

The City Council of the City of Mattoon held a Regular City Council meeting in the Council Chambers of City Hall on March 7, 2023. Mayor Hall presided and called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Hall led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following members of the Council answered roll call physically present in person: YEA Commissioner Jim Closson, YEA Commissioner Sandra Graven, YEA Commissioner Dave Phipps and YEA Mayor Rick Hall. Commissioner Dave Cox was absent.

Also physically present were City personnel: City Administrator Kyle Gill, City Attorney Daniel C. Jones, Finance Director/Treasurer Beth Wright, Public Works Director Dean Barber, Arts & Tourism Director Angelia Burgett, Community Development/Planning Manager Alex Benishek, Fire Chief Jeff Hillgoss, Police Chief Sam Gaines and City Clerk Susan O'Brien.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Hall seconded by Commissioner Graven moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of Regular Meeting minutes of February 21, 2023; bills and payroll for the last half of February 2023; Resolution No. 2023-3238; and approving the continuation of a Local State of Emergency due to the Coronavirus (COVID – 19).

Bills and payroll for the last half of February, 2023

	<u>General Fund</u>		
Payroll		\$	266,496.39
Bills		\$	<u>144,339.12</u>
	Total	\$	410,835.51
	<u>Hotel Tax Administration</u>		
Payroll		\$	4,916.21
Bills		\$	<u>123.62</u>
	Total	\$	5,039.83
	<u>Insurance & Tort Jdgmnt</u>		
Bills		\$	<u>428,385.51</u>
	Total	\$	428,385.51
	<u>Water Fund</u>		
Payroll		\$	45,106.11
Bills		\$	<u>43,773.12</u>
	Total	\$	88,879.23
	<u>Sewer Fund</u>		
Payroll		\$	42,931.40
Bills		\$	<u>388,360.10</u>
	Total	\$	431,291.50
	<u>Health Insurance Fund</u>		
Bills		\$	<u>240,950.26</u>

	Total	\$	240,950.26
	<u>Motor Fuel Tax Fund</u>		
Bills		\$	9,470.70
	Total	\$	<u>9,470.70</u>

CITY OF MATTOON, ILLINOIS

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-3238

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, Rick Hall, Mayor of the City of Mattoon do hereby declare that a Local State of Emergency exists as of this date, March 7, 2023, 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, Rick Hall, 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/Rick Hall
Rick Hall, Mayor
City of Mattoon, Coles County, Illinois

Mayor Hall declared the motion carried by the following omnibus vote: YEA Commissioner Closson, ABSENT Commissioner Cox, YEA Commissioner Graven, YEA Commissioner Phipps, YEA Mayor Hall.

PRESENTATIONS, PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

This portion of the City Council meeting is reserved for persons who desire to address the Council. The Illinois Open Meetings Act mandates that the City Council may NOT take action on comments received on matters that have not been identified on this agenda, but the Council may direct staff to address the topic or refer the matter for action on the agenda for another meeting. Persons addressing the Council are requested to limit their presentations to three minutes and to avoid repetitious comments. We would also ask you to state your name and address for the record as well as stand when speaking.

Mayor Hall opened the floor for Public comments from those in person and online with no response.

Presentation: Sol Systems Solar Panel Proposal for the WWTP
Ms. Jill Rathke, Senior Manager, of Sol Systems presented an indicative proposal for solar development at the Waste Water Treatment Plant including Sol Systems' background, no upfront cost from the City due to financing, other entities served by Sol Systems, Urbana Champaign Sanitary District example, indicative fixed PPA rate over a 30-year term within a PPA contract which would be finalized when presenting the PPA contract to Council, comparison between Ameren and Sol System's potential rates, the Adjustable Block Program's pricing, an Ameren's study to charge for interconnect upgrades, and timing of the proposal with operations for 2024. Director Barber, WWTP Superintendent Ethan Ervin, Administrator Gill and Council discussed with Ms. Rathke the location of the solar panels possibly inhibiting plant expansion, preliminary concept presented and IMEA's pricing. With no further questions Council thanked Ms. Rathke for the presentation.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Hall seconded by Commissioner Closson moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2023-5461: Adopting the amendments to Chapter 114: Liquor Control, Section 114.22 (F), of the Mattoon Code of Ordinances to update T-1 and T-2 licenses and to establish Festival Districts.

