

Fairfield, Illinois  
Council Chambers, City Hall  
Regular Meeting, 6:00 P.M.  
Tuesday, June 25, 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: Allen Marsh; Sheryl Eckleberry; Eugene McGill; Bruce McKibben; Clifford Reever; Dewey Eckleberry; Cody Attebery

Absent: Alderman Terry Stahl

Also Present: Tom Mathews, Wayne County Press; Doug Skaggs; Keith Colclasure, Police Chief; Ben Lewis, Assistant Police Chief; Andrew Miller, Fire Chief; Dian Downs; and other citizens from the community.

The minutes of the meeting of June 11, 2024, and bills of June 25, 2024 were sent out to those entitled to receive them. Mayor Moore asked for approval of the minutes for the June 11, 2024 meeting. Motion by Alderman Sheryl Eckleberry, seconded by Alderman McKibben to approve the minutes of the meeting of June 11, 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 June 25, 2024 meeting. Motion by Alderman Dewey Eckleberry, seconded by Alderman Attebery to approve the bills.

Vote yes: Attebery; Dewey Eckleberry; Sheryl Eckleberry; Marsh; McGill; McKibben; Reever

Vote no: none

Absent: Stahl

Mayor Moore declared motion carried.

Resolution – Appointment to the Board of Fire & Police Commission – Mayor Moore would like to re-appoint Terry Weedman to this position. A motion was made by Alderman Dewey Eckleberry, seconded by Alderman McGill to approve the appointment of Terry Weedman to the Board of Fire & Police Commissioners. That term will run through May, 2027.

Vote yes: 7

Vote no: 0

Absent: 1

Mayor Moore declared motion carried and Resolution No. 24-0625-510 approved and adopted.

Resolution – Fire Pension Board Appointment – Mayor Moore would like to re-appoint Terry Weedman to this position. A motion was made by Alderman Reever, seconded by Alderman Dewey Eckleberry to approve the appointment of Terry Weedman to the Fire Pension Board. That term will run through May, 2026.

Vote yes: 7

Vote no: 0

Absent: 1

Mayor Moore declared motion carried and Resolution No. 24-0625-511 approved and adopted.

Pay Increase for Police Department Employee – Police Chief Colclasure has sent a letter to the Mayor Moore and the Council to propose a rate increase from \$34.33/hour to \$36.52/hour for Assistant Chief Ben Lewis. This was the rate previously held by the former Assistant Chief. Assistant Lewis completed his first year of service with the Fairfield Police Department on June 14, 2024 and this rate increase would be a recognition of his hard work and the value he has brought to the department. A motion was made by Alderman Dewey Eckleberry, seconded by Alderman Attebery to approve the pay increase for Assistant Chief Ben Lewis.

Vote yes: Attebery; Dewey Eckleberry; Sheryl Eckleberry; Marsh; McGill; McKibben; Reever

Vote no: none

Absent: Stahl

Mayor Moore declared motion carried.

Miscellaneous – Mayor Moore reminded everyone about a public hearing with the Department of Natural Resources that is scheduled on July 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the Pond Creek Watershed Project at Lakeside. Mayor Moore hopes to be able to put water back in the lake. The engineers are finalizing the cost of the project and hopefully we can get some matching federal grants for funding this project.

Miscellaneous – Attorney Rice gave an update on three properties that we are awaiting final judgment permitting the city to demolish the structures. These properties are located on NW 5<sup>th</sup>, Walker Street, and Mt. Vernon Rd. Everyone has been served and he hopes to hear back from the court soon. Mayor Moore reminded the Council that as those judgments come through and we get permission to demolish the buildings, the Council will be asked to approve the fundings to front the cost of demolition. Attorney Rice stated there is a chance we could go after the individuals to get them to pay the city back for the demolition and the attorney fees. If not, we would have to file a lien against the property.

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 6:10 p.m.

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Tina Hutchcraft, City Clerk

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Gary Moore, Mayor