

City Council of the City of Carbondale, Illinois
Regular Meeting of November 3, 2015

The City Council of the City of Carbondale, Illinois, held a regular meeting on Tuesday, November 3, 2015, in City Council Chambers, 200 South Illinois Avenue. Mayor Henry called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following members of the Council present/absent:

1. Roll Call

Present: Councilman Lee Fronabarger, Councilman Tom Grant, Councilman Adam Loos, Councilman Navreet Kang, Councilwoman Jessica Bradshaw, Councilwoman Carolin Harvey, and Mayor John M. Henry

Absent: None

Also present were City Clerk Jennifer Sorrell, Interim City Manager Gary Williams, and various members of the City's administrative staff.

2. General Announcements and Proclamations

Mayor Henry proclaimed Wednesday, November 11, 2015 as Veterans Day and encouraged citizens to respectfully and appropriately observe the occasion.

1. Oath of Office

The Oath of Office was administered to Firefighter Zachary Brown.

Mayor Henry acknowledged a special guest attending the meeting. Interim Chancellor Brad Colwell expressed his thanks for the reception he has received from Carbondale. He noted that brighter days were ahead for both SIU and Carbondale.

Interim City Manager Williams announced Ted Lomax's appointment to the position of Fire Chief.

Councilman Kang announced that the Carbondale Public Library will hold a book sale on November 7 and 8, with a preview on November 6. He then announced that the Jackson County Health Department will host a document shredding, recycling, and reuse event on Saturday, November 7.

Councilwoman Harvey announced that Zeta Amicae of Carbondale will hold a free Family and Friends Community dinner at the Eurma C. Hayes Center on Friday, November 13.

3. Citizens' Comments and Questions

BethAnn Roberts-Jacquot commented on safety concerns as it relates to parking availability for her daughter who has a fitness class at 6:00 a.m.

Rebel Pinkston, 1230 West Schwartz Street, suggested selling the vacant City properties on College Street and the vacant fire department. He congratulated the Police Chief on his appointment and provided recommendations relating to the City's involvement in community events, as well as how he would like funds from Brightfields utilized. Finally, Mr. Pinkston shared remarks on the struggles with the City's budget in the past and the present, particularly as it relates to the lack of a State budget.

Valerie Harrington commented on the Carbondale Police Department and their conduct. She spoke about her thoughts and experiences over a number of years, particularly as it relates to interactions with business owners.

Mayor Henry read a statement about an event in which the Police Department and community celebrated Halloween on Friday, October 30, at Attucks Park.

4. Public Hearings and Special Reports

Carbondale Firefighter Courtney Jossendal narrated a presentation for the City Council and citizens about her work in rebuilding Nepal through Habitat for Humanity following a devastating earthquake in April of 2015.

5. Consent Agenda

1. Approval of minutes from the Regular City Council Meeting of October 20, 2015. Recommendation: Approve.
2. Warrant for the Period Ending 10/12/2015 FY 2016 Warrant # 1256 in the amount of \$1,652,512.18. Recommendation: Approve Warrant #1256. (Exhibit A-11-03-2015)
3. Acceptance of Minutes of Boards, Commissions, and Committees. Recommendation: Accept and place on file the minutes of the Preservation Commission from September 21, 2015 and the Carbondale Public Library Board of Trustees from August 12 and September 9, 2015.
4. Appointments to Boards and Commissions. Recommendation: Concur with the Mayor's recommended reappointment of Barbara Doherty to the Preservation Commission for a term expiring October 31, 2018.

MOTION: N. Kang moved, J. Bradshaw seconded, to approve Consent Agenda Items 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, and 5.4. VOTE: Ayes: L. Fronabarger, T. Grant, A. Loos, N. Kang, J. Bradshaw, C. Harvey, and J. Henry. Nays: None. Motion declared carried.

6. General Business

6.1 Council discussion of FY2017 process to review and approve community agency funding

Dr. James Grant of SIU outlined a proposed multi-year process of improving the process and assessment of community agency funding. He noted specific records and information which should be provided, as well as reviewing how the organization's services align with community goals. Dr. Grant responded to questions and comments from the City Council.

City Councilmembers provided their own viewpoints and ideas on how to address the topic of funding community organizations and agencies.

Meghan Cole, Carbondale Main Street, commented about the submission of quarterly reports.

Donald Monty, 418 South Giant City Road, commented on information required and contained in the applications from organizations. He also shared his thoughts on the quarterly reports submitted by organizations, as well as requirements imposed by the Council on the organizations in previous years.

There was no action taken as a result of the discussion of this item.

2. City Council discussion regarding the authority of the City Manager to execute employment contracts

Councilmembers had a general discussion about their thoughts on the freedoms and constraints which should authorize and regulate the City Manager's discretion in negotiating terms of employment and the amount of Council oversight which would be appropriate.

Donald Monty, 418 South Giant City Road, expressed his opinions on the City Manager's authority, the

issues and limitations in the pay plan, and when a matter of extraordinary circumstances should be brought before the policymakers.

Ted Gutierrez, 316 S. Lu Court, remarked that there is more to life than money and the quality of life in Carbondale should be a consideration.

Elius Reed, 2012 South Illinois Avenue, asked a series of questions about employment contracts for City employees.

7. Council Comments

Councilman Loos cited a City Ordinance regarding discussion during City Council meetings.

Councilwoman Bradshaw shared that she has been cancer-free for five years.

Councilman Grant thanked firefighter Courtney Jossendal for her presentation and remarked on the merits of Habitat for Humanity. Mr. Williams and Councilwoman Bradshaw shared their own comments regarding Ms. Jossendal's report earlier in the meeting.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the City Council, the meeting was declared adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Jennifer R. Sorrell, City Clerk

Approved by the City Council on:
