

CITY OF MARENGO
COUNCIL MINUTES
JANUARY 8, 2007

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lockhart called to order the January 8, 2007, Marengo City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. and then led the "Pledge of Allegiance".

ROLL CALL

Mayor Lockhart, Alderman Jennings, Alderman Otis, Alderman Trainor, Alderman Shelton, Alderman Genot, Alderman Secor, Alderman Signore and Alderman Spear were present for roll call.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Dennis Hammortree, 505 North Taylor, Marengo, voiced a concern on how they could vote on the annexations as there are questions and issues that have not been answered yet. Alderman Signore gave him his copy of the agreements to look at as the Clerk did not have one available for him when he asked her earlier this evening. The agreement is for twenty years and we are going to abate property tax. He wanted to know how much money we would be losing by abating the taxes if the property doesn't do anything over the twenty year period.

Mayor Lockhart stated, for the record, these documents have been available since December 22 for anyone who wanted to see them.

Secondly, he felt the residents needed to look at how we are protecting this land by bringing it in our City limits as the properties are valuable pieces. They will be bringing in taxes at a higher rate for manufacturing and business and will basically be bringing in no children for the schools.

He stated at this point, there is no one going in/on these properties. This is being done for future growth that is important to the City as we can't sell something this is not under our control. When a business wants to come to Marengo, they don't want to wait 18 months to go thru all the hearings, etc. before they even know if they can get on the property.

Mr. Hammortree stated they only have one shot to get this right and if some things need to get looked at, he felt they shouldn't abate the taxes for them if there is nothing coming in as he felt somebody was getting a benefit off of it and it wasn't the City.

Lorence Brown, 170 Seneca Trail, Marengo, obtained a water map from the McHenry County Soil and Water Conservation District. It showed the area currently zoning A 1 limitation with a high potential for aquifer contamination as contaminates from any source can move rapidly thru the sand and gravel deposits to wells or nearby streams. So, he stated we have to be careful as to what kind of companies we allow on the properties that might be annexed into the City tonight as with this kind of soil conditions, it will go under the tracks very, very easily as there is no berm there.

Kathy Johnson, 8610 South Hill Road, Marengo, addressed the members. She is a trustee for Riley Township. She was here tonight, however, as a concerned citizen of the area. She felt it was scary to hear about behind the scene negotiations with chemical plants as she felt it was difficult to hear about this and as soon as possible, she would like Marengo to get the information out there regarding this company coming to the area in order to give the citizen's time to response.

As a council she felt they had been put in a very difficult position as there are forces pressuring them to allow development that may or may not be harmful to this growing community.

January 8, 2007

She stated as a resident of Riley Township, their future was in the Council's hands and as a member of the Marengo-Union Watershed Committee, they have worked hard to formulate safe guards and planning strategies

for the situation they will be addressing in the future. Any kind of development on these parcels will have an impact on the Kishwaukee River Watershed and she didn't want the members to be intimidated by big money or threats that they might go else where as they have to decide what we want here in Marengo and hopefully we will all be proud of these decisions and not scared to death of them.

Jerry Doane, 20411 Telegraph, Marengo, Marengo as President of the Marengo Park District Board, wanted the members to consider annexing all of the parcels not just spot annexing the properties on West Rt. 20 (New Business Items e-l)

Also, item m, Discussion of Coral Brook Annexation Agreement and Development Proposal, the Park District still doesn't have an agreement with the developer as no one has met with them. He hoped the members would not go any further with this until they do have an agreement.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 11, 2006 REGULAR AND EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

Alderman Shelton made and Alderman Jennings seconded a motion to approve the December 11, 2006, Marengo City Council regular and Executive Session minutes. The motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Shelton, Trainor, Genot, Spear, Jennings, Otis, Secor and Signore.

LIST OF BILLS

Alderman Genot made and Alderman Secor seconded a motion to approve the Bill List as presented. The motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Jennings, Otis, Shelton, Trainor, Genot, Signore, Spear and Secor.

ORDINANCE 07-1-1-ESTABLISHING THE MEETING DATES FOR 2007

Alderman Genot made a motion to approve Ordinance 07-1-1, Establishing The Regular Meeting Dates of the City Council. The motion was seconded by Alderman Trainor and passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Signore, Secor, Spear, Shelton, Trainor, Jennings, Genot and Otis.