CITY OF MATTOON, ILLINOIS

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-5461

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 114 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE

REGARDING LIQUOR CONTROL

WHEREAS, Chapter 114 of the Municipal Code of the City of Mattoon, Coles County, Illinois, provides for the licensing and control of the sale of alcoholic liquor within the City limits; and

WHEREAS, City ordinances are reviewed and from time to time and changes recommended when staff and/or City Council believe the ordinance is in need of updating; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to modify certain provisions of the liquor control code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Mattoon as follows:

Section 1. Recitals. The facts and statements contained in the preamble to this Ordinance are found to be true and correct and are hereby adopted as part of this Ordinance.

Section 2. Liquor Control. Chapter 114 Classification of Licenses, Section 114.22 (F)(1) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Mattoon is hereby amended as follows:

(F)(1) Class T-1 special event license may be issued to an educational, civic, service, charitable or other not-for-profit organizations. The provision that alcoholic liquor may not be consumed on public property shall not apply to such premises designated in the area specifically designated for the Class T-1 license; provided, however, that no alcoholic beverage may be sold or consumed in an area within ten feet of any public street open to vehicular traffic unless in a location currently designated as a Festival District. A licensee holding an event on public property shall provide a certificate of general liability insurance with combined single limits of not less than \$1,000,000 along with the required certificate of dram shop insurance. Each such certificate of insurance shall show the City as an additional insured. The time and days of operation shall be specifically requested in the application and shall be specifically provided for in the T-1 license and the licensee shall not sell alcoholic beverages at any other times except for those provided and allowed in the T-1 license.

Section 3. Liquor Control. Chapter 114 Classification of Licenses, Section 114.22 (F)(2) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Mattoon is hereby amended as follows:

(F) (2) A Class T-2 license may be issued for special events to licensees holding other classifications of licenses for premises which the licensee otherwise owns or has a right to use and which is contiguous to and which extends no further than 100 feet from the business premises for which the licensee holds an existing license. The provision that alcoholic liquor may not be consumed on public property shall not apply to such premises designated in the area specifically designated for the Class T-2 license; provided, however, that no alcoholic beverage may be sold or consumed in an area within ten feet of any public street open to vehicular traffic unless in a location currently designated as a Festival District. A licensee holding an event on public property shall provide a certificate of general liability insurance with combined single limits of not less than \$1,000,000 along with the required certificate of dram shop insurance. Each such certificate of insurance shall show the city as an additional insured. The license fee for a Class T-2 license shall be in the amount of \$100 for each 24-hour period or fraction thereof.

Section 4. Liquor Control. Chapter 114 Classification of Licenses, Section 114.22 (F)(5) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Mattoon is hereby amended as follows:

(F)(5) No applicant or licensee shall be issued more than six (6) ~~three~~ Class T-1 or six (6) ~~three~~ Class T-2 licenses in any one calendar year.

Section 5. Liquor Control. Chapter 114 Classification of Licenses, Section 114.22 (F)(8) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Mattoon is hereby amended with the addition as follows:

(F)(8) Festival Districts as follows:

a) The Liquor Commissioner, by special order, may designate a particular geographic area as a Festival District for a period of time not to exceed three (3) consecutive days, with an alcoholic beverage consumption period of time determined by the Liquor Commissioner. The Liquor Commissioner may declare an end to a Festival District at any time.

(b) During such time that a geographic area is designated as a Festival District, open containers of alcohol may be carried out of a licensed premises and possessed or consumed on the public way within that designated area, so long as the individual is of legal age to possess and consume alcohol and the individual is in compliance with all rules and regulations related to the Festival District that are promulgated by the Liquor Commissioner, including but not limited to wearing any required wristbands, displaying any required credentials, or utilizing any required beverage containers required within the Festival District.

(c) A Festival District location shall be presented to the Liquor Commissioner officially in writing at least 30 days before the formal start date in order for vendors to have adequate time to submit applications. Variations to this ordinance may be considered by the Liquor Commissioner on a case-by-case basis.

(d) In order to participate in the festival district, any vendors possessing a valid license for onsite consumption that wish to operate within the designated Festival District area shall submit an application to the Liquor Commissioner in the form designated by the Liquor Commissioner, pay any associated fee or fees as designated by rule by the Liquor Commissioner, and at all times comply with any rules and regulations promulgated by the Liquor Commissioner. All alcohol purchased must be dispensed by a server aged 21 or older.

