The first snow fall we had the people you hired didn't show up and this is the way you treat the people that have lived in this community their whole lives by taking their jobs away from them. Since we have lost these five people, Council says that it costs about \$100,000 to have a city worker, so you lost those five people so where is that \$500,000; you could put some of that towards police officers.

Ms. Michelle Seifert of 1115 N. 14th Street stated she was there to show support for the Clinton School Resource Officer program. She referenced her son Collin, who many knew was named honorary police officer and firefighter. Because of Collin's illness they have been adopted into many of their families. She realized that not all children are as lucky as her son and didn't get to share the same experiences as her son has had, having the SRO program gives these children a chance. It's Officer Lorenzen, Officer Haskell, and Corporal Collins that are SRO's. All three of them are heroes and give the children someone to look up to and aspire to. Collin has a very special relationship with Officer Lorenzen, as well as my older son Dustin does with Officer Haskell and Corporal Collins as many other kids do. These officers know these kids and help those who would otherwise fall through the cracks. Children need to learn at an early age that police officer is someone to run to for help and not one to run away from. The SRO program encourages a special relationships with these kids. We don't know how many bad situations that have been avoided just by having an officer there. The kids are all highly aware these officers are there and think twice before acting. Kids having problems at home can talk to an officer when they don't trust anyone else. Our SRO's also reach out to the community. If you take these officer's out of the schools and put them on the streets they will more than likely be responding to the schools on a regular basis. Having these officer's in the schools if for the safety of the children and the community as a whole. Other cities have modeled their SRO programs after ours because of the success. Our SRO's have national recognition. It is very foolish to abandon a nationally recognized program. Instead of the constant talk of the never ending sewer and garbage increases, do something positive for the community. Councilmembers it is time to show the citizens of Clinton that you really do care about our kids and our community and especially support those that serve and protect us.

CONSENT AGENDA

M/S, Determann-Wilke moved the Council approve the Consent Agenda as attached. On roll call, carried unanimously.

1. Claims - receive, approve and place on file.
2. Budget Workshop #1 - minutes 1/12/2015 - receive, approve and place on file.
3. Civil Service Commission - minutes 1/14/2015 - receive, approve and place on file.
4. Committee of the Whole - minutes 1/13/2015 - receive, approve and place on file.
5. Mayor's Youth Commission - minutes 1/19/2015 - receive, approve and place on file.
6. Airport Commission - minutes 12/15/2014 - receive, approve and place on file.
7. Traffic Study Commission - minutes 1/20/2015 - receive, approve and place on file.

8. Resolution No. 2015-021 amending the Housing Inspection Delinquency Lien List Dated April 2014.
9. Resolution No. 2015-022 setting a public hearing on Transit Grant Applications.
10. Resolution No. 2015-023 establishing a public hearing for Airport Land Use and Height Overlay Zoning.
11. Resolution No. 2015-024 endorsing the Clinton Fire Department's Assistance to Firefighters grant application to replace thermal imaging cameras and gas monitors.
12. Resolution No. 2015-025 ordering construction of improvement, setting a public hearing and directing advertisement for bids for Project P-2014, Eagle Point Park Roadway Improvements.
13. Resolution No. 2015-026 authorizing construction of improvement, setting a public hearing, and directing advertisement of bids for Project B-2014, 20th Avenue North Pumping Station Project and Force Main Replacement.
14. Resolution No. 2015-027 ordering construction of improvement, setting a public hearing, and directing advertisement of bids for the Showboat Roof Membrane Replacement and Insulation Improvement.
15. Resolution No. 2015-028 recommending payment No. 5 to BWC Excavating LC, for the Main Avenue Green Infrastructure Project M-2014.

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, AND ORDINANCES

2. M/S, Gassman-Rowland moved the Council adopt Resolution No. 2015-029 supporting the City of Clinton's application for Augustana College's Inaugural Sustainable Working Landscapes Initiative and committing funding. On roll call, carried unanimously.

In discussion before roll call, Councilmember O'Neill inquired regarding the number of projects involved in the initiative. Administrator Kinser stated most of the projects were from a 2014-2015 strategic plan which was developed by this Council as well as the 2032 comprehensive plan which was approved by this Council. Projects that are on that list are not new, many of them are needs that have been identified by different planning documents. After discussion of the entire grant process on November 11, 2014, a meeting was held with the contacts at Augustana College and gave them the project list and they went through the list and met back in early January and listed the projects they couldn't do. Councilmember O'Neill inquired regarding whether the group would come back and ask for additional funding. Administrator Kinser stated no because a lot of the projects that are on the list and ready to be submitted with the

application are projects involving a lot of on the ground work that we haven't been able to do on certain ones and looking at things from a different angle; doing a lot of the studying and proposing different ideas that come from a different prospective that staff can normally offer. They are mostly doing the groundwork for the ideas and concepts for things that are out there. Councilmember Allesee inquired regarding whether there would be only one city selected. Administrator Kinser stated that was correct; only one city can be selected for this grant. Councilmember O'Neill inquired regarding whether the city had been selected. Administrator Kinser stated the applications would be due tomorrow and there would be an announcement sometime in March or April. It didn't seem there would be over whelming number of applications, somewhere less than five. Councilmember Wilke inquired regarding the number of people involved in this. Administrator Kinser noted there was a brief conversation regarding this and it may be close to 200 people that would be bussed up here with classes and professors for the fall kick off. Councilmember O'Neill inquired regarding the time we would get the \$15,000.00. Would it be after we are chosen? Administrator Kinser stated it would be after. What is being requested is a commitment of \$15,000. That is only if we are selected.

3. M/S, Allesee-O'Neill moved the Council adopt Resolution No. 2015-030 supporting Economic Growth Corporation's application for Workforce Housing Tax. On roll call, carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

M/S, Determann-Wilke moved to adjourn to 7:00 pm February 10, 2015. On roll call, carried unanimously.

Mark S. Vulich
Mayor

Teresa Lindstrom
Deputy City Clerk