GIRL SCOUT COOKIE SALE REQUEST

We received a request from the Girl Scouts-Sybaquay Council to allow them to hold their annual cookie sale January-March, 2007. Alderman Jennings made and Alderman Secor seconded the motion to approve the request. The motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Otis, Shelton, Signore, Trainor, Jennings, Spear, Secor and Genot.

ORDINANCE 07-1-2-APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF ANNEXATION AGREEMENTS-VOGELMAN, MEYER TRUST, BELVIDERE TRUST, CHICAGO TITLE TRUST & MARENGO FARMS, LLC-WEST ROUTE 20

Administrator Hartman clarified the first ordinance item e, was for the execution of the annexation agreements, f-k were for annexing the individual properties into Marengo and item l designated the zoning for these newly annexed parcels.

Alderman Shelton wanted to know how the annexation agreement would change the current taxation of the property. He was advised that right now it wouldn't change. It will change once the property is developed. The assessor has advised it is taxed by the use of the property. Once that changes, the tax will change.

January 8, 2007

Alderman Trainor noted that we approached these people to annex in order to expand and find areas to develop manufacturing/ commercial development rather than just residential.

Alderman Otis commented a community cannot exist without manufacturing so we must be very careful and make sure we are not open for contamination in any area of the community as we are standing on a bed of sand and gravel that we have to deal with.

We do need manufacturing here and thought it was appropriate they move forward in the manner they were but it would also be very appropriate for them to be very cautious as everything is transparent as far as the public is concerned.

Mayor Lockhart then asked if there was a motion for item e. Alderman Genot so moved; seconded by Alderman Trainor. The motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Spear, Genot, Trainor, Otis, Shelton, Secor, Signore and Jennings.

ORDINANCE 07-1-3-ORDINANCE ANNEXING CERTAIN TERRITORY TO THE CITY OF MARENGO VOGELMAN

Alderman Otis so moved to approve the above mentioned annexation; seconded by Alderman Genot. The motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Trainor, Signore, Secor, Jennings, Genot, Shelton, Spear and Otis.

ORDINANCE 07-1-4-ORDINANCE ANNEXING CERTAIN TERRITORY TO THE CITY OF MARENGO MEYER TRUST

Alderman Signore so moved and Alderman Spear seconded the motion to approve the above mention annexation. The motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Secor, Genot, Trainor, Shelton, Otis, Jennings, Signore and Spear.

ORDINANCE 07-1-5-ORDINANCE ANNEXING CERTAIN TERRITORY TO THE CITY OF MARENGO BELVIDERE TRUST

Alderman Trainor so moved on the above mentioned annexation which was seconded by Alderman Secor. The motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Genot, Jennings, Spear, Otis, Secor, Shelton, Trainor and Signore.

ORDINANCE 07-1-6-ORDINANCE ANNEXING CERTAIN TERRITORY TO THE CITY OF MARENGO GPH-MARENGO LLC

A motion was made by Alderman Trainor to approve the above mentioned annexation. It was seconded by Alderman Genot. The motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Otis, Jennings, Spear, Shelton, Trainor, Genot, Signore and Secor.

ORDINANCE 07-1-7-ORDINANCE ANNEXING CERTAIN TERRITORY TO THE CITY OF MARENGO CHICAGO TITLE TRUST

Alderman Signore so moved to approve the above mentioned ordinance. Alderman Spear seconded the motion. The motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Spear, Trainor, Secor, Otis, Signore, Jennings, Genot and Shelton.

ORDINANCE 07-1-8-ORDINANCE ANNEXING CERTAIN TERRITORY TO THE CITY OF MARENGO MARENGO FARMS, LLC

Alderman Genot so moved to approve the above ordinance. It was seconded by Alderman Shelton. The motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Secor, Shelton, Otis, Jennings, Trainor, Spear, Signore and Genot.

