

Fairfield, Illinois  
Council Chambers, City Hall  
Regular Meeting, 6:00 P.M.  
Tuesday, July 12, 2022

Meeting called to order by Acting Mayor Gary Moore at 6:00 P.M.

Prayer led by Ken Otey followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

City Clerk Tina Hutchcraft called the roll:

Acting Mayor: Gary Moore  
City Clerk: Tina Hutchcraft  
City Attorney: Darrin Rice  
Aldermen: Dewey Eckleberry; Cody Attebery; Clifford Reeve; Tyler Lampley; Eugene McGill;  
Jerry Lisenbee; Terry Stahl

Also Present: Ken Otey, WFIW Radio; Tom Mathews, Wayne County Press; Andrew Miller, Fire Chief; Keith Colclasure, Police Chief; Libby Lingafelter; Claire Vaughan; Dian Downs; DiElle Rogers; Kayla Warren; Judy Read; Carol Dreith; Doug Dreith; Andrew Dreith; Alex Dreith; Collin Moseley; Terry Weedman; and other citizens from the community.

Senate Resolution in Honor of Mayor Mike Dreith – Collin Moseley, Aide to Senator Bailey read a resolution that will be passed by the Illinois State Senate honoring the life and service of Mayor Mike Dreith. The resolution will go on record of the General Assembly and copies will be given to the Dreith family.

The minutes of the meeting of June 28, 2022 and bills of July 12, 2022 were sent out to those entitled to receive them. Acting Mayor Moore asked for approval of the minutes for the June 28, 2022 meeting. Motion by Alderman Stahl, seconded by Alderman Lampley to approve the minutes of the meeting of June 28, 2022.

Vote yes: Stahl; Attebery; Eckleberry; Lampley; Lisenbee; McGill; Reeve

Vote no: none

Acting Mayor Moore declared motion carried.

Acting Mayor Moore asked if there were any corrections or objections to the bills for the July 12, 2022 meeting. Motion by Alderman Eckleberry, seconded by Alderman Lampley to approve the bills.

Vote yes: Attebery; Eckleberry; Lampley; Lisenbee; McGill; Reeve; Stahl

Vote no: none

Acting Mayor Moore declared motion carried.

Public Comments – Joseph Harrelson addressed the Council. He lives on George Street and he asked for the police to provide extra patrols in his neighborhood. He stated this area has a lot of drug activity and needs cleaned up and he has experienced damage done to his property.

Purchase of a Police Vehicle – This topic is being pulled from the agenda. We have been notified by the dealership that they are not accepting orders at this time and won't be able to until October.

Police Eligibility – Acting Mayor Moore told the Council that we had testing last Friday for the police eligibility list. Three candidates passed the written test but only one passed the physical test on Saturday. It is alarming that we are not able to get more people on our list in order to get the manpower needed to get our police department fully staffed. We already extended the residency requirements in hopes of getting more applicants and we offer a lateral transfer bonus of \$2,500. The Board of Fire & Police Commissioners are planning to test again in September.

Sunrise Sanitation Request – There is a clause in the contract that gives Sunrise the ability to ask for Council approval to raise their prices. Acting Mayor Moore spoke with the owner to see if she is willing to open the contract to discuss some things the City would like to see changed. That was met with some resistance and she wasn't willing to open the contract for anything other than the monthly fee. He asked if the Council approved the additional fee what would be the trigger to say it is time to relax that fee. She said she would be willing to talk about it but really didn't see that happening. Moore asked for discussion from the Council about this request. Alderman Lampley stated that if Sunrise isn't willing to open the contract for further discussion, he don't really see us agreeing to the price increase. He felt when the contract was first presented there were things that we were sold on that we never really received. Alderman Eckleberry said he had spoken with her last year asking for her to step up and begin picking up more trash but he has not seen many changes. Alderman Lisenbee stated that he was not in favor of an increase. Alderman McGill and Alderman Reeve feel the same and stated they feel she should be willing to open the contract for discussion. Acting Mayor Moore will inform her that the majority of the Council made a recommendation not to open the contract unless there were some concessions on the part of Sunrise. Moore did say that Sunrise has limitations on what they will and will not take and sometimes our residents continue to put out items that they should know will not be picked up. Our residents need to stop putting those items out and Moore asked them to call city hall if they have any questions about what items Sunrise will pick up.

Contractors Using Street & Bridge Facilities for Dumping – The City used to allow contractors to pay a yearly fee of \$250 and they were given a key to be able to dump at the Street & Bridge facility. Then in 2020 the Council voted to close the facility to contractors because the street department leadman said we were running out of room. We have learned that contractors are now being allowed to bring wood chips and small brush and limbs to the facility. Acting Mayor Moore asked the Council if they wanted to allow this or to keep the facility closed to contractors. He asked the committee to meet and bring back a recommendation to the Council.

Discussion Concerning Ordinance Updates – Acting Mayor Moore recently held a townhall meeting and several topics were discussed. One of the topics dealt with our trailer ordinance. Our current ordinance states that trailers older than 15 years cannot be brought into the city. Some people that have property for rent would like to see that ordinance changed to allow older trailers. The legislative committee recently met to discuss this. The Zoning Board will hold a meeting on August 25<sup>th</sup> to discuss this as well. The legislative committee discussed leaving the ordinance as written but possibly allow the Zoning Board to issue a special exemption for an

older trailer if it was to pass an inspection. We currently have a one-time inspection of trailers before they are allowed to be brought into the city but Acting Mayor Moore would like to see some kind of additional inspections such yearly or biyearly. Alderman Stahl suggested that rental homes should be inspected as well. All of this will be discussed at the zoning board meeting. Another topic that was discussed was whether or not the city council would be interested in allowing residents to have chickens in their yard. Our current ordinance prohibits chickens in the city. The city of Naperville has an ordinance that allows residents to have up to five chickens in their back yard but they do not allow roosters.

Financial Report – Acting Mayor Moore presented the Council with a financial report for the month of June with the revenues and expenses from each of the departments.

Miscellaneous – Alderman Lampley said the Recreation Committee has been meeting to discuss the upcoming eclipse in 2024. They are starting to make plans and will be asking for Council approval to use recreation funds to begin purchasing items and supplies for this event. Fairfield will be a prime location for this eclipse.

Adjourn Meeting – Motion by Alderman Eckleberry, seconded by Alderman Stahl to adjourn the meeting.

Vote yes: 7

Vote no: 0

Acting Mayor Moore declared meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

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Tina Hutchcraft, City Clerk

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Gary Moore, Acting Mayor