

Committee of the Whole
February 24, 2015

Present: Mayor Vulich, Council Members McGraw, Rowland, Gassman, Determann, Wilke, O'Neill, City Administrator, City Attorney, City Clerk, Press and interested citizens. Councilmember Allesee – absent.

1. Presentation by the Quad Cities Area Realtors Association (QCARA) - Sharon Carlson, Pres. and CEO

Ms. Sharon Carlson, President & CEO of the Quad City Area Realtor's Association (QCARA) advised the Council that the Clinton Realtor's Association had merged with the QCARA. This will enable Clinton to expand market reach and benefit the buying and selling audience. Clinton will become part of the Quad City MLS. She stated that over 800 clients have exposure over the MLS. She continued in stating that Clinton realtors will continue to serve the local clientele. They will also continue to be involved in the community. She further stated that Clinton and Quad City members will have more resources available and advocacy in the Legislature. Councilmember O'Neill inquired regarding whether commercial properties in Clinton will be listed in the Quad City MLS. Ms. Carlson stated that they would as well as on a national databases.

2. Proposed Project at Eagle Point Lodge – Dee Willoughby

Mr. Dee Willoughby provided the Council with a presentation of the proposed changes to the Eagle Point Lodge. He stated that this is a program the Rotary Club of Clinton has been working on for 15 months. He continued in stating that the Rotary's goal is service and in celebration of its 100 year anniversary is looking for a grand project.

Mr. Willoughby advised the Council that the Rotary Club is looking to raise \$1 Million for this project without any City dollars. He stated that the focus is 200' around the Lodge. Eagle Point Park is a great place on the Mississippi River and the Rotary Club's vision is to renovate the interior and exterior of the Lodge. He continued in stating that the log features will remain as a tribute to the areas logging history. A grand entrance will be constructed and a patio will be created which will accommodate 300 people. All areas will be ADA compliant, there will be additional glass features giving visitors a great view of the river. He further stated that there will be a bridal room and meeting room, and the storage room, bathrooms and kitchen will be moved to a more advantageous area in the building. He proceeded to state that it is Rotary's goal to raise the \$1 Million by June 30, 2015.

Councilmember Rowland thanked Mr. Willoughby. He stated that Mr. Willoughby took a lot of time to meet with each Council Member and he appreciated his efforts. Councilmember O'Neill inquired regarding whether the contributions are restricted to corporate donors. Mr. Willoughby stated that it is opened to everyone.

City Administrator Kinser advised the Council that there is an item to move forward which will allow the Rotary Club to use the Lodge free of charge for its fundraising activities and meetings.

M/S, O'Neill-Rowland moved to forward a resolution to the next Council agenda allowing the Rotary Club to use the Lodge free of charge for its fundraising activities and meetings. On roll call, carried unanimously.

3. Public Works and Recreation Reorganization Proposal – Jessica Kinser

City Administrator Kinser advised the Council that this item had been introduced at the January 13th Committee of the Whole. She stated that she is proposing an organizational change to recreate the Public Works Director position and a Parks and Recreation Director Position. This will reduce the number of direct reports to the City Administrator while providing better oversight and management of the public works function. She stated that requests were made to eight comparable cities. The majority of comparable cities combine engineering and public works together and requires the public works director to have an engineering background. Our current wage range is \$73,000 to \$93,000 and the average range is \$85,000 to \$117,000 which shows that the City of Clinton is not comparable with wages for department directors. She continued in stating that Grounds and Facilities would move under Parks and Recreation. The total cost of the change would be \$47,000 to create a Parks Supervisor position. She further stated that the MTA and WPC would see a savings of \$20,000. She requested that the Council keep this proposal on the radar for future years.

Councilmember O'Neill stated that the proposal does not require a PE. City Administrator Kinser stated that Engineering is involved in numerous projects and well as the Long Term Control Plan.

City Administrator Kinser stated that a full time position would be created to answer for three departments that currently answer to the City Administrator. Councilmember Rowland requested a flow chart to see the number of positions which report to the City Administrator. He stated that nine department heads are a lot and there needs to be a restructuring. He further requested a chart to show the different proposals for restructuring.

Councilmember Determann suggested an Assistant City Administrator for department heads to report to. Councilmember Rowland requested that the City Administrator present various cost factors and possible savings, a list of department heads and who reports to them and their salaries. He stated that the City needs to look at an assistant to the City Administrator and how it will fit into the realignment. He continued in stating that the advantage is that the City Administrator could delegate duties to them. He requested that the City Administrator bring this item back to the Council with the requested information.

4. Mayor & Council Member Updates

Mayor Vulich advised that the Gas Tax was passed and will go into effect March 1, 2015. This will add an additional \$400,000 in revenue to the City. He stated that he has been asked to become a member of the Community Relations Board for the Thomson Prison. He further stated that he gave a presentation to the County Board of Supervisors on the Railpark. He proceeded to state that he would be meeting with them semi-annually or quarterly.

Councilmember Rowland advised that there are a lot of workshops available to public officials this month. He urged all of the Council Members to look into this.

Councilmember Wilke advised that the Job Fair at the Lyons Branch of the Clinton Library had a good turnout.

M/S, Gassman-Rowland moved to take the Rezoning of the 700 Block of North 18th Street from the table and place the item on the March 3rd, 2015 Committee of the Whole. On roll call, McGraw, Rowland, Gassman, Determann, Wilke – Yes; O'Neill – No. Motion carried.

M/S, Determann-Gassman moved to adjourn. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pat Van Loo
City Clerk