

Fairfield, Illinois
Council Chambers, City Hall
Regular Meeting, 6:00 P.M.
Tuesday, May 14, 2024

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

Prayer led by Doug Skaggs followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

City Clerk Tina Hutchcraft called the roll:

Mayor: Gary Moore
City Clerk: Tina Hutchcraft
City Attorney: Darrin Rice
Aldermen: Terry Stahl; Allen Marsh; Sheryl Eckleberry; Eugene McGill; Bruce McKibben;
Clifford Reeve; Dewey Eckleberry

Absent: Alderman Cody Attebery

Also Present: Mark Wells, WFIW Radio; Tom Mathews, Wayne County Press; Doug Skaggs;
Keith Colclasure, Police Chief; Ben Lewis, Assistant Police Chief; Andrew Miller, Fire Chief;
Tyler Lampley, Frontier College Foundation; and other citizens from the community.

The minutes of the meeting of April 23, 2024, and bills of May 14, 2024 were sent out to those entitled to receive them. Mayor Moore asked for approval of the minutes for the April 23 2024 meeting as well as minutes of the April 9, 2024 executive session. Motion by Alderman McGill, seconded by Alderman Marsh to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 23, 2024 and the executive session minutes of April 9, 2024.

Vote yes: 7

Vote no: 0

Absent: 1

Mayor Moore declared motion carried.

Mayor Moore asked if there were any corrections or objections to the bills for the May 14, 2024 meeting. Motion by Alderman Dewey Eckleberry, seconded by Alderman Stahl to approve the bills.

Vote yes: McGill; McKibben; Reeve; Stahl; Dewey Eckleberry; Sheryl Eckleberry; Marsh

Vote no: none

Absent: Attebery

Mayor Moore declared motion carried.

Fire Pension Board Appointment – Mayor Moore would like to appoint Andrew Miller to the Fire Pension Board for a three-year term expiring on the second Tuesday of May, 2027. Motion by Alderman Dewey Eckleberry, seconded by Alderman McGill to approve this appointment.

Vote yes: 7

Vote no: 0

Absent: 1

Mayor Moore declared motion carried and Resolution No. 24-0514-506 approved and adopted.

Fairfield Public Library Board Appointments – Mayor Moore would like to appoint Lea Ann Hungerford, Judy Griswold, and Bill Arthur as members to the Fairfield Public Library Board for a three-year term expiring on the second Tuesday of May, 2027. Motion by Alderman McGill, seconded by Alderman McKibben to approve these appointments.

Vote yes: 7

Vote no: 0

Absent: 1

Mayor Moore declared motion carried and Resolution No. 24-0514-507 approved and adopted.

Resolution Approving a Business District Redevelopment Agreement with Frontier Community College Foundation – Frontier College is planning to build a gymnasium for their campus. This would allow the volleyball team to be able to play their games there instead of having to use the Center Street School gym. The college would eventually like to add both men's and women's basketball. The total project cost is around \$4.9 million. The college foundation will be dedicating funds to this project. They have also met with the business district tax committee about a possible redevelopment agreement with the city to help with the project as well. The committee has met and they recommend Council approve an agreement with the Foundation in the amount of \$300,000 to help with this project. Mayor Moore stated this project would be very positive for the City of Fairfield. Alderman Sheryl Eckleberry asked about these funds coming out of the business tax money. Mayor Moore stated the only other option would be to fund this through TIF dollars but feels we could receive some resistance from the other taxing bodies for funding out of TIF. A motion was made by Alderman Reeve, seconded by Alderman Stahl to approve the Business District Redevelopment Agreement with the Frontier Community College Foundation in the total amount of 300,000.

Vote yes: McKibben; Reeve; Stahl; Dewey Eckleberry; Marsh

Vote no: Sheryl Eckleberry; McGill

Absent: Attebery

Mayor Moore declared motion carried and Resolution No. 24-0514-508 approved and adopted.

Financial Report – Mayor Moore presented the financial report for the month of April.

Miscellaneous – We have been experiencing some summer storms that have caused some power outages. Mayor Moore encouraged residents to download the SmartHub app with Wayne-White Electric. There is lots of information on this app and if you have an outage, you can look for updates about the power outages in the area. You can also pay your bill through the app.

Miscellaneous – Mayor Moore reported the resurfacing of Main & Delaware is almost complete and asked everyone to continue to be patient while the workers are finishing up the repairs.

Miscellaneous – Utilities are subject to shutoff if the bills are not paid by the 25th of the month. Mayor Moore encouraged customers to contact city hall before shutoff to possibly work out a payment plan. It is more difficult to make payment arrangements after shutoff has taken place.

Miscellaneous – A public meeting has been scheduled for July 8th for updates to the reservoir project. The meeting will take place at City Hall.

Miscellaneous – Alderman Dewey Eckleberry asked what has been done about recent dog bite issues that have occurred in the city. Chief Colclasure said citations have been issued to the dog owners. He said impoundment of the dogs would be up to the humane society.

Miscellaneous – Alderman Sheryl Eckleberry has received some complaints about dog owners allowing their animal to use the bathroom on other people's property. Mayor Moore explained that our ordinances state that owners or handlers of dogs or cats who are walking or exercising animals on a leash or restraint are responsible for the clean-up of any feces deposited by the animal on either private or public property, sidewalks, curbs, lawns or streets.

Miscellaneous – Alderman Sheryl Eckleberry said she has had people mention the railroad tracks on SW 6th Street are rough and need to be repaired. Mayor Moore told Alderman Eckleberry that those repairs are the responsibility of the railroad company. They are aware of the issues and have plans to make the repairs.

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

Vote yes: 7

Vote no: 0

Absent: 1

Mayor Moore declared meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Tina Hutchcraft, City Clerk

Gary Moore, Mayor