

**CITY OF CHILLCOTHE
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 28, 2013**

The City Council of the City of Chillicothe, Peoria County, Illinois, met in Regular Session January 28, 2013. Mayor Troy A. Childers, Sr., called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance, to the Flag of the United States of America, was recited.

Chairman Childers directed the Clerk to call Roll.

Present: Mayor Troy A. Childers, Sr.
City Clerk Sharon A. Crabel
City Treasurer B.L. Bredeman

Aldermen: Alex Block, Chris Boyer,
Danny Colwell, Dennis Gould,
Michael Hughes, Sandi Levell,
Gary Sharp, Melvin Witte

Also Present: City Attorney Michael Seghetti
City Engineer Ken Coulter
Office Manager Denise Passage
Superintendent of Public Works Josh Cooper
ED Director Rachael Parker
Police Chief Scott Mettille
Fire Chief John Myers

Chairman declared a Quorum present.

The Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting, held on January 14, 2013, were presented.

Motion Alderman Block, second Alderman Colwell, that the Council dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the January 14, 2013, Council Meeting, and approve the Minutes, as presented. Motion carried via voce vote.

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Clerk Crabel presented the City Engineer's Report, dated January 28, 2013.

Clerk Crabel presented five letters, addressed to Mayor Childers, in reference to supporting Rescue 33 as the preferred ambulance service for their communities. The letters were from the following communities:

Woodland Heights Homeowners Association
Village of Hopewell
Township of Chillicothe
Hallock Township
Steuben Township

Clerk Crabel presented a letter from Tracy Hedden-Scheeler, Rescue 33 Personnel Officer, in reference to updating the Council in regards to the fact that Rescue 33 has submitted its application for EMS Basic Life Support vehicle license provider for reinstatement, to the Peoria Area EMS System Board.

Tracy Hedden-Scheeler stated in her letter that Rescue 33 has formed a Board of Directors, created three new positions – an Operation Director, a Personnel Officer and a Billing Officer.

In said letter Rescue 33 asked for the City's support to allow the Peoria Area EMS System Board to work with them to determine if Rescue 33 is capable, and able, to be the Ambulance Service Chillicothe deserves.

Clerk Crabel presented a letter, dated January 26, 2013, from Cheryl Colbenson, D.O., Peoria Area EMS Medical Director, addressed to Mayor Childers and the City Council Members, stating that a meeting was held with members of Rescue 33 Board of Directors and Leadership on January 23, 2013, regarding its application for EMS Basic Life Support vehicle license provider reinstatement.

Cheryl Colbenson, in her letter, wanted to make the Council aware of more background information leading up to the suspension of Rescue 33. Rescue 33 was placed on probation on August 6, 2012, by PAEMS, for 11 deficiencies. There were numerous medical investigations and reviews of patient care.

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Cheryl Colbenson stated in her letter complete, detailed information regarding Rescue 33's suspension.

Cheryl Colbenson stated that as a result of the meeting, there were action items which Rescue 33 will need to report back to the PAEMS office prior to making a decision on reinstatement. Although they have made improvements in their business plan and staffing matrix, I still have concerns whether they will be able to provide quality, reliable and safe patient care. While they have incorporated a Board of Directors for oversight, the members of the leadership team in place during the Performance Improvement Plan, the probation and following the suspension are still in place. **The issues identified during the Performance Improvement Plan should have been addressed and rectified preventing the need for probation and suspension.** I am unsure whether the Board of Directors and a Director of Operations will be sufficient to change the culture of this EMS service.

All PAEMS agencies are encouraged to self-report quality improvement incidents. As Humans, we make mistakes and we have an opportunity to learn from them. I did not receive the request to review patient care incidents from Rescue 33. Most of them had been requested by hospital staff concerned with patient care issues.

Clerk Crabel announced that the Mayor, Clerk, and Aldermen have received numerous phone calls, emails and letters, requesting that the Council support Rescue 33 as their preferred Ambulance Service, and a few in regards to keeping AMT Ambulance Service in Chillicothe.

Motion Alderman Block, second Alderman Colwell, that the communications, as presented by the Clerk, be accepted and placed on file. Motion carried via voce vote.

The Chairmen of the Council Committees gave brief activity reports.

There were approximately 62 citizens in the audience.

Chairman Childers announced that if there was anyone in the audience that would like to speak on anything, other than Rescue 33, now is the time.