January 8, 2007

ORDINANCE 07-1-9-ORDINANCE ZONING CERTAIN NEWLY ANNEXED TERRITORY-WEST RT 20

Alderman Jennings made a motion to approve the zoning of the newly annexed territory; seconded by Alderman Signore. The motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Spear, Signore, Genot, Secor, Shelton, Jennings, Otis and Trainor.

DISCUSSION OF CORAL BROOK ANNEXATION AGREEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL

Grand Pointe Homes has submitted a revised preliminary plat. Administrator Hartman would like to have discussion regarding the draft annexation agreement and the preliminary plan in anticipation of formal consideration at the next meeting.

Rick Zirk, Grand Pointe Homes, stated there was a change in the preliminary plat that was approved by the PZC and discussed by the members April 10, 2006. The only change is at the south end of the property regarding the ROW which was based on the recommendations of the ad hoc Transportation Committee. There has been some discussion on street lighting that the City is going to have to sort out for them as their lots are 80' wide which means there is the potential of having a street light on every lot as our code calls for lighting every 70-100'. Our engineer felt this was a whole lot of street lights so this issue is still outstanding for the final plat.

As far as the Park District, they have stated all along they will be giving them cash rather than land as they are aware they don't want the neighborhood park. However, the City's Comp Plan calls for them. They have provided a two acre park that will be maintained by the Homeowner's Association. However, we have the right to request that all or part of this be donated to the City. Administrator Hartman had advised them this was a potential site for a new well. They are waiting to hear from us as to what we exactly want here so they can also draw up the final plat.

He felt all the development controls that had been asked of them were in place. They are in position with the Franks family to accommodate the land swap on Mary Lane. As soon as the plat is approved and there is never going to be another deviation with that lot line, the properties can then be swapped

This plan accommodates the goal they had for this area in that it creates a rear low access and a comprehensive redevelopment opportunity for that parcel without a Rt. 20 access.

He believed the annexation was close to being completed and thought there was going to be a meeting Thursday between the lawyers to sort out the last few remaining items. Administrator Hartman advised there is a provision for site conditions/regulations that has been an issue with a previous development that needs to be added as well as the fees the members will be discussing on January 17 and the issue of the George St. dedication with Marengo Market Place needed to be resolved. The other items for the annexation agreement were just minor ones.

Alderman Otis would like Grand Pointe Homes to work with Baxter & Woodman on the 66' ROW for the extension on Courtney Lane as there is an offset that goes into the MCCD land. Baxter & Woodman would be happy to do this as they have the data at the shop so they could talk about how to adjust this if it is necessary.

Alderman Signore was advised by the President of the Marengo Park District, Jerry Doane, that they do not want a park here as they already have a 1.5 acre one just a couple of blocks away from the proposed one for this development. They would rather have the cash. They also do not want to see association parks as they have heard other communities have had problems with them in that the grounds are not taken care of, the playground equipment isn't safe, etc.

*Mr. Doane felt the reason for a Park District was to determine where parks needed to be located and to maintain them. By putting in Association parks, it was a whole new ballgame for the City
January 8, 2007
and felt they were opening the door the wrong way.*

Alderman Signore commented the 1.5 acre park in Brackmann's development wasn't even big enough to put in a ball field which is what the Park District really needs. He didn't want them to forego the opportunity to have some land set aside because the greater need is for cash right now. He felt maybe they needed to get both and figure out a way to make the neighborhood park work.

Alderman Otis felt the members needed to work with the developers. If they do not want a park in certain development, the developer should buy land where we/Park District want a park.

Mr. Doane stated they currently have over 30 acres they need to develop but have no funds to do so. They have talked to a developer about possibly helping them develop this park land rather than receiving park land. This developer stated he could not develop the whole thing but would have a good start on it. A lot of this land needs leveling and preparing for ball diamonds, soccer fields and parking lots.

The Park District is aware there needs to be community parks. They are not saying they don't want them in every subdivision but for the size of this development and the area it is in, there are already two parks in about a mile area.

Alderman Shelton wondered if Grand Pointe Homes could sell these lots designated for the park and give that money to the Park District. Mr. Zirk stated since Alderman Otis would like a wider ROW along Courtney Lane, they could take those lots and relocate them in the area where the park is designated which would create a larger open space that our ROW and buffer could go anywhere we wanted it as it would make this issue more comfortable and the Park District more comfortable. Grand Pointe Homes could work this out in the final plat but they need to know which way we want them to do it.

