

Council Questions/Comments and Staff Responses Report for January 28, 2013

as of January 27, 2013 at 9:59am

RECOGNITION/APPOINTMENTS

Alderman: Rob Fazzini

Question: How many years has William Wetzel served on the Library Board?

Staff Response: Mr. Wetzel was first appointed in 1972 (41 years of service to the Library Board).

Alderman: Jim Fruin

Comment: I appreciate the willingness of Peggy Burton, Catherine Pratt and William Wetzel to continue their dedicated service in the leadership of our Library services. The Library Board has a long standing record of stability and strength in guiding the accomplishments and success we enjoy today. Thank-you to those individuals and others on the Board for how well they work together on the Board for how well they work together in making the Bloomington Library a desired destination of our B/N area residents.

CONSENT AGENDA

Alderman: Rob Fazzini

Item: Consent Agenda

Comments: General Comment. It was good to see that all expenditures requested were in the budgets and that competitive bids were done as appropriate. This exhibits good planning and a solid knowledge of the status of our city equipment needs.

Alderman: Rob Fazzini

Item 6C: Request to Approve Purchase of one (1) Ford F150 for Planning and Code Enforcement Department's the Building Safety Division

Question: Please provide the cost of repairs on the vehicle being replaced for 2011 and 2012!

Staff Response: Cost for repairs in FY 2012 - \$1,435.08; Cost for repairs to date in FY 2013 - \$1,046.05.

Alderman: Rob Fazzini

Item 6D: Request to Approve Purchase of one (1) Ford F350 with Snow Plow for Public Works Department's Streets and Sewer

Question: Please provide the cost of repairs on the vehicle being replaced for 2011 and 2012!

Staff Response: Cost for repairs in FY 2012 - \$5,555.35; Cost for repairs to date in FY 2013 - \$5,270.74.

Alderman: Mboka Mwilambwe

Item 6E: Request to Approve Purchase of one (1) Fuel Master Fuel Management System for Public Work's Department's Fleet Management System

Question: Can we expect this system to last as long as the other and do we anticipate periodic upgrades maintenance and at what cost?

Staff Response: The current system should have been replaced several years ago. Staff has worked diligently to maintain the current system longer than it should have lasted. A system like this will have various software and maintenance upgrades over the course of the system life. As upgrades become available and are needed, these items will be budgeted. The system is anticipated to have a minimum life of 10 years, but staff will make efforts to extend the life of the system as long as it meets Fleet Management needs.

Council Questions/Comments and Staff Responses Report for January 28, 2013

as of January 27, 2013 at 9:59am

Alderman: Rob Fazzini

Item 6F: Request to Approve Purchase of one (1) Ford F250 with Snow Plow for Water Department's Lake Bloomington Maintenance Division

Question: Please provide the cost of repairs on the vehicles being replaced for 2011 and 2012!

Staff Response: Cost of repairs in FY 2012 - \$2,042.05; Cost of repairs to date in FY 2013 - \$2,805.30.

Alderman: Mboka Mwilambwe

Item 6G: Purchase of Protective Wear for Firefighters

Question: What makes Glove Manufacturing equipment so much more expensive than their competition?

Staff Response: Globe Manufacturing Co. is the gear manufacturer. MES Global and Time Emergency Equipment are distributors of the gear. They set their price based on the discount that Globe gives to distributors (bulk orders). The quote from Globe Manufacturing Co is for the exact same gear, just without any discounts.

Alderman: Rob Fazzini

Item 6J: Analysis of Bids for one (1) Ford F350 with Service Body and Front Mounted Valve Turner for Water Transmission and Distribution Division

Question: Please provide the cost of repairs on the vehicle being replaced for 2011 and 2012!

Staff Response: Cost for repairs in FY 2012 - \$3,686.54; Cost for repairs to date in FY 2013 - \$10,600.16.

Alderman: Mboka Mwilambwe

Item 6K: Request to Approve Lease of one (1) Mitsubishi I-MIEV for Public Works Department's Engineering Division

Comment: Great idea! We talked about moving in this direction last year and I appreciate the follow through. Hopefully, this proves beneficial and we can broaden this to other departments.

Alderman: Rob Fazzini

Item 6L: Government Center Operation and Maintenance Expenses in the amount of \$383,635 for Calendar Year (CY) 2013

Question: Why is the \$383,635 being paid from the 2014 budget rather than the 2013 budget?

