

**CITY OF BYRON
MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2021, 5:30 PM
BYRON CITY HALL**

Alderman Fulrath called the meeting to order at 5:34 pm.

1. ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Alderman Mike Gyorkos, Alderman Zeke Hobbie, Chairman
Alderman Mittzi Fulrath, Alderman Emily Gerdes

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Engineer Jason Stoll, Director Aaron Vincer

- 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – December 1, 2021 – Alderman Gerdes motioned to approve, as presented, the December 1, 2021, Community Services Committee meeting agenda. Seconded by Alderman Gyorkos. Roll call vote: Hobbie, AYE; Fulrath, AYE; Gerdes, AYE; Gyorkos, AYE. Motion passed: AYE, 4; NAY, 0; ABS, 0.**

- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT – None**

- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – NOVEMBER 3, 2021 –Alderman Gyorkos motioned to approve, as presented, the November 3, 2021, Community Services Committee meeting minutes. Seconded by Alderman Hobbie. Roll call vote: Fulrath, AYE; Gerdes, AYE; Gyorkos, AYE; Hobbie, AYE. Motion passed: AYE, 4; NAY, 0; ABS, 0.**

- 5. WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT –** Engineer Stoll reported that the facility plan has been submitted and has been logged in by the EPA.

- 6. WATER/SEWER RATE ORDINANCE –** Director Vincer explained that passing and implementing the rate ordinance will provide the funding to begin engineering work on the new sewer plant. The engineering proposal will be presented in February or March. Alderman Gerdes is in favor of the rate increase, but wants to make sure the ordinance states when the capital improvement fee drops off. The capital improvement fee is covered in its own ordinance (next item on the agenda). Director Vincer reminded the committee that this rate increase needs to cover operations and maintenance, debt service on the new sewer plant, and capital improvements. The rate structure will be reviewed annually, and adjustments will be made as necessary. A rate increase that was approved previously will take effect as of January 1. Alderman Fulrath wants to present the rate increase as a positive, as it will bring about a positive result. She feels that having talking points available will help everyone keep the message consistent. Alderman Gerdes would like to have that information available prior to recommending passage of the ordinance. Engineer Stoll added that EPA has been willing to work with us by allowing us to repair instead of replace structures in the sewer plant. Ideally, we do not want to have a new sewer plant mandated by the EPA because the rate structure will be set by them and it will not be a step increase. Director Vincer stressed the importance of keeping TEST on as our wastewater operator. It is less expensive than having a licensed operator on staff, and we also have the benefit of the knowledge of the entire TEST staff.

7. **ORDINANCE REGARDING WATER-SEWER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FEE –**
Discussed as part of the water/sewer rate ordinance agenda item #6.
8. **RUSH PROPERTY DEMOLITION –** The property has been demolished and pictures are included in Dropbox.
9. **ROUTE 2 RECONSTRUCTION –** Nothing new to report.
10. **MILL ROAD REC PATH –** Surveys and design work have begun, and Engineer Stoll reported that a plan should be ready by February or March.
11. **STREETS PLAN –** Director Vincer and Engineer Stoll presented a color-coded map of the city with an overview of all of the street projects being discussed. Streets color coded purple are streets where slurry needs to be poured over existing fabric. Blue streets have asphalt pavement, but do not have fabric. At some point, they will need both fabric and slurry. Black identifies truck routes (Barker, Walnut, Colfax, Mill) that will likely need a milling of the surface and repaving with new asphalt. Because of the heavy truck traffic, slurry may not hold up. Pink represents reconstruction projects (removal of curb, gutter and sidewalks, infrastructure work, etc). If the Park District decides to develop land by the river, Lincoln may need reconstruction. A bike path on Route 2 should also be discussed. Slurry lasts about five years, and they would like to have the streets that only need slurry on a five year rotation. We may need to wait several years to be able to afford a reconstruction project. Skip patch and stone will be used on older streets to level them. Director Vincer would like to begin with four blocks of 4th Street. He added that it will be difficult to estimate cost on these types of projects, since the amount of blacktop will vary and can't be determined prior to doing the project. Work on the streets plan, adding estimated costs, will continue. It may be ready for committee in January. Engineer Stoll added that this plan will be reviewed and updated annually.
12. **ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF SOLAR ENERGY –** The committee reviewed the proposed solar ordinance which spells out details of various solar applications. Alderman Hobbie asked to add information on who would be responsible for applying for the permits. After discussion, **Alderman Gerdes motioned to recommend council approval on the proposed solar energy ordinance. Motion seconded by Alderman Gyorkos. The committee does not wish to bypass first read. Roll call vote: Gerdes, AYE; Gyorkos, AYE; Hobbie, AYE; Fulrath, AYE. Motion passed: AYE, 4; NAY, 0; ABS, 0.**
13. **PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE –** Director Vincer will give his report at the City Council meeting.
14. **ADJOURN - Alderman Gerdes motioned to adjourn the Community Services Committee meeting. Seconded by Alderman Hobbie. Roll call vote Gyorkos, AYE; Hobbie, AYE; Fulrath, AYE; Gerdes, AYE. Motion passed: AYE, 4; NAY, 0; ABS, 0.** Alderman Fulrath adjourned the meeting at 6:26 pm. The next regular Community Services meeting is January 5, 2022.

Respectfully submitted, *Caryn A. Huber*, City Clerk of Byron, Illinois