

**CITY OF CHILLICOTHE
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 14, 2014**

The City Council of the City of Chillicothe, Peoria County, Illinois, met in Regular Session April 14, 2014. Mayor Douglas P. Crew 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 Crew announced that Alderman Beaumont would perform duties of the clerk for the purposes of the meeting. He then directed Alderman Beaumont to call the roll.

Present: Mayor Douglas P. Crew
City Treasurer B.L. Bredeman

Aldermen: Ronald Beaumont, Danny Colwell,
Patricia Connor, Dennis Gould,
Michael Hughes, Gary Sharp,
James Thornton, Mel 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 Mettill

Absent: Fire Chief John Myers

Chairman Crew declared a Quorum present.

The Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting, held on March 24, 2014, were presented.

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Motion Alderman Colwell, second Alderman Witte, that the Council dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the March 24, 2014, Regular Council Meeting, and approve the Minutes as presented. Motion carried via voce vote.

Alderman Beaumont presented the City Collector's Report and the City Treasurer's Report, both for the month ending March 31, 2014.

Alderman Beaumont presented the City Engineer's report dated April 14, 2014.

Alderman Beaumont presented the Zoning Officers First Quarter 2014 Building permit report.

Alderman Beaumont presented a letter from Mediacom informing the Council that on or about May 1, 2014, Mediacom will be implementing a Non-Standard Converter Fee of \$5.00 per month.

Alderman Beaumont presented an Annual Customer Service Report from Mediacom.

Motion Alderman Colwell, second Alderman Gould, that the communications, as presented by Alderman Beaumont be placed on file. Motion carried via voce vote.

Alderman Sharp reported that he received a call from three citizens voicing their concerns in regards to possible curfew violation and the loud noise from the skate park on the corner of Moffitt Street and Sixth Street.

Chairman Crew read a letter of resignation from Gary Fyke, resigning his position on the Plan Commission and the police pension board.

Chairman Crew read a letter of resignation from Clyde S. Crabel, resigning his position on the Plan Commission.

Chairman Crew presented a correspondence from Homefield Energy regarding the electrical aggregation.

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Chairman Crew read a correspondence from IDOT regarding the road repair on Illinois Route 29 at the Chillicothe Railroad Viaducts. The project repair work is tentatively scheduled for bid on April 25, 2014. The time frame for the work will be six days, (two weekends). At that time the road will be closed.

Chairman Crew read a correspondence from Ameren Illinois regarding tree trimming that Ameren will be having done in and around Chillicothe.

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

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

**Ayes: Beaumont, Colwell, Connor, Gould,
 Hughes, Sharp, Thornton, Witte**

Nays: None

Chairman declared motion carried.

Chairman Crew requested that Alderman Thornton's agenda item #4 – Request for approval of a HELP loan application – Lucky Dogs be moved to first consideration.

Motion Alderman Gould, second Alderman Sharp that Alderman Thornton's agenda item #4 Request for approval of a HELP loan application – Lucky Dogs be allowed to be presented at this time. Motion carried via voce vote.

Chairman Crew gave opening comments regarding the Help Loan application – Lucky Dogs agenda item.

Motion Alderman Thornton, second Alderman Gould, that the council approve a HELP loan to Dennis and Sandy Luckett in the amount of \$114,000.00 for Lucky

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Dogs Pub and Eatery, to be secured by a lien on the business real estate and business personal property, subordinate only to a lien to First National Bank of

Chillicothe securing a loan in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.00 at an interest rate of 2% per annum, to be repaid in monthly installments of principal and interest equal to \$733.60 over a 15 year period, and authorize and direct the city attorney to prepare the appropriate loan documents and authorize the Mayor and Economic Development Director to take all steps necessary and proper to complete said loan.

Alderman Sharp stated that the vote is not a vote of confidence it is a vote regarding approving a Help Loan.