Staff Response: McLean County's budget year is based on the calendar year from January 1st - December 31st; whereas the City has a fiscal year budget from May 1st - April 30th. CY2012 payments were made in June 2012 and September 2012. The payments being requested are for the County's CY2013 Budget and will be made in June 2013 and September 2013, therefore making it the City's FY2014.

Alderman: Mboka Mwilambwe

Item 6L: Government Center Operation and Maintenance Expenses in the amount of \$383,635 for Calendar Year (CY) 2013

Comment: Great example of how we can share resources between governments and make it convenient for the public.

Council Questions/Comments and Staff Responses Report for January 28, 2013

as of January 27, 2013 at 9:59am

Alderwoman: Jennifer McDade

Item 6O: Proposed Ordinance Amending Chapter 27, Section 36 of the City Code

Question: Other than the question to clarify the specific language changes in 6O (which I submitted to David Hales earlier as a result of an email I received), I have no additional questions at this time.

Staff Response: Staff would respond by first noting that the language in question is already part of the existing Water Emergency Ordinance approved by Council in July 2012. The amendments being proposed on January 28th are the change in critical months to June, July and August (non-critical months September through May), striking the word “Illinois” when referencing the City of Bloomington and adding a drought improvement or cessation.

As noted, the Ordinance was written as a Water Emergency Ordinance to respond not just to a drought-induced water emergency but any emergency that might affect the ability to provide potable water, in the quantities desired and with adequate pressure, for all the customers of the City of Bloomington Water Department.

Although the most widely reported issue with water supplies in the Midwest in 2012 was water shortages due to the drought, other emergencies can arise at any time. If water restrictions are necessary to respond to any emergency that might affect the ability to provide potable water in the quantities desired and with adequate pressure to all the City’s customers, this Ordinance was written broadly enough to capture all of those emergencies without enumerating every possibility. Additionally, identifying particular water emergencies might unduly highlight vulnerabilities in the water system that are better left unstated in this era of terrorism.

That being said, some water emergencies contemplated, but not enumerated, in the Ordinance are emergencies as the result of a catastrophic failure in the water distribution system (transmission line failures, earthquake damage, tornadoes, etc.), intentional or accidental contamination of the source water (reservoirs) or the distribution system, electrical interruptions at key pumping locations for extended periods, chemical shortages that would prohibit the safe treatment of water, pandemics, firestorms, floods or any other emergency whereby water conservation would be prudent to prevent depleting the water supply to the extent that water-use for human consumption, sanitation, fire protection and other essential needs become endangered.

Alderman: Rob Fazzini

Item 6P: Proposed Ordinance Amending City Code, Chapter 44, Zoning, Sections 44.3-2, 44.6-30, 44.4-4 and Table 44.6-30

Question: Is the \$250 annual fee for unlimited locations?

Staff Response: Yes, but there isn’t a realistic way to know ahead of time how many locations may be visited in a year. The annual fee allows for processing and complaint follow-up if needed.

Council Questions/Comments and Staff Responses Report for January 28, 2013

as of January 27, 2013 at 9:59am

REGULAR AGENDA

Alderman: Rob Fazzini

Item 7B: Presentation of Proposed General Resurfacing and Street and Alley Repair for CY2013

Comment: I support the exploring the option of having shoulder maintenance work on streets done by the County Highway Department because it has the specialized equipment and trained personal for this specialized task.

Alderman: Rob Fazzini

Item 7C: Wirtz Beverage Property Tax Abatement

Question: Is it fair to assume that this recommendation meets all the aspects in our recently approved Retail Incentive Policy?

Staff Response: The Wirtz Beverage project meets all applicable criteria as outlined in the Economic Development Incentive Guidelines adopted by the City Council on October 22, 2012. Given that the project is not retail-based, a request was submitted to and evaluated by the Economic Development Council of the Bloomington-Normal Area (EDC); the EDC conducted the necessary analysis and negotiated with Wirtz Beverage in accordance with the aforementioned guidelines. As such, the proposed abatement represents approximately 13% of the total project cost and the incentive will be provided from new incremental revenue sources. Additionally, performance measurements and claw back provisions are included in the Agreement as a means to ensure that the project is completed as proposed.

Prepared by: Barbara J. Adkins, Deputy City Manager