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No one appeared before the Council.

Chairman Childers announced that anyone in the audience, who would like to speak in regards to Rescue 33, will be allowed to do so after Alderman Boyer makes a motion under his Agenda Item 1) Request to Peoria Area EMS Board to Review Rescue 33 Application for Re-Instatement.

Motion Alderman Boyer, second Alderman Gould, that the bills, as presented, be paid and the payrolls and transfers be approved. Roll Call vote was:

Ayes: **Block, Boyer, Colwell, Gould,
Hughes, Levell, Sharp, Witte**

Nays: **None**

Chairman declared motion carried.

Chairman Childers presented a “Bald Eagle Day” Proclamation, proclaiming February 9, 2013, as “Bald Eagle Day” in the City of Chillicothe, Illinois, and urged all citizens, children and businesses in the area to “Welcome and Cherish” these Bald Eagles as they sojourn along the Illinois River near Chillicothe.

Motion Alderman Block, second Alderman Colwell, that the Council concur with the Mayoral Proclamation Proclaiming February 9, 2013, as “Bald Eagle Days” in the City of Chillicothe. Motion carried via voce vote.

Motion Alderman Boyer, second Alderman Gould, that the Council instruct the City Attorney to draft a letter, requesting that the Peoria Area EMS Board finish the review process of the application for reinstatement to the PAEMS System, submitted by Rescue 33, immediately, with the understanding that the Board will take as much time as is necessary to complete the review process.

Chris Cassidy, Attorney for Rescue 33, appeared before the Council to address the two recent documents that were released about Rescue 33. The first document that was released was in the Peoria Journal Star newspaper, and it was the decision of Rescue 33 not to respond to the newspaper article. The second document is the

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one that the Council received from Cheryl Colbenson, DO of Saint Francis Medical Center, and it is obvious that they have Rescue 33 under a microscope.

Chris Cassidy requested that the Council support the motion on the table, and let Recue 33 go through the process, and let the Peoria Area EMS System make their decision concerning reinstating Rescue 33's license.

Ron Hedden, President of Rescue 33, appeared before the Council and stated that he is confident that Rescue 33 will get their license back.

Ron Hedden introduced Kenny Martin, a new member to Rescue 33's Board of Directors, and their Operations Director.

Alderman Sharp read a letter that he wrote in regards to an incident that happened to him when he was a little boy, and was injured and taken to the hospital.

Alderman Sharp gave an overview as to how Rescue 33 was organized in 1966 or 1967, and how thankful the people around town were for Rescue 33, and whatever would they have done without them.

Alderman Sharp stated that for the last six years Rescue 33 has stumbled with their service, and are now asking for another chance. The question is, do we give them another chance?

Alderman Sharp stated that if Rescue 33 is to be no more, we will lose a good portion of the very fabric that holds our City together. We will lose that founding father quality of taking care of our own, for little or no reward. Good and honest people built Rescue 33 some 47 years ago, and he believes good and honest people can restore its reputation today.

Alderman Sharp asked that we decide with our minds and our hearts in regards to Rescue 33.

Alderman Sharp stated that he would like to know who holds the Peoria Area EMS System accountable when they make mistakes, and should they be held under a microscope.

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The Audience applauded Alderman Sharp for his comments.

Jerry Myers appeared before the Council and stated that he has a lot of respect for Rescue 33, and that he understands that the issue with Rescue 33 is an emotional thing, and he understands why, but do we want EMT or Paramedic care?

Jerry Myers stated that he wishes that Rescue 33 and AMT could work together. We have to get rid of the negativity, and go with the real facts on what we want for care.

Fire Chief John Myers appeared before the Council and stated that he has worked with Rescue 33 for years, and that he has had the opportunity to see what paramedics can do, and that he would like for the community to have paramedic service for safety, and the best service we can get for all of our people.

Chairman Childers stated that the motion on the table is to try and give Rescue 33 an equal chance to present themselves and talk about what they can do, and to make Dr. Colbenson know that we want to give Rescue 33 a chance.

Stacey Buckley and Judy Lauber appeared before the Council and voiced their support of Rescue 33.

Alderman Boyer called for a Point of Order to take a vote on the motion on the table.

Chairman Childers called for a Roll Call vote on the motion on the table. Roll Call vote was:

Ayes: **Block, Boyer, Colwell, Gould,
Hughes, Levell, Sharp, Witte**

Nays: **None**

Chairman Childers declared motion carried.