Alderman Shelton thought the City and Park District need to come up with a compromise to better our total situation park wise rather than dedicating a two acre park that the Park District doesn't want and that the City is basically looking towards a Homeowner's Association to maintain.

Alderman Trainor thought it would be helpful if they had a Park Strategy Plan. Mr. Doane stated they gave them one last year. Alderman Trainor didn't recall seeing it and asked if it identified areas they would like to develop parks in. Mr. Doane stated with this development they have been here right in the beginning. He has attended several of these meetings and has stated all along that this is not what they want. However, Grand Pointe Homes keeps moving thru the process. They have given them a list of things they would/would not like to see in these neighborhoods.

Mr. Doane stated our City planner, Teska has never asked them their opinion on parks. They just asked them where they would like to see a large regional park. They never attended one of their board meetings and never talked to a Board member. They did talk to the Park Director and asked him a few questions but that was the extent of it.

Alderman Trainor felt they all would like to improve the process. She had attended one of the Park District's meetings in the hope that they could start to develop more communication as she felt they all would benefit from it.

Alderman Genot wanted to know if this should go to a committee rather than wasting all this time on something they apparently are not to agree upon tonight.

January 8, 2007

Mayor Lockhart was advised Grand Pointe Homes has been working on this development for three years now. He felt if it has already taken three years, they should try and step it up on this project as much as possible. He commented it was no wonder builders today are saying the City of Marengo doesn't want to cooperate.

Alderman Shelton felt it was not the developers' problem as there seemed to be a communication problem between the City and the Park District. The Mayor felt it was our problem and it needed to get resolved and asked the members their feeling on this.

Alderman Trainor felt if the Park District doesn't want the land, she favored not having it developed or saved as park land.

Administrator Hartman advised Alderman Jennings that this park land was to be the first part of a larger park. If this goes away as open space, then there would be no reason to reserve the western portion as open space.

Alderman Otis stated if they were to allow building sites where the proposed open land is, then there could be an equalized amount of money set aside in an account possibly for park development.

Alderman Signore thought perhaps lots 17 & 18 and/or 16 & 19, to widen that portion could be put in where out lot A is currently. He would also like to see the option of increasing the number of parcels by 3 or 4 to see what kind of cash we could get for the Park District to further their projects. He was wondering if it would be possible for them to get an example of them not gaining and gaining lots to work with the transportation committee on the southern portion where Courtney Lane is. He felt there was no sense in fighting for a park that the Park District doesn't want because we don't want to be in the position of maintaining the park either.

Alderman Otis stated she would be available the next couple of days as will as the engineer to meet with Grand Pointe Homes regarding the ROW by Courtney Lane. Our engineer stated they would be taking a look at some of the mapping information they have.

Supt. Craney wanted to know if they give up this open space, would they be giving up a potential well site as well. He was advised, yes. Alderman Otis stated if there is enough room, an option could be to have the well site on the south side of the property.

Alderman Otis asked what they planned on doing in the center area where the town homes are going to be located as she would like to see a nice size gazebo with maybe a fire pit/fireplace incorporated for the neighborhood to gather. Mr. Zirk stated they have put gazebos up only to have them burnt down or vandalized. Alderman Otis understood as we had problems with the gazebo at Calvin Spencer Park.

Grand Pointe Homes would like the member's consideration on three additional elevations that were supplied to them. If acceptable, the additional models would be Exhibit J of the annexation agreement. It was the consensus of the members the more diversity the better.

Alderman Otis was wondering if there would be more brick work on them rather than just at the lower level. Mr. Zirk stated he couldn't answer that as there is another gentleman she would have to speak to regarding this.

Alderman Signore wanted to know what else they needed to do tonight other than to give some orders to discuss the outlet A option and the widening of Courtney Lane. Administrator Hartman

January 8, 2007

advised other items would be the elevations and if there was anything significant on the annexation draft that they would like to see addressed,

Alderman Signore felt it appeared when you look at the annexation agreement, the numbers were different on the schools; everything else seemed to be pretty agreeable. He felt it would be premature for them to vote on the annexation agreement before the committee reaches its final decision as to what we should be asking for. Administrator Hartman advised they would be discussing the fees at the Committee of the Whole meeting on January 17. He can present a full proposal for Grand Pointe Homes to serve as a springboard for discussion. He also advised the members he had not received any response from Union yet regarding meeting with us to discuss fees nor has Mayor Lockhart.