(e) The Liquor Commissioner shall provide a clearly drawn map of the area designated as a Festival District to be publicly displayed in a digital format at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the enactment of the Festival District. No open containers of alcohol purchased within a Festival District shall be allowed outside of the boundaries of said district.

(i) Visible physical signage shall be posted at all Festival District boundaries for attendees.

(ii) Festival District maps shall be given to all businesses selling alcohol within the Festival District.

(iii) Festival District maps shall be displayed physically at all businesses selling alcohol within the Festival District for the entirety of its duration.

(1) Businesses selling alcohol that do not display this map to customers shall be considered in violation of this section.

(f) The Liquor Commissioner may promulgate fees, rules, and regulations implementing this section.

(g) Alcoholic beverages for consumption in the Festival District must be contained in plastic or paper cups only. Possession of an open alcoholic beverage in a container other than a plastic or paper cup from a participating licensee within a Festival District shall be subject to penalty as per § 114.99 PENALTY.

Section 6. Liquor Control. Chapter 114 Classification of Licenses, Section 114.40.2 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Mattoon is hereby amended with the addition as follows:

§ 114.40.2 PRODUCT SAMPLING.

(A) A Class B-1 or D-2 liquor licensee may hold a product sampling event at its licensed retail location once per month. For the purpose of this section a *PRODUCT SAMPLING EVENT* is defined as an event encompassing no more than eight continuous hours at which wine, beer or spirits is dispensed to consumers. Up to three samples, consisting of no more than:

(1) One-quarter ounce of distilled spirits;

(2) One ounce of wine; or

(3) Two ounces of beer may be served to one consumer at any event for which the license holder makes no charge and receives no monetary consideration.

(B) The license holder must comply with the then current policy of the Illinois Liquor Control Commission, and the Mayor must be notified by the license holder, in writing, five days in advance of the product sampling event, of the time, date and location of the event.

(C) The product sampling event will take place within the licensed premises as specified in the original license application. The product sampling event will not conflict with or otherwise violate this or any other ordinance of the city.

(D) A Class B-1 liquor licensee that has constructed a sampling area, with the express written consent of the Liquor Commissioner, may be granted Continuous Product Sampling Status during their regular operating hours.

1) For the purpose of this section a *SAMPLING AREA* shall be defined as: a location on the premises of a business possessing a Class B-1 liquor license that is designated entirely for tasting events, with an area of at least 100 sqft, and also contains seating.

2) Continuous Product Sampling Status shall follow regular product sampling ordinance outlined within this section with the following exception(s)

(a) Continuous Product Sampling Status licensees may hold product sampling events in perpetuity during the regular operating hours of their business, during times when products of such a nature are able to be purchased pursuant to § 114.53 HOURS..

3) Continuous Product Sampling Status shall not be granted to B1 liquor licensees that operate drive-through services.

4) The Liquor Commissioner may revoke Continuous Product Sampling Status from any licensee at any time when the granting of such a status is deemed detrimental to public health and safety.

Section 7. Severability. If any provision of this Ordinance, or the application of any provision of this Ordinance, is held unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, such occurrence shall not affect other provisions of this Ordinance, or their application, that can be given effect without the unconstitutional or invalid provision of its application. Each unconstitutional or invalid provision or application of such provision, is severable.

Section 8. This ordinance shall be effective upon its publication and approval as provided by law. The Clerk is hereby directed to publish this Ordinance in pamphlet form.

Upon motion by Mayor Hall, seconded by Commissioner Closson, adopted this 7th day of March, 2023, by a roll call vote, as follows:

AYES (Names): Commissioner Closson, Commissioner Graven,
Commissioner Phipps, Mayor Hall
NAYS (Names): None
ABSENT (Names): Commissioner Cox

Approved this 7th day of March, 2023.

/s/Rick Hall
Rick Hall, Mayor
City of Mattoon, Coles County, Illinois

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/Susan J. O'Brien
Susan J. O'Brien, City Clerk

/s/Dan C. Jones
Dan C. Jones, City Attorney

Recorded in the Municipality's Records on 03-07, 2023.