Attorney Seghetti stated that the item on the agenda is the Help Loan . There is no request for a zoning change, and Liquor License is not what it is being considered at this time. He explained that he has advised Alderman Colwell that he does not have a conflict of interest as he does not have any financial interest in the potential business that is applying for the Help Loan. It will be his decision as to whether he will vote on said issue. Since this matter involves an expenditure of money, it will take five affirmative votes to pass the motion and should we have four affirmative votes the Mayor will have the right to vote. He stated that the amount of the loan is \$114,000, which is based on the creation or retention of 14 jobs as reflected in the Help Loan application. It is consistent with the procedures and criteria the council usually used in a Help Loan.

Chairman Crew then opened the meeting to public comment. Mr. Dennis Lucket explained that his wife currently does the cooking at the Chilli Bowl and would like to open their own business. He explained the property would have a restaurant with a full bar.

The following people addressed the council in support of the project: Shawna Colwell, Terry Bobell, Joann Leroy, Debi Williamson, Chris Cassidy, Sandy Levell, Jim Wright, Matt Blair and Barb Bruns.

Tazo Grevitti addressed the council in opposition to the project. He objected to a change in the liquor license, beer garden, operation hours, noise, parking/traffic and gambling. He stated that he and three others would like to present their

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reasons. He presented a packet of information, regarding neighborhood opposition to Pub at corner of Fourth and Beech, to be placed on file. He pointed out why they have the right to object and critique of the business plan and risk to city.

Mary Jo Schettler addressed the council in opposition to the project. She stated she feels this is a wrong location for the proposed Pub, and it is not a good investment for the City of Chillicothe, nor is it a good return on the investment. She objected to the long hours of operation and how it would affect the neighborhood.

Wes Green addressed the council in opposition to the project. He objected to the potential noise, liquor license classification, beer garden, operating hours and parking issues. He stated they came to a Finance/Economic development committee meeting to obtain information and did not get his concerns addressed. He would like the council to consider the neighborhood. He presented the council with a petition with signatures declaring opposition to the new Pub/Restaurant. He objected to changing the classification of the liquor license from a beer/wine license to a full liquor license. He stated he would like to see a compromise.

Mayor Crew expressed his appreciation for all the comments and courtesy that has been seen tonight. The Mayor called the motion.

Roll call vote was:

Ayes: **Beaumont, Colwell, Connor, Gould,
Hughes, Sharp, Thornton, Witte**

Nays: **None**

Chairman declared motion carried.

Motion Alderman Gould, second Alderman Colwell, that the Council approve an expenditure of \$1850.00, payable to A & B Hunter Sewer Service, for the televising of the sewer line on Placher Court and Gail Street. Payable from the Water/Sewer Fund. Roll call vote was:

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Ayes: **Beaumont, Colwell, Connor, Gould,
Hughes, Sharp, Thornton, Witte**

Nays: **None**

Chairman declared motion carried.

Motion Alderman Gould, second Alderman Hughes, that the Council authorize the City Engineer to prepare the bid specification for the installation of sidewalk at the Riverfont Eagle Landing, sidewalk to pavilion, and replacement of the concrete star in Cutright Park, and to bid the project. Motion carried via voce vote.

Motion Alderman Hughes, second Alderman Sharp, that the Council approve an expenditure of \$1,438.99 payable to Riverside Chevrolet for the repairs to the K-9 police vehicle. Payable from the General Fund. Roll call vote was:

Ayes: **Beaumont, Colwell, Connor, Gould,
Hughes, Sharp, Thornton, Witte**

Nays: **None**

Chairman declared motion carried.

Motion Alderman Hughes, second Alderman Witte, that the council approve the hiring of the following people for part time seasonal employment.

Jerry Myers, Dan Johnson, James Temple, Bradon McIntrye, and Colton Colwell.
Roll call vote was:

Ayes: **Beaumont, Connor, Gould,
Hughes, Sharp, Thornton, Witte**

Abstain: **Colwell**

Nays: **None**

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Chairman declared motion carried.