Alderman Otis and Baxter & Woodman will meet with Grand Point Homes to discuss the Courtney Lane issue, they will discuss the fees at the COW meeting on the 17th and formal consideration is anticipated on January 22.

BROOKSIDE MEADOWS PHASE II ACCEPTANCE OF PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

The members received a memo from Supt. Craney recommending the City formally accept the Public Improvement for Phase II and reduce the Letter of Credit to 10% for a two year maintenance bond of \$51,207.90 with the Letter of Credit remaining in effect for the two year period.

Alderman Otis made a motion to recommend the approval of Brookside Meadows, Phase II public improvements; seconded by Alderman Shelton. The motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Secor, Jennings, Genot, Shelton, Spear, Otis, Signore and Trainor.

DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN/SESA PLAN REVISION

Administrator Hartman apologized as there wasn't any information regarding this included in the member's packet.

He stated the ad hoc Transportation Committee has asked for a realignment of Courtney Lane as it runs west toward Meyer Road. The Southeast Sub Plan doesn't show the best alignment in their opinion using the topography, knowing the property owners and future development. It is basically territory east of Seven Oaks and west of Rt. 23. They would like the member's thoughts and directions regarding changing the map to realign the road. This alignment was not brought up to them (Teska) at the time the plan was put together.

Alderman Otis has talked to Ken Savoy of Teska. He is in agreement this would work just fine based upon the Committee's reason for doing such. This is part of the transportation plan that was in the packet with the explanation being in the August 19, 2006 minutes in their packet along with the map.

She asked if she should just go into the discussion of the framework of the transportation plan. Administrator Hartman stated if one washed into the other one, he would suggest that.

She went over the ad hoc committee's proposed draft plan that contained nine projects. They are: Rt. 20 Bypass Feasibility Study, Rt. 23 Bypass Feasibility Study, Extension of Courtney Drive and Bicycle Trail west between Rt. 23 & Meyer Road; extension of Courtney Drive and Bicycle Trail east between Brookside Meadows development and southern extension of Franks Road, extension of Franks Road and Bicycle Trail from existing southern R.O.W., traffic counts and movements data for U.S. Rtes. 20, 23 & 176, extension of Franks Road and Bicycle Trail north to U.S. Rt. 176, Franks Road, U.S. Rt. 176 Deepass intersection feasibility study, Rt. 20-Ritz Road

January 8, 2007

intersection reconstruction, east/west Rt. 20 frontage roads, Ritz Road and Railroad Street feasibility study and HUM Bicycle Trail extension feasibility study.

Alderman Signore asked what the involvement with the Conservation District was on Courtney as he felt that was a major key. She replied they were willing to work with us. Alderman Signore then asked, "What does that mean? They will attend meetings and then say no or?" She replied they have pledged to work together and that's all about she could say at this point. Alderman Signore stated he did not want to see us spend a lot of time designating certain areas for roads, constructing some of the roads and then have the Conservation District saying they changed their minds and we then are at a dead end. She felt this was not going to happen as they have been working with them, have met with them and they are willing to work with us. She further stated this was one of the biggest concerns that he had just identified.

Alderman Trainor inquired about the Rt. 23 bypass. Alderman Otis stated there are high truck volumes going thru our downtown area (felt truck drivers didn't like driving downtown either) as Rtes. 23 & 176 are the lifeline to and from communities north and east of Marengo and to Rt. 20, If they come into Marengo on West Grant they would be able to go over and connect with Rt. 176 and over to Rt. 20 without having to go downtown at all. This would also be a benefit to residents in the area as they would not have to go thru the downtown area to get to the Park District.

