**CHESTER, ILLINOIS**

## January 17, 2017

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The City Council of Chester, Illinois, met in regular session on **Tuesday, January 17, 2017,** in the Municipal Building, 1330 Swanwick Street. Mayor Tom Page called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

# ROLL CALL

Present: Alderman Nancy J. Crossland Alderman Robert Platt

Alderman Daniel Geisen Alderman Russ Rader

Alderman Donald R. Clark Alderman D. Michael Blechle

Alderman Ray Allison

Absent: Alderman Dan Ohlau

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

# READING OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Alderman Crossland moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting and to approve them as prepared by the deputy city clerk. Alderman Clark seconded the motion. UPON ROLL CALL: Ayes: Aldermen Crossland, Geisen, Clark, Platt, Rader, Blechle, Allison. Nays: None. Absent: Alderman Ohlau. Motion carried.

# CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was acknowledged:

* Invitation from Chester Fire Department to attend their annual Christmas party to be held January 28 (all city employees are welcome to attend)
* Chester Water Plant report for December, 2016
* Letter from First Brokerage America LLC in regard to the Cohen Trust
* Information from Harold Sheffer, J. T. Blankinship, in regard to IEPA pre-applications for loan assistance
* January 11, 2017, newsletter from Chester Area Christian Food Pantry, Inc.

# REPORTS

Mayor:

Mayor Page read a proclamation recognizing January 22 to January 28, 2017, as City of Chester School Choice Week.

City Treasurer (Donna Clendenin):

Referring to financial reports in agenda packets, the city treasurer commended city superintendents for their diligence in staying within budget.

Cemetery & Finance Committee (Chairman Platt):

Chairman Platt advised that the committee met this evening at 5:30 p.m. to review city bills. His motion to approve payment of bills as prepared by the city clerk’s office staff, subject to audit, was seconded by Alderman Rader. UPON ROLL CALL: Ayes: Aldermen Crossland, Geisen, Clark, Platt, Rader, Blechle, Allison. Nays: None. Absent: Alderman Ohlau. Motion carried.

Economic Development, Chamber & Beautification (Chairman Crossland):

Chairman Crossland told council members that the Economic Development Committee met last Thursday and that the Beautification/Tourism Committee met today. A meeting is also in progress this evening to discuss the eclipse project.

# PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Pete Spitler advised that he received an email from the project manager (MODOT) in regard to the bridge project. MODOT is still anticipating an agreement with consultants by the end of this month or beginning of February.

# OLD BUSINESS

# NEW BUSINESS

Cohen Recreation Complex Policies and Procedures:

Mayor Page asked that this agenda item be tabled pending further research.

Gas Futures:

Alderman Crossland moved to ratify the action of the Natural Gas Committee in purchase of gas futures for February and March (February - 6,000 MMBtu @$3.313; March – 6,000 MMBtu @ $3.315). Alderman Geisen seconded the motion. UPON ROLL CALL: Ayes: Aldermen Crossland, Geisen, Clark, Platt, Rader, Blechle, Allison. Nays: None. Absent: Alderman Ohlau. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #1632 – AN ORDINANCE ABATING THE TAX HERETO LEVIED FOR THE YEAR 2016 TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON $1,950,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS (WATERWORKS AND SEWERAGE SYSTEM ALTERNATE REVENUE SOURCE), SERIES 2011, OF THE CITY OF CHESTER, RANDOLPH COUNTY, ILLINOIS:

City Attorney Jeff Kerkhover explained that the city has set aside funds to pay the principal and interest on bonds; therefore, it is not necessary to levy real estate taxes. Alderman Platt’s motion to pass the Ordinance abating taxes was seconded by Alderman Clark. UPON ROLL CALL: Ayes: Aldermen Crossland, Geisen, Clark, Platt, Rader, Blechle, Allison. Nays: None. Absent: Alderman Ohlau. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #1633 – AN ORDINANCE ABATING THE TAX HERETO LEVIED FOR THE YEAR 2016 TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON $3,795,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS (WATERWORKS AND SEWERAGE SYSTEM ALTERNATE REVENUE SOURCE), SERIES 2013, OF THE CITY OF CHESTER, RANDOLPH COUNTY, ILLINOIS:

Alderman Crossland moved to pass the Ordinance abating taxes, and Alderman Clark seconded the motion. UPON ROLL CALL: Ayes: Aldermen Crossland, Geisen, Clark, Platt, Rader, Blechle, Allison. Nays: None. Absent: Alderman Ohlau. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #1634 – AN ORDINANCE ABATING THE TAX HERETO LEVIED FOR THE YEAR 2016 TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON $1,605,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS (WATERWORKS AND SEWERAGE SYSTEM ALTERNATE REVENUE SOURCE), SERIES 2015, OF THE CITY OF CHESTER, RANDOLPH COUNTY, ILLINOIS:

Alderman Crossland moved to pass the Ordinance abating taxes. The motion was seconded by Alderman Clark. UPON ROLL CALL: Ayes: Aldermen Crossland, Geisen, Clark, Platt, Rader, Blechle, Allison. Nays: None. Absent: Alderman Ohlau. Motion carried.

# ADJOURNMENT

At 6:15 p.m., Alderman Crossland moved to adjourn the meeting. Alderman Clark seconded the motion. VOTE: Ayes: Aldermen Crossland, Geisen, Clark, Platt, Rader, Blechle, Allison. Nays: None. Absent: Alderman Ohlau. Motion carried.

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TOM PAGE, MAYOR

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CAROLYN RUCKER, DEPUTY CITY CLERK