

The City Council of the City of Mattoon held a Regular City Council meeting in the Council Chambers of City Hall on August 18, 2020.

Mayor Gover presided and called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The following members of the Council answered roll call physically present: YEA Commissioner Dave Cox, YEA Commissioner Sandra Graven, YEA Commissioner Rick Hall, YEA Commissioner Owen, and YEA Mayor Tim Gover.

Also physically present were City personnel: City Administrator Kyle Gill, City Attorney Daniel C. Jones, Finance Director/Treasurer Beth Wright, Arts & Tourism Director Angelia Burgett – Audio, Public Works Director Dean Barber – Audio, Fire Chief Jeff Hilligoss, Police Chief Jason Taylor and City Clerk Susan O’Brien.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Gover seconded by Commissioner Hall moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of minutes of the regular meeting August 4, 2020; bills and payroll for the first half of August, 2020.

**Bills & Payroll**  
**first half of August, 2020**

	<b><u>General Fund</u></b>		
Payroll		\$	264,614.63
Bills		\$	<u>62,807.03</u>
	Total	\$	327,421.66
	<b><u>Hotel Tax Administration</u></b>		
Payroll		\$	2,339.42
Bills		\$	<u>2,798.34</u>
	Total	\$	5,137.76
	<b><u>Festival Mgmt Fund</u></b>		
Bills		\$	<u>71.52</u>
	Total	\$	71.52
	<b><u>Insurance &amp; Tort Jdgmnt</u></b>		
Bills		\$	<u>46,202.00</u>
	Total	\$	46,202.00
	<b><u>Capital Project Fund</u></b>		
Bills		\$	<u>3,966.00</u>
	Total	\$	3,966.00
	<b><u>Water Fund</u></b>		
Payroll		\$	46,213.04
Bills		\$	<u>25,734.90</u>
	Total	\$	71,947.94
	<b><u>Sewer Fund</u></b>		
Payroll		\$	42,861.43
Bills		\$	<u>18,441.93</u>
	Total	\$	61,303.36

**Health Insurance Fund**

Bills		\$	111,442.82
	Total	\$	111,442.82

**Motor Fuel Tax Fund**

Bills		\$	1,418.84
		\$	1,418.84

Mayor Gover declared the motion to approve the consent agenda carried by the following vote: YEA Commissioner Cox, YEA Commissioner Graven, YEA Commissioner Hall, YEA Commissioner Owen, and YEA Mayor Gover.

**PRESENTATIONS, PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Mrs. Wendi Hiles of 817 N. 33<sup>rd</sup> Street addressed the Council virtually with concern of dilapidated and drug properties located at 805-809 N. 33<sup>rd</sup> and 3300-3312 Piatt Avenue owned by Richard Leonetti and George Drum’s property as a nuisance again; and had a 17-signature complaint petition from neighbors. Attorney Jones responded with the numerous nuisances filed with the court, two options of fining up to \$750 or clean and lien the property, offered the Judge’s opinion and Mr. Drum’s option of paying a \$1,900 fee for the cleaned up or have the property liened. Chief Taylor responded to the drug house where the occupants had been arrested and situation addressed. Administrator Gill noted Mr. Drum had an excavator and was moving objects on a trailer today.

Mr. James DiNaso addressed the Council virtually with his concern over the reassessment of properties due to COVID19 and debt reduction plan. Commissioner Owen responded that the Council has no control of assessments which is a County jurisdiction and reassessments do not mean the City will receive less – only other residences will have increases to offset reassessments. Administrator Gill responded to the debt reduction plan with continuation of working on debt reduction and the City was looking for COVID funding while constantly reviewing the budget.

Mr. Robb Perry addressed the Council virtually with the Police Department processing nuisance calls and a plan for removing dilapidated houses. Commissioner Owen responded by reducing the debt, the City was not hiring people to process nuisances, and the law determines when houses can be removed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Cox seconded by Commissioner Graven moved to approve Council Decision Request 2020-2061, approving the fee proposal in the amount of \$112,360.00 from Clark-Dietz to complete a Nutrient Removal Study for the Waste Water Treatment Plant; and authorizing the mayor to sign the Professional Services Agreement.