She stated this plan honors zoning and opportunities for commercialism. It honors maintaining a town center and it's historic integrity by removing the trucks; it provides for the opportunity of alternative travel means by creating bicycle paths; it honors the projected use or non use of land as in the case of the Rimnac family which will be ideal for open land as this property is very close to the park; Courtney Lane although the alignment is not real desirable, it is the footprint that can be followed; Courtney and Franks Road are for vehicular traffic only

at least going south; it gives the developers something to look at and there hasn't been a lot of transportation planning in the past so they have to work with what we got.

Mayor Lockhart thanked this ad hoc committee for all their time meeting and researching this information because as we grow, we will have this information in place.

REAPPOINTMENT OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE COMMISSIOERS-LEE, WAGNER & WYROSTEK

Alderman Signore made a motion to approve the reappoint of the three above mentioned individuals; seconded by Alderman Genot. The motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Otis, Signore, Trainor, Spear, Jennings, Secor, Shelton and Genot.

Chairman John Wyrostek, and members Robert Lee and Alice Wagner's appointments will expire on January 8, 2010.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business for discussion.

MAYOR'S STATEMENTS AND REPORTS

Mayor Lockhart thanked the members for voting for the annexations this evening. He commented that earlier tonight a comment was made that people didn't know about this. However, at the October Chamber dinner he announced it in front of three or four hundred people. He also had an article in the Marengo View explaining about the annexation and there have been numerous public hearings but unfortunately things get by some people. He stated this was put out there. There were no secrets or hidden agendas. He hoped this would be excellent for the City down the road. He felt we could not protect the land unless it was within our boundaries and that it would pay dividends in the long run.

January 8, 2007

DEPARTMENT HEAD AND STAFF REPORTS

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Commissioner Shull submitted a written report and a memo regarding the Administrative Adjudication as promised at the last meeting.

At the present time, Deputy Chief Hallman and he believe the current volume doesn't warrant implementing this program as they felt it would be very costly and would be just a compliance generator, not a money maker. If the members had any question regarding this, they were to contact him.

PUBLIC WORKS

Written reports were submitted by the Street Department, Water & Sewer Dept. and WWTP.

Orally Supt. Craney stated he has been talking to a consultant about lift stations and sewers. He has also been checking into watermain replacement on Maple,

Alderman Genot wanted to know if we had found the cause for the murky water. Supt. Craney advised him we have not. We have replaced a few things and so far, nothing has occurred to help figure out exactly what the problem was. Our engineer confirmed the statement.

There was a problem Christmas Eve night up in Alderman Genot's area. He wanted to know if they had looked into the looping that was done in the area several years ago. Supt. Craney stated we could get together with Baxter & Woodman on this. He advised Alderman Genot they had to turn off fifteen valves to turn the watermain off for repairs Christmas Eve night.

Mayor Lockhart thanked Supt. Craney and his crew that were out there that night. He advised Alderman Genot that there apparently are not enough shut off valves so this is something that we are going to have to take a look at in this ward to correct the problem.

Alderman Genot stated he had no complaint with the dedication of Supt. Craney or his staff and felt they did as good of a job as they could with what they have to work with.

After the water was turned back on, there of course was the “rusty” water which happens whenever a main is shut off and turned back on after the repair. That’s why hydrants are turned on to alleviate the problem. Supt. Craney stated it probably took the crew longer to turn the valves off than it took to repair the watermain. He advised as soon as they have a main break and they know where the water is going to be shutoff, they have door hangers that immediately go on the doors of the residents affected by the shu

Alderman Trainor wanted to know if the other unit was still in place on the water tower. Mr. Gavle advised it was still there (sensor in the water storage tank). Since it has been installed, another incident has not occurred so they have not been able to identify whether or not it is caused by a particular defective device or if it is caused by some external issue. If it is external issue, then both would respond the same but if it is a defective device, then one would have a problem and the other one would continue to operate. He is thankful it hasn’t happened, however, they are not able to give us a good report other than it hasn’t happen again.

Alderman Trainor asked Supt. Craney if he had any additional comments on the report from the WWTP regarding the percentages. He stated the percentages were high but we are within the IEPA limits.

She was wondering if he had any thoughts as to why the spikes. He replied that he could not but when he was down there the other day, they took out so much grease it was ridiculous.

January 8, 2007

They almost took out a dumpster full. They have no idea either as to where this is coming from. There is the grease factor but he also felt laundry detergent fillers also played a big factor in it.