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Motion Alderman Boyer, second Alderman Gould, that the Council approve an application for the 2012-2013 Project Facelift Program in the amount of \$2,812.50, and authorize payout once project is complete and work verified by ED Director, as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Business & Address</u>	<u>Amount of Funding</u>
L. Patrick McElhiney, P.C.	1104 N. Second St.	\$ 2,812.50
Remaining Balance of Program		\$19,937.50

Payable from the Central Business TIF District Project Facelift. Roll Call vote was:

**Ayes: Block, Boyer, Colwell, Gould,
Hughes, Levell, Sharp, Witte**

Nays: None

Chairman declared motion carried.

Motion Alderman Boyer, second Alderman Witte, that the Council instruct the City Attorney to draft the necessary documents for a Redevelopment Agreement, between the City of Chillicothe and Casa de Fuego, Inc., for a TIF Revolving Loan, in the amount of \$25,000.00, at the rate of 1.0%, for a term of 5 years. Securing the note with a UCC filing on equipment and personal guarantees from the owners. Roll Call vote was:

**Ayes: Block, Boyer, Colwell, Gould,
Hughes, Levell, Sharp, Witte**

Nays: None

Chairman declared motion carried.

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Alderman Boyer announced that a bid letting, for the construction of a gazebo for Cutright Park, was held on January 17, 2013, at 11:00 A.M., at City Hall. Four bids were received as follows:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Price</u>
Wood Worx LLC	\$27,975.00
Suncast	\$34,657.00
J. Whit Construction	\$43,590.00
Venovich Construction	\$48,140.00

The Bid documents specified a vinyl construction for the gazebo. The EDC Committee met and is recommending a wood finish be used for the gazebo, generally matching the one constructed at Eagle Landing. The contractor will deduct \$2,575.00 from the contract cost if wood is used.

The above cost does not include the concrete floor. Prices for the concrete will be obtained separately. The construction of the gazebo will be done when weather permits and is expected to be done before the end of this fiscal year.

Motion Alderman Boyer, second Alderman Block, that the Council award the contract for the construction of a gazebo for Cutright Park, in the amount of \$27,975.00, payable to Wood Worx LLC, along with a change order deducting \$2,575.00 for a new total of \$25,400.00. This is a priority one River Front Development Project. Roll Call vote was:

**Ayes: Block, Boyer, Colwell, Gould,
Hughes, Levell, Sharp, Witte**

Nays: None

Chairman declared motion carried.

Motion Alderman Boyer, second Alderman Gould, that the Council approve an expenditure of the final payment to Midwest Foundation Corporation for Boat Dock Piling in the amount of \$12,400.00. Payable from the TIF Central Business District Fund. Roll Call vote was:

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Ayes: **Block, Boyer, Colwell, Gould,
Hughes, Levell, Sharp, Witte**

Nays: **None**

Chairman declared motion carried.

Motion Alderman Gould, second Alderman Block, that the Council instruct the City Attorney to draft an intergovernmental agreement, between the City of Chillicothe and IVC District 321, to allow a \$1,000.00 rebate for irrigation of the fields at the high school. Motion carried via voce vote.

Motion Alderman Hughes, second Alderman Witte, that the Council authorize the Economic Development Director to submit a grant application to Tri-County Regional Planning Commission for the Illinois Energy Efficiency Program, if awarded, the City will be reimbursed \$9,240.00 as a rebate for updating light fixtures at:

1. Fire Station #1
2. Fire Station #2
3. Public Works Building (Garage not included)
4. Police Station

Roll Call vote was:

Ayes: **Block, Boyer, Colwell, Gould,
Hughes, Levell, Sharp, Witte**

Nays: **None**

Chairman declared motion carried.

Motion Alderman Hughes, second Alderman Colwell, that the Council approve a Priority 1 & 2 Light Replacement Program Project, with an expenditure of \$21,235.00, payable to Willis Electric. Payable from the General Fund. A Grant

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reimbursement of \$9,250, may be received should the Grant application be approved. Roll Call vote was:

Ayes: **Block, Boyer, Colwell, Gould,
Hughes, Levell, Sharp, Witte**

Nays: **None**

Chairman declared motion carried.

Chairman Childers announced that, there being no further business, the Council Meeting adjourn at 7:44 P.M.

**Sharon A. Crabel
City Clerk**