

City of Fulton

Council Meeting Minutes

February 13, 2023

Regular Meeting

Mayor Wendy called the regular meeting to order at 5:33 pm. With lack of attendance, the Mayor asked the council if they would like to proceed with some of the scheduled meeting items. Aldermen Mask, VanKampen, Nederhoff and Brondyke were in agreement to listen to the scheduled presentations, and the Public Hearing to close out the 8th Street Project. Most action items and discussions will be rescheduled at the next scheduled council meeting on February 27, 2023.

The Pledge of allegiance was recited.

Presentations

Karrie Kenney – Band Shell

- Ms. Kenney explained that plans were submitted to the contractors. \$35,000 is in hand for the project. The Fulton Fun Crew Committee has reached out to Timken Drives for a possible donation but have not heard back. The committee would like the City to consider funding the rest of the project, possibly from the Video Gaming Fund, which was earmarked for parks. The amount for the rest of the project would be somewhere between \$65,000 - \$70,000. It is the recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Committee (Aldersperson Sue VanKampen and Aldersperson Jeff Brondyke) for the City to fund the rest of the project. They believe it would be a wonderful asset for the city. The band shell will be in the NE corner of Drives Park. Will be on the next agenda for council approval.

Melanie and Manreet Kalyan – Non-Brick and Mortar Businesses

- Will present at next meeting.

Jason Marcus – Cattail Village (Former Harbor Crest Nursing Home)

- Aldersperson Mask presented a handout to the council and public that was published in the Clinton Herald on February 11, 2023 for the new Multi-unit rental housing for seniors that will be renovated by Jason Marcus. He purchased the 4.8 acre parcel of land that formerly housed the former Harbor Crest Nursing Home, in the amount of

\$280,000. Mr. Marcus is the owner of Marcus Contracting Services and Kurtz Glass Company, both located in Clinton.

The facility will be named Cattail Village Senior Apartments. The village will house seniors, 55 years and older, and will have approximately 26 one-bedroom units. The property will be managed by the owner and will have an attendant on site. Mr. Marcus plans on starting the project in the near future.

All Aldermen and Mayor thanked Jason, for the investment and future within the City of Fulton.

Lori Cortez – Impact Program

- Ms. Cortez thanked the council for the opportunity to speak once again at the meeting. This is her 3rd visit in front of the council to promote the Impact Program, and to ask the Council to commit to an annual donation to support the program. She stated that as of now, 1 ½ years into the program, that there are 70 students enrolled in the program from Fulton High School and have completed over 1000 hours of community service. She stated that due to a generous donation from a local citizen in the amount of \$1 million dollars over a period of time, the program has flourished. But as of now, the donor said all funding would stop until other businesses and the city step up to the plate and pledge their donations in support of the vital program. She does not want to be the only one to keep the program moving forward, this must be a community project. Ms. Cortez stated that several other pledges have been coming in from other cities and individuals.

Mayor Wendy, who is in support of the program, stated that she attended a recent fundraiser for the event. Mayor Wendy read, aloud, a letter from the local donor, stating that she thought the city and other businesses and individuals would also step up in supporting the education of area students to further their educations. The donor wants the city to donate a \$20,000 per year for the long term. (Which is just the donor's suggestion.) The Mayor is asking the city to consider funding this from the 25% cannabis fund, that was established for "other funding." The mayor stated that the donor has decided not to punish the students for the areas lack of support for the program and will continue with her donation. Ms. Cortez asked the council to stop playing political games and start supporting the local students.

Barb Franz, from the Kiwanis Club, will set a budget line item, to support the program every year. No amount was disclosed.

Several Alderpersons wanted to know where else donations were coming from. Ms. Cortez stated that Rock Falls and Sterling Township have made donations, along with personal donations.

Aldersperson Nederhoff wanted to know the terms of the \$1 million pledge. Ms. Cortez stated that it was \$100,000 per year annually, but has donated in more of a timely manner, and is ahead of the ten year pledge.

Most other Aldermen want more time to consider this.

Alderman Mask stated that she understands perfectly that this is a wonderful program, but states she must consider the people in her ward. They are taxpayers...and they expect something more from their taxes, in form of infrastructure and public service of their city. She will speak with people in her ward. She states that it is the school that educates the students, and it is not the roll of the taxpayer to continue to support education outside of what already goes to the schools on our tax bills. Mayor Wendy disagrees and states she will bring in documentation that says the city should support further education.