Mayor Hall opened the floor for discussion. Mayor Hall noted a modification of the motion, the amendments were generated jointly by Director Burgett and Manager Benishek, and objective to attract more interest at festivals in a progressive fashion. Administrator Gill explained the change of temporary liquor licenses by adding a designated area. Commissioner Closson questioned the change from three special uses to six permits with Administrator Gill providing an example and Director Burgett adding the increase for fundraising events. Administrator Gill reviewed the additional amendment to the ordinance by explaining the tasting portion to allow for more sampling. Mayor Hall noted Nieman Foods' remodeling and request for additional sampling. Commissioner Graven questioned the sampling only during normal liquor hours with Manager Benishek and Administrator Gill confirming only during hours of liquor sales, so no sales Sunday mornings or after hours. Commissioner Closson questioned the use at Bagelfest with Director Burgett noting the new Bagel Bites' festival district for music and socializing during concerts – a more elegant way with boundaries. Chief Gaines noted problems arise during certain venues – not the alcohol. Commissioner Graven expressed a concern of alcohol outside of the designated area with Mayor Hall stating the events would have to provide security. Director Burgett noted the district was modeled after Champaign. Commissioner Closson questioned security at Bagel Bites with Director Burgett stating the Police Department would cover the City events. Chief Gaines stated the Police Department would offer overtime for officers working the festivals. Manager Benishek noted the

Liquor Commissioner had the authority to end any District at any time. Chief Gaines inquired if the security was addressed in the ordinance with Administrator Gill citing not in the ordinance, but the Liquor Commissioner regulates. Mayor Hall explained the application process and discussion with Police Department of each application.

Mayor Hall seconded by Commissioner Graven moved to amend the motion to adopt Chapter 114.40.2 Section D to allow the Class B-1 liquor licensee to construct a sampling area for continuous product sampling regulation.

Mayor Hall declared the motion to amend carried by the following vote: YEA Commissioner Closson, ABSENT Commissioner Cox, YEA Commissioner Graven, YEA Commissioner Phipps, YEA Mayor Hall.

Mayor Hall declared the amended motion carried by the following vote: YEA Commissioner Closson, ABSENT Commissioner Cox, YEA Commissioner Graven, YEA Commissioner Phipps, YEA Mayor Hall.

Commissioner Closson seconded by Commissioner Phipps moved to adopt Special Ordinance No. 2023-1851, authorizing the purchase of a permanent storm water easement in the amount of \$22,725 and a temporary construction easement in the amount of \$1,000 from Gorten and Crissie Taylor for the Little Wabash Piping Project – Phase 1.

CITY OF MATTOON, ILLINOIS

SPECIAL ORDINANCE NO. 2023-1851

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A PERMANENT EASEMENT
AND A TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT FOR
THE PHASE 1 PIPING FOR THE LITTLE WABASH DRAINAGE PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the City of Mattoon is in the planning phase of a storm water management project on the west side of the community known as the Little Wabash Drainage Project; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mattoon is in need of a 25' wide, 1.5 acres, permanent easement, and a 50' wide temporary construction easement, from a farm field owned by the Gorten W. Taylor and Crissie B. Taylor Charitable Trust managed by First Mid Wealth Management Company, PIN 07-1-00815-000, for the construction of a 60" diameter storm sewer; and

WHEREAS, the Trustees for said Trust have agreed to sell the 25' wide, 1.5 acres, permanent easement to the City of Mattoon for the appraised value of \$22,725.00; and

WHEREAS, the Trustees for said Trust have agreed to sell the 50' wide temporary construction easement to the City of Mattoon for the lump sum price of \$1,000.00; and

WHEREAS, a location map of the property is attached as Exhibit 'X', the proposed easement is attached as Exhibit 'Y', and the survey plat is attached as Exhibit 'Z'.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MATTOON, COLES COUNTY, ILLINOIS, that

Section 1. The facts and statements contained in the preamble to this Ordinance are found to be true and correct and are hereby adopted as part of this Ordinance.

Section 2. The purchase of the 25' wide, 1.5 acres, permanent easement from the Gorten W. Taylor and Crissie B. Taylor Charitable Trust managed by First Mid Wealth Management Company, as described in Exhibit 'Y', is approved at the appraised value of \$22,725.00, and that the Mayor and the City Clerk are authorized to execute the document.

Section 3. The purchase of the 50' wide temporary construction easement from the Gorten W. Taylor and Crissie B. Taylor Charitable Trust managed by First Mid Wealth Management Company, as described in Exhibit 'Y', is approved at the Lump Sum price of \$1,000.00, and that the Mayor and the City Clerk are authorized to execute the document.

Section 4. This ordinance shall be deemed published as of the day of its adoption and approval by the City Council.

Section 5. This ordinance shall be effective upon its approval as provided by law.