Mayor Gover opened the floor for questions/comments/discussion. Director Barber explained the need for the study to assess the cost in decreasing nitrogen.

Mayor Gover declared the motion carried by the following vote: YEA Commissioner Cox, YEA Commissioner Graven, YEA Commissioner Hall, YEA Commissioner Owen, YEA Mayor Gover.

Commissioner Graven seconded by Commissioner Owen moved to approve Council Decision Request 2020-2062, approving the plans and specifications for the DeWitt Avenue Patching project.

Mayor Gover opened the floor for questions/comments/discussion with no response.

Mayor Gover declared the motion carried by the following vote: YEA Commissioner Cox, YEA Commissioner Graven, YEA Commissioner Hall, YEA Commissioner Owen, YEA Mayor Gover.

Commissioner Graven seconded by Commissioner Cox moved to approve Council Decision Request 2020-2063, awarding the bids for the 2020 Oil & Chip Program [20-00000-00-GM] to:

Earl Walker Co. for Furnish & Spread Oil (Bituminous) Material	@ \$2.80/gallon;
Earl Walker Co. for Spread Aggregate (CA-16)	@ \$15.00/ton;
Charles Heuerman Trucking for Furnish Aggregate (CA-16 Crushed Stone)	@ \$21.25/ton.

Mayor Gover opened the floor for questions/comments/discussion with no response.

Mayor Gover declared the motion carried by the following vote: YEA Commissioner Cox, YEA Commissioner Graven, YEA Commissioner Hall, YEA Commissioner Owen, YEA Mayor Gover.

Commissioner Hall seconded by Commissioner Owen moved to approve Council Decision Request 2020-2064, approving a \$2,000 grant by the Tourism Advisory Committee from FY20/21 hotel/motel tax funds in support of the Mattoon YMCA's Last Chance Tri 2020 event to be held on October 04, 2020; and authorizing the mayor to sign the agreement.

Mayor Gover opened the floor for questions/comments/discussion. Commissioner Graven inquired as to the approved grants and cancellations with Director Burgett stating either the grantees didn't pick up the checks or the checks were returned.

Mayor Gover declared the motion carried by the following vote: YEA Commissioner Cox, YEA Commissioner Graven, YEA Commissioner Hall, YEA Commissioner Owen, YEA Mayor Gover.

Commissioner Graven seconded by Commissioner Cox moved to approve Council Decision Request 2020-2065, waiving the formal bidding requirement and accepting the price quote in the amount of \$38,777 from Pals Electric to convert the existing street lighting at Coles Centre Subdivision to LED lights.

Mayor Gover opened the floor for an inquiry from Mr. Dustin Hay, virtual attendance. Mr. Hay inquired as to the contractor, waiving of bids and not hiring local electricians; and requested Council to vote against the motion. Director Barber, Administrator Gill and Commissioner Owen explained the issue with the upgrading of lights to LED and electrical cost savings, the bidding process and the \$31,000 material costs for retrofitting.

Mayor Gover declared the motion carried by the following vote: YEA Commissioner Cox, YEA Commissioner Graven, YEA Commissioner Hall, YEA Commissioner Owen, YEA Mayor Gover.

Mayor Gover seconded by Commissioner Hall moved to adopt Resolution No. 2020-3100, approving the continuance of a Local State of Emergency due to the virus (Coronavirus COVID-19).

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**CITY OF MATTOON, ILLINOIS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-3100**

**DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY**

State of Illinois  
County of Coles  
City of Mattoon

Pursuant to the authority vested in the office of Mayor by the Illinois Municipal Code Section 5/11-1-6, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act Section 3305/11 and Ordinance No. 2020-5430 of the City of Mattoon, I, Timothy D. Gover, the Mayor of the City of Mattoon do hereby declare that a Local State of Emergency exists as of this date, August 18, 2020, and shall continue until such time as provided in Ordinance No. 2020-5430.

