

WATSEKA CITY COUNCIL MEETING
May 23, 2017

The City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Harwood at 7:00pm. Present were Aldermen Garfield, Marcier, Cahoe, Allhands, Elliott, Dewitt, Purvis and Ulfers.

Motion was made by Purvis, second by Garfield to approve the previous month's minutes and claims. Motion passed 8-0.

There was no Public Comment.

Motion was made by Elliott, seconded by Ulfers to transfer \$150,000 from the Revolving Loan Fund 45-10-1000 to the Capital Improvement Fund 01-10-1045. Motion passed 8-0.

Motion was made by Garfield, seconded by Purvis to transfer \$78,360 from the General Fund to the Capital Improvement Fund 01-10-1045 and \$12,000 from the General Fund to the assistant office salary line item 01-10-6011. Motion passed 8-0.

Motion was made by Marcier, seconded by Elliott to approve the Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda includes a proclamation declaring May 26th as National Poppy Day as well as Ordinance #2474 to create the Watseka Economic Development Fund.

Motion was made by Garfield, seconded by Purvis to suspend rules for the Consent Agenda. Motion passed 8-0.

Roll was called for the Consent Agenda. Roll passed 8-0.

In Finance, Legal and Audit, motion was made by Ulfers, seconded by Garfield to accept the April Treasurer's Report. Motion passed 8-0.

In Public Works, motion was made by Purvis, seconded by Cahoe to install a new fence at Peters Park for a cost of \$1,200. Motion passed 8-0.

Motion was made by Purvis, seconded by Cahoe to use \$89,500 from undedicated STU Funds for the North St. Project. Motion passed 8-0.

In Public Safety, motion was made by Cahoe, seconded by Garfield to purchase accident and health insurance as well as accidental death and dismemberment for the fire department at a cost of \$4,165 annually. Motion passed 8-0.

In Code Enforcement, motion was made by Marcier, seconded by Cahoe to pay Robert Beam \$5,000 from the flood mitigation grant money. Mr. Beam would then turn over the property located at 513 N Kay St. The City would still need to pay the taxes.

Motion passed 5-4 with Ulfers, Elliott, Dewitt and Garfield voting no. Mayor Harwood had the deciding vote to break the tie.

Motion was made by Marcier, seconded by Garfield to proceed with demolition for 252 N 2nd St. Motion passed 8-0.

Motion was made by Marcier, seconded by Garfield to demolish 221 N 5th St. and to hire D&S Excavation at a cost of \$13,800. The City has a \$10,000 check from the insurance company for debris removal. Motion passed 7-1 with Ulfers voting no.

Motion was made by Marcier, seconded by Cahoe to demolish 338 W Park and to hire D&S Excavation at a cost of \$9,600. Motion passed 8-0.

Motion was made by Marcier, seconded by Cahoe to demolish 807 S 2nd St. and to hire D&S Excavation at a cost of \$6,000. Motion passed 8-0.

Motion was made by Marcier, seconded by Garfield to demolish 1001W Smith St. and to hire D&S Excavation at a cost of \$4,150. Motion passed 8-0.

Motion was made by Marcier, seconded by Elliott to demolish 116 W. North St and to hire Bill's Concrete at a cost of \$6,905.73. Motion passed 8-0.

In Miscellaneous Business, bids were opened for demolition of 2 properties.

701 N Market St bids:

\$4,500 D&S Excavating
\$4,631 Bill's Concrete
\$5,400 Morris Construction

224 ½ W Hickory bids:

\$4,100 D&S Excavating
\$5,800 Morris Construction

Motion was made by Marcier seconded to Garfield to approve both bids from D&S Excavating. Motion passed 8-0.

There was a discussion of a negative balance in the Demolition Fund. Only \$50,000 was budgeted and with the last two bids, \$64,747 has been spent. Mayor Harwood suggested there would be room in the General Fund to absorb the balance and to make a transfer in June from the Mitigation Grant Fund.

Marcier said the lengthy demolition project has been multiple years in planning and the properties need to come down.

Mayor Harwood addressed the Council and gave a prepared statement on his final thoughts in office.

Motion was made by Garfield, seconded by Marcier to adjourn at 7:40. Motion passed 8-0.

Sean Deneau, City Clerk