Upon motion by Commissioner Closson, seconded by Commissioner Phipps, adopted this 7th day of March, 2023, by a roll call vote, as follows:

AYES (Names): Commissioner Closson, Commissioner Graven,
Commissioner Phipps, Mayor Hall
NAYS (Names): None
ABSENT (Names): Commissioner Cox

Approved this 7th day of March, 2023.

/s/Rick Hall
Rick Hall, Mayor
City of Mattoon, Coles County, Illinois

ATTEST: APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/Susan J. O'Brien
Susan J. O'Brien, City Clerk

/s/Daniel C. Jones
Daniel C. Jones, City Attorney

Recorded in the Municipality's Records on 03-07, 2023.

Mayor Hall opened the floor for questions/comments. Director Barber stated both ordinances were for easements on farm fields managed by First Mid which were for the Piping Project Phase 1; and the next motion was for a waterway to Route 16.

Mayor Hall declared the motion carried by the following vote: YEA Commissioner Closson, ABSENT Commissioner Cox, YEA Commissioner Graven, YEA Commissioner Phipps, YEA Mayor Hall.

Commissioner Closson seconded by Commissioner Phipps moved to adopt Special Ordinance 2023-1852, authorizing the purchase of a permanent grass waterway easement in the amount of \$53,025 from Gorten and Crissie Taylor for the Little Wabash Piping Project-Phase 1.

CITY OF MATTOON, ILLINOIS

SPECIAL ORDINANCE NO. 2023-1852

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A PERMANENT EASEMENT FOR THE PHASE 1 GRASS WATERWAY FOR THE LITTLE WABASH DRAINAGE PROJECT

WHEREAS, the City of Mattoon is in the planning phase of a storm water management project on the west side of the community known as the Little Wabash Drainage Project; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mattoon is in need of a 50' wide, 3.5 acres, permanent easement, from a farm field owned by the Gorten W. Taylor and Crissie B. Taylor Charitable Trust managed by First Mid Wealth Management Company, PIN 07-1-00815-000, for the construction of a grass waterway; and

WHEREAS, the Trustees for said Trust have agreed to sell the 50' wide, 3.5 acres, permanent easement to the City of Mattoon for the appraised value of \$53,025.00; and

WHEREAS, a location map of the property is attached as Exhibit 'X', the proposed easement is attached as Exhibit 'Y', and the survey plat is attached as Exhibit 'Z'.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MATTOON, COLES COUNTY, ILLINOIS, that

Section 1. The facts and statements contained in the preamble to this Ordinance are found to be true and correct and are hereby adopted as part of this Ordinance.

Section 2. The purchase of the 50' wide, 3.5 acres, permanent easement from the Gorten W. Taylor and Crissie B. Taylor Charitable Trust managed by First Mid Wealth Management Company as described in, Exhibit 'Y', is approved at the appraised value of \$53,025.00, and that the Mayor and the City Clerk are authorized to execute the document.

Section 3. This ordinance shall be deemed published as of the day of its adoption and approval by the City Council.

Section 4. This ordinance shall be effective upon its approval as provided by law.

Upon motion by Commissioner Closson, seconded by Commissioner Phipps, adopted this 7th day of March, 2023, by a roll call vote, as follows:

AYES (Names): Commissioner Closson, Commissioner Graven,
Commissioner Phipps, Mayor Hall
NAYS (Names): None
ABSENT (Names): Commissioner Cox

Approved this 7th day of March, 2023.

/s/Rick Hall
Rick Hall, Mayor
City of Mattoon, Coles County, Illinois

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/Susan J. O'Brien
Susan J. O'Brien, City Clerk

/s/Daniel C. Jones
Daniel C. Jones, City Attorney

Recorded in the Municipality's Records on 03-07, 2023.

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

Mayor Hall declared the motion carried by the following vote: YEA Commissioner Closson, ABSENT Commissioner Cox, YEA Commissioner Graven, YEA Commissioner Phipps, YEA Mayor Hall.

Commissioner Graven seconded by Commissioner Closson moved to approve Council Decision Request 2023-2330, approving the water and sewer billing adjustment in the amount of \$3,751.32 on behalf of Mae Chen located at 1512 Richmond Avenue.

Mayor Hall opened the floor for comments. Treasurer and Director Wright noted the leak was due to the Christmas freeze and the original billing was more than \$7,500.