Alderman VanKampen is upset that the donor is threatening to stop her pledge if the city does not donate. This is not right.

Mayor Ottens continued to support the donor, and will solicitate strongly that the city pledges a donation to the program.

Chief Neblung asks have you reached out to the other townships in the area that go to the Riverbend School District. "Why should Fulton, be the sole contributor?" Ms. Cortez said not yet but will keep that in mind.

More discussion to follow at the next meeting.

Communication from Visitors

Chuck Dykstra – Drive's Building

- Mr. Dykstra would like the city to consider giving \$100,000 from the city's ARPA Funds to aid in the matching grant funds for the Drive's Building Renovations. The building when renovated would house a senior center, community center, banquet facilities and much more. This will be discussed at a further meeting.

Barb Franz – Highway 30

- Barb informed the Council on the Highway 30, "Rural 4 Concept" update. She stated that since, Mr. Tom Determann, State of Iowa Representative, has been appointed Vice Chair of Iowa Transportation, things are moving in the right direction for the 4-lane Route 30 expansion. Barb is asking for support from the City Council. Ms. Franz is planning to lobby in Washington, D.C. in the near future, and states that any one is welcome to attend these meetings.

Zach Ratcliff – Video Streaming and Parks

- Mr. Ratcliff asked the council about the ability to stream the council meetings. Chief Neblung stated that this is in the works, just waiting on equipment. Would possible be another 2-3 months, but assures him it is going to be installed.

Mr. Ratcliff also asked the council not to forget about the 10th Avenue Park renovation, that was discussed a couple of years ago, now that there is adequate funding. He reminded the council that it was discussed as a 3-phase improvement plan. #1 being new equipment, #2 sidewalks, and #3 a new play base (not wood chips).

Consent Agenda

Approve consent agenda; approve council meeting minutes from January 23, 2023, the February 4, 2023 Budget Workshop and the bill list. Alderperson Mask motioned, seconded by Alderperson Brondyke. City Clerk Garibay asked City Attorney Shirk about a change in voting. Mayor Wendy made mention that she believed that any Alderperson that was not present at a prior meeting should abstain from voting. Attorney Shirk, stated this is not the case. Minutes are included in the packet, and everyone is entitled to vote. With no further discussion. Roll call vote, 5 yes, motion carried.

Public Hearing to Close Out the 8th Street Project

Ms. Courtney Warren, representing Community Services and Planning, opened the meeting to review the project performance and obtain citizen input regarding the project. In attendance for the hearing were, Phil Ottens, Michele Snyder, Zachery Ratcliff, Jason Marcus, Dan Clark, Eric Sikkema, Nick Neblung, Dwayne Hamilton, Tammy Garibay, Sue VanKampen, Wendy Ottens, Dan Nederhoff, Bill Shirk, Barbara Mask, Jeff Brondyke and Courtney Warren. The project was funded in part with grant funds from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. There were no comments from the public. Hearing was closed at 6:50 p.m.

Adjourn Meeting. With lack of attendance, it was decided that all other matters listed on the agenda be moved to the next February meeting to be held on the 27th. Alderperson Mask motioned, seconded by Alderperson Brondyke, meeting adjourned at 6:52 pm. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tammy L Garibay
City Clerk

City of Fulton

Public Hearing Minutes

February 13, 2023

Mayor Wendy Ottens called the Public Hearing to order at 6:43 p.m., to review project performance and obtain citizen input regarding the 8th Street Improvements Project. The project was funded in part with grant funds from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. The public hearing was held on February 13, 2023 after the regular council meeting. Residents were encouraged to attend the hearing to give public comments. The hearing was held in the City's Council Chambers, located at 415 11th Ave, Fulton, IL.

Ms. Courtney Warren, representing, Community Funding and Planning Services, explained to the audience, that this meeting was being held to obtain citizen's views on the recently completed 8th Street replacement project. She explained the grant funding process, bidding process, and city portion of the project.

Visitors, staff, and elected officials in attendance were Phil Ottens, Michelle Snyder, Zach Ratcliff, Jason Marcus, Dan Clark, Eric Sikkema, Nick Neblung, Dwayne Hamilton Tammy Garibay, Sue VanKampen, Wendy Ottens, Dan Nederhoff, Barbara Mask, Jeff Brondyke and Courtney Warren.

Ms. Warren asked for questions and or comments, there were none. Public Hearing was closed at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy L Garibay
City Clerk
Fulton, IL 61252

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