Motion Alderman Hughes, second Alderman Gould, that the council approve the Notice for Special Event Held on Public Property, as submitted by Carla Meinders, Chillicothe 4th of July, for the use of Cutright Park and the closing of Elm Street, Pine Street, Walnut Street from First Street to Front Street and Front Street from Pine Street to Elm Street on July 4, 2014, from 5:00 a.m. to 12: 00 a.m. for the annual 4th of July firework. Motion carried via voce vote:

Motion Alderman Hughes, second Alderman Thornton, that the Council approve a Notice for Special Event Held on Public Property, as submitted by Dick Howarth, of the Optimist Club, for the use of City streets, the City Park stage and Fire Station No. One, for the Optimist Club’s 34th Annual 5K Race, “River Run”, to be held on May 24, 2014, from 7:00 A.M. until 11:00 A.M. Motion carried via voce vote.

Motion Alderman Hughes, second Alderman Gould, that the Council approve a Notice for Special Event Held on Public Property, as submitted by Elizabeth Thorp, of Pearce Community Center, for the use of City streets, for the Annual 5K Run and 2 mile Fun Walk, to be held on July 12, 2014, from 6:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Motion carried via voce vote.

Mayor Crew recognized Audrey Burdick, who was in audience and asked to speak regarding the amendment to the dangerous animals ordinance.

Audrey Burdick explained that she was walking her dog, which was on a leash, on Saturday, April 12, 2014, when a dog, who was not on a leash and came on to public property, attacked her dog. She had to take her dog into the Peoria Animal hospital for treatment. She stated that this was the third time she had encountered problems this said dog. The incident was reported to the Chillicothe Police and Peoria Animal Control (PAWS). She expressed that she would like to see this amendment pass so pet owners would be responsible keep their dogs on their property and restrained.

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Motion Alderman Hughes, second Alderman Sharp, that the Council instruct the City Attorney to prepare the amendment to the dangerous animals ordinance to add language regarding reckless pet owners, restrictions on tethering and vicious and dangerous. Motion carried via voce vote.

Motion Alderman Thornton, second Alderman Colwell, that the Council approve an expenditure of \$1,000.00, payable to Chillicothe Chamber of Commerce, for advertising and promotions for various events in the calendar year 2014. Payable from the Hotel/Motel Tax Fund. Roll call vote was:

Ayes: **Beaumont, Colwell, Connor, Gould,
Hughes, Sharp, Thornton, Witte**

Nays: **None**

Chairman declared motion carried.

Motion Alderman Thornton, second Alderman Hughes, that the Council approve an expenditure of \$900.00, payable to Pearce Community Center, for marketing and advertising the 21st Annual “Run for the Health of It” to be held Saturday, July 12, 2014. Payable from the Hotel/Motel Tax Fund. Roll call vote was:

Ayes: **Beaumont, Colwell, Connor, Gould,
Hughes, Sharp, Thornton, Witte**

Nays: **None**

Chairman declared motion carried.

Motion Alderman Thornton, second Alderman Hughes, that the Council approve an expenditure of \$1,500.00, payable to the Chillicothe 4th of July Committee, for

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marketing and advertising the 2014 4th of July Fireworks Display. Payable from the Hotel/Motel Tax Fund. Roll call vote was:

Ayes: **Beaumont, Colwell, Connor, Gould,
Hughes, Sharp, Thornton, Witte**

Nays: **None**

Chairman declared motion carried.

Motion Alderman Thornton, second Alderman Connor, that the Council approve the General Fund, Road & Bridge Fund, Water/Sewer Fund, TIF Funds and the Miscellaneous Funds Budgets for the City's Fiscal Year commencing May 1, 2014 and ending April 30, 2015. Roll call vote was:

Ayes: **Beaumont, Colwell, Connor, Gould,
Hughes, Sharp, Thornton, Witte**

Nays: **None**

Chairman declared motion carried.

Motion Alderman Thornton, second Alderman Sharp, that the Council accept a proposal, from L. Patrick McElhiney, CPA, in the amount of \$ 13,000.00, for auditing services, to prepare the City's Audit for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2014, and to authorize the Mayor and the Treasurer to execute said proposal. Payable from the Audit Fund. Roll call vote was:

Ayes: **Beaumont, Colwell, Connor, Gould,
Hughes, Sharp, Thornton, Witte**

Nays: **None**

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Chairman declared motion carried.

Chairman Crew announced that, there being no further business, the Council meeting adjourn at 8:45 P.M.

Ronald Beaumont
Alderman