**WHEREAS**, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the outbreak of COVID-19 to be a public health emergency of international concern and on March 11, 2020 declared a worldwide pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 31, 2020, the U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary declared a public health emergency for the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor of the State of Illinois has issued a disaster proclamation on March 9, 2020 due to the impact of the COVID-19 virus and has activated the State Emergency Operations Center; and

**WHEREAS**, the State Emergency Management Agency has declared a public health emergency due to the impact of the COVID-19 virus; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Administration has coordinated its response with other Coles County governmental entities.

The nature of the emergency is related to the COVID-19 virus which is causing or anticipated to cause widespread impacts on the health of members of the community.

During the existence of the Local State of Emergency, the Mayor shall execute such authority as provided under the Illinois Municipal Code, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act and Ordinance No. 2020-5430.

This Declaration of Local State of Emergency shall be filed with the City Clerk as soon as practicable.

I, Timothy D. Gover, whose name is signed to this instrument, being first duly sworn, signed and executed the instrument as the Declaration of Local State of Emergency, and that I signed willingly, and that I executed it as my free and voluntary act for the purposes therein expressed.

/s/ Timothy D. Gover

Timothy D. Gover, Mayor  
City of Mattoon, Coles County, Illinois

Mayor Gover opened the floor for questions/comments/discussion with no response.

Mayor Gover declared the motion carried by the following vote: YEA Commissioner Cox, YEA Commissioner Graven, YEA Commissioner Hall, YEA Commissioner Owen, YEA Mayor Gover.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

CITY ADMINISTRATOR/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT noted very busy time with COVID19 grants, three union negotiations, personnel issues, complaints, and TIF District applications. Mayor Gover opened the floor for questions with no response.

CITY ATTORNEY noted business as usual and dealing with the nuisance properties and court hearings for Mr. Drum in September and Mr. Quakenbush in August. Mayor Gover opened the floor for questions with no response.

CITY CLERK noted work with the audits; otherwise, business as usual. Mayor Gover opened the floor for questions with no response.

FINANCE distributed and reviewed the July monthly Financial Report noting a deficit between revenues and expenditures of \$189,438.81 compared to last year, cash position of \$18.6 million and unrestricted cash of \$4.9 million; and noted working with the auditors who should wrap up fieldwork in a week or two. Mayor Gover opened the floor for questions with no response.

PUBLIC WORKS updated Council on the Otto Baum contractors pouring pavement next week, Kinney Construction on Marshall Avenue, Bartels Construction on Champaign sidewalks, and Curry Construction on the Treatment Plants. Mayor Gover opened the floor for questions with no response.

FIRE announced the new radios arriving next Tuesday; updated Council on waiting on Mitchell-Jerdan number of calls for July from Mr. Harris, union contract, service calls, walkthroughs and pre-plans, and fire inspections. Mayor Gover opened the floor for questions with no response.

POLICE stated 1100 calls in the last two weeks, an upcoming key retirement of Debbie Prater with three more likely retirements in the next nine months. Mayor Gover opened the floor for questions with no response.

ARTS AND TOURISM noted the preparation for Lightworks and Arts for next year with a possible online virtual exhibit format. Mayor Gover opened the floor for questions with no response.

**COMMENTS BY THE COUNCIL**

Commissioners Cox, Graven, Hall and Owen had no further comments.

Mayor Gover seconded by Commissioner Owen moved to recess to closed session at 7:24 p.m. pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act for the purpose of the discussion of collective negotiating

matters between the City of Mattoon and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees (5ILCS 120 (2)(C)(2)); and litigation which is affecting the City and an action is probable or imminent (5ILCS 120 (2)(C)(11)).

Mayor Gover declared the motion carried by the following vote: YEA Commissioner Cox, YEA Commissioner Graven, YEA Commissioner Hall, YEA Commissioner Owen, YEA Mayor Gover.

Council reconvened at 8:31 p.m.

Commissioner Hall seconded by Commissioner Graven moved to adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Mayor Gover declared the motion carried by the following vote: YEA Commissioner Cox, YEA Commissioner Graven, YEA Commissioner Hall, NAY Commissioner Owen, YEA Mayor Gover.

/s/Susan J. O'Brien  
City Clerk