He again assured her we were well within the IEPA levels and advised we will be going around to check the grease traps in town to make sure they are in compliance shortly.

Alderman Signore wanted to know what the plan was for stump grinding for the trees that had been cut down. He was told this was going to be done shortly as they were waiting for JULIE locates for some of the stumps.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

A written report was submitted. Orally, Deputy Chief Hallman wanted to point out item #8 regarding Pandemic Flu. There will be a public meeting concerning our planning and procedures in the event of this happening. It will be held next Monday evening at 6:00 p.m.

He also advised the Illinois State Police has been in town providing extra support.

Alderman Shelton wanted to know what kind of liquor license issues there have been per item #6 of the report. Deputy Chief Hallman stated they were serving issues and things like that. The Liquor Commissioner has imposed fair and equitable sanctions for the violations. There will be a report on some of the issues.

Alderman Genot asked if the liquor license for Lugi’s had been picked up. He was advised it had not been picked up yet.

ENGINEERING REPORT

A written report was submitted. Mr. Gavle stated it was a light report which was indicative to this time of year.

Alderman Jennings wanted to know if the bottle of water brought in by the Mayor had been sampled. Mr. Gavle stated he took that bottle with him that night but didn’t remember if he had the sample results of that bottle. He would check into it and send an e-mail.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Written reports were submitted in the packet.

Alderman Genot stated he would like to see the cash flow keep coming back in. Alderman Signore was wondering if he could elaborate on how we did for the year. Treasurer Hall stated as far as the interest rate was concerned, overall comparing the 2006 year to 2005, the liquid accounts were up 600% and the CD rate doubled. Part of this is due to the help from our local banks after sitting down and talking to them.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

A written report was submitted by Administrator Hartman. He received a letter today from IDOT informing us that we received \$78,000 for the Truck Access Route Program for the Prospect Street road improvement that we applied for last summer. This money will be applied to the money we received from the McHenry County Council of Mayors.

Alderman Shelton was wondering if the Parkside Phase IV & V and the Park District issue could get resolved. Administrator Hartman advised it was just a matter of getting down to it. He needs to meet with the Park District to get information on this as he didn't quite have his arms around the issue and from his research in his files, he is not really sure what the issue is. However, when things lighten up in respects to general work, he thought we should get to the bottom of it as was

January 8, 2007

suggested and requested but he has not had the time to dedicate looking further into this matter. It was a matter of sitting the developer and the Park District in a room with the City. There is the problem though in that the Park District has had staff changes so he wasn't sure if any of the current members were on board then to know what the issue is all about. Alderman Shelton stated, "It's just amazing this was allowed to happen at all."

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

The attorney had no report.

Alderman Signore thanked our attorney for the drafted letter regarding the checklist for annexations. He had a question though regarding one item. Our attorney advised the best to explain this comment was by citing an example. After giving the example, Alderman Signore stated he felt this was interesting as they had always heard the annexation agreement sets the rules of the game and yet there are things that maybe they shouldn't be so specific on to leave themselves with the opportunity to change things down the line.

Alderman Signore wanted to know if this information they received from our attorney was going to be put into a more useable form so they could actually use it as they contemplate the Grand Pointe Homes annexation. Administrator Hartman stated he hadn't planned on it. Alderman Signore said, "But I mean, so as we read it, we can check it off. I think that is a discussion we had in the past that we wanted to have a document that could serve as a checklist so that as we read the annexation agreement we can say okay is number one addressed is number two addressed?" He again stated he would like something in a more useable format as the points listed in the letter were very valid. Mayor Lockhart stated, "We'll take care of it."

Alderman Otis stated the ad hoc transportation committee had not voted on the transportation plan itself. It had however, voted on the western extension of Courtney Drive between Rt. 23 and Meyer Road and felt it was appropriate.

ADJOURNMENT

With there be nothing further for discussion, Mayor Lockhart asked for a motion to adjourn the January 8, 2007, City Council meeting at 8:55 p.m. Alderman Genot so moved; seconded by Alderman Spear. The motion passed with a unanimous aye voice vote.

*Submitted by: Diane L. Schwoch,
Acting City Clerk*