Mayor Hall declared the motion carried by the following vote: YEA Commissioner Closson, ABSENT Commissioner Cox, YEA Commissioner Graven, YEA Commissioner Phipps, YEA Mayor Hall.

Mayor Hall seconded by Commissioner Graven moved to approve Council Decision Request 2023-2331, authorizing the purchase of two 2023 Ford Explorer Police Interceptor Utility AWD vehicles in the amount of \$40,455 each from Morrow

Mayor Hall opened the floor for comments. Administrator Gill noted the purchase was originally scheduled for next year's budget, but the decision to accelerate the purchases of two of the squad cars this fiscal year was made with one squad and one truck for FY24. Chief Gaines noted the two vehicles to be replaced had more than 90,000 miles on them, and that Pilson did not have an order in, which was the reason for going with Morrow Brothers.

Mayor Hall declared the motion carried by the following vote: YEA Commissioner Closson, ABSENT Commissioner Cox, YEA Commissioner Graven, YEA Commissioner Phipps, YEA Mayor Hall.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

CITY ADMINISTRATOR noted work on budgets, sports complex and Department Heads' projects. Mayor Hall opened the floor for questions with no response.

CITY ATTORNEY notified Council on Robb Perry's filing of a motion to reconsider the Liquor Commission's position with the Liquor Commission, after the Liquor Commission ruled in the City's favor and would update Council of the Liquor Commission's decision. Mayor Hall opened the floor for questions with no response.

CITY CLERK noted preparation for the new insurance rates and open enrollment for the cafeteria plans and 457s. Mayor Hall opened the floor for questions with no response.

FINANCE noted work on the budget and meetings with Administrator Gill on revisions; and distributed and reviewed the Revenue Tracking Report and unrestricted cash in the General Fund. Mayor Hall opened the floor for questions with no response.

PUBLIC WORKS elaborated on the solar presentation where a formal consideration for the Council would be prepared reflecting accurate savings, Sol Systems build and maintain the product at face value, a 4.5% rate, and compared the other rates and the increases experienced. Mayor Hall opened the floor for questions with no response.

FIRE reported on calls for service, inspections and follow-ups, a structure fire at 3117 Commercial, training, firefighter at the Academy; and thanked Public Works crews for repairing the bay floor in the Fire Department. Mayor Hall opened the floor for questions with no response.

POLICE announced the new reporting software, Tyler Tech Suite, was up and running in dispatch and would have a report after training. Mayor Hall opened the floor for questions with no response.

ARTS AND TOURISM announced confirmation of Bagelfest and Bagel Bites entertainers, Mattoon Arts Council's quilting events and Artworks. Mayor Hall opened the floor for questions with no response.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT noted his attendance and presentation at the 34th Annual Rural Community Conference, Mattoon in Motion's meeting with the Land Bank Authority to instill partial home rule authority with our vacant homes, review of pocket park plans next to Luigis, and zoning requests. Manager Benishek inquired if the Council was supportive in revising the liquor ordinance to attract brewery pubs to town. Mayor Hall stated fairly significant changes which Council needed an outline of key items Manager Benishek would be researching. Commissioner Graven noted previous groups interested in breweries. Administrator Gill added all wanted gaming as well. Commissioner Closson inquired as to the home rule authority with Manager Benishek explained the possibility of Champaign or Decatur imposing their home rule authority within our area. Administrator Gill noted instead of waiting two years to take possession, the Land Bank could seek authority. Mayor Hall opened the floor for further questions with no response.

COMMENTS BY THE COUNCIL

Council had no further comments.

BUDGET DISCUSSION

Administrator Gill opened discussion on the FY24 Budget and presented the preliminary budget after receiving comments from some and work with Treasurer & Director Wright. Administrator Gill

stated there was a \$142,163 deficit, increases to expenditures and revenues, accelerated expenditures and budget cuts which resulted in a positive \$71,111. Administrator Gill announced a budget presentation at the next meeting with a final approval vote the second meeting in April. Commissioner Closson inquired as to ARPA funds with Administrator Gill stating ARPA funds needed to be appropriated by the end of 2024.

Commissioner Closson seconded by Commissioner Phipps moved to adjourn at 7:43 p.m.

Mayor Hall declared the motion carried by the following vote: YEA Commissioner Closson, ABSENT Commissioner Cox, YEA Commissioner Graven, YEA Commissioner Phipps, YEA Mayor Hall.

/s/Susan J. O'Brien
City Clerk