

**Murphysboro City Council Meeting  
March 8, 2016**

The Murphysboro, Illinois, City Council met in regular session, pursuant to its ordinances, on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of March 2016. Mayor Stephens called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and Pastor Larry Gilbert Hughes led the council in prayer. Following the invocation, Mayor Stephens led the council in the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Mayor Stephens then directed City Clerk Cottonaro to call the roll. The roll was called with the following

**Present:** Barb Hughes, Russell Brown, Gary McComb, Bill Pierson, John Erbes, Gloria Campos, Tom Ridings

**Absent:** Mark Costa, Herb Voss, Danny Bratton

**Motion: To approve the minutes of the February 9, 2016 council meeting. All aldermen received a copy of the minutes, for their review, prior to the meeting.**

Motion by Alderman McComb Second by Alderman Hughes

Mayor called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

**Motion Carried**

**Motion: To approve the accounts payable, register #623, #624, and #625 through March 8, 2016, accounts receivable through March 8, 2016 and payroll through March 8, 2016. All aldermen received a copy of the accounts payable, accounts receivable and payroll for their review, prior to the meeting.**

Motion by Alderman Campos Second by Alderman Brown

Mayor called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

**Motion Carried**

## REQUESTS FROM THE FLOOR

Rick Erickson and Cathy Renfro addressed the council regarding support for building of the splash park. Governor stopped funding two days after they talked to us; however, in October he gave the okay to go on with the project but they are \$300,000 short. They want to open the splash park on Memorial Day. Mayor will bring it up at standing committee meetings and they will attend to give their presentations.

## COMMITTEE/COMMISSION REPORTS

Budget and Finance Committee meeting of February 22, 2015.

Alderman McComb stated that Mark Kennedy did not want the piece of property with the house on it but will swap for other property. We will revisit the issue at the standing committee meetings.

**Motion: To approve paying Accounts Payable Register #620, #621, and #622 through February 22, 2016.**

Motion by Alderman Pierson

Second by Alderman McComb

Mayor Stephens called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

**Motion carried**

**Motion: To approve to surplus fire engine #9 at Canning Auction.**

Motion by Alderman McComb

Second by Alderman Hughes

Mayor Stephens called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

**Motion carried.**

Personnel Committee meeting of February 22, 2016.

No action taken.

Community Relations Committee meeting of February 22, 2016.

**Motion: To approve the closure request of Oak Street from 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> on April 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10am.-5 pm. for an Art Fair.**

Motion by Alderman McComb

Second by Alderman Campos

Mayor Stephens called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

**Motion carried.**

**Motion: To approve the request by Immanuel Lutheran School for a 5K on April 23, 2016.**

Motion by Alderman McComb

Second by Alderman Erbes

Mayor Stephens called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

**Motion carried.**



Alderman McComb discussed the banning of all animals from the city parks and city cemeteries. Cathy Norton addressed the council and said she agreed with Alderman McComb. Alderman Campos suggested we remind citizen regarding the city ordinance via the water bill. Providing bags for disposal of dog waste at the parks was suggested. We will present again at the committee meetings for possible revision.

Public Safety Committee meeting of February 22, 2016.

No action taken.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Murphysboro Chamber of Commerce will once again be hosting the St. Patrick's Day Celebration. This year it is scheduled for Saturday, March 19, 2016. Parade line-up will be at 7<sup>th</sup> & Walnut Street. We will have candy and trinkets to pass out.

**Motion: To recommend to approve the appointment of Mike Bergant to Crimestoppers.**

Motion by Alderman Campos

Second by Alderman Brown

Mayor Stephens called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

**Motion Carried.**

**Motion: To recommend to approve the appointment of Regina Jones to Crimestoppers.**

Motion by Alderman McComb

Second by Alderman Hughes

Mayor Stephens called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

**Motion Carried.**

Discussion was held on the request from Brews Brothers Taproom to host their monthly block parties on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of each Month from April to September. Discussion followed regarding limiting the volume, our noise ordinance and how to enforce it.

**Motion: To recommend to approve the request from Brews Brothers Taproom to host their monthly block parties on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of each Month from April to September.**

Motion by Alderman Hughes

Second by Alderman Campos

Ayes: Alderman Hughes, Alderman Erbes, Alderman Pierson, Alderman Campos

Nays: Alderman Brown, Alderman McComb, Alderman Ridings

**Motion Carried.**

Mayor distributed photos of Carries Tavern. This property is not in the city limits but adjacent to the city limits. We cannot demolish outside city limits, we would have to annex. Council members should consider this.

Steven Sorrel of 1934 Illinois Avenue has submitted a claim for a mail box which he said our snow plow destroyed. Darrin called when this was reported to him and two of our plows were not working and one was on Williams Street.

**Motion: To recommend to deny the claim of Steven Sorrell.**

Motion by Alderman McComb    Second by Alderman Pierson  
 Mayor Stephens called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

**Motion Carried.**

<b>ALDERMEN ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS</b>
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|---------------|---|
| Barb Hughes   | Nothing   |
| Russell Brown | Nothing   |
| Gary McComb.  | Inquired regarding the status of Mass Transit bus service versus our Cross Town Cab service. Mayor is meeting with Mr. Jones, and Mass Transit people on March 16 <sup>th</sup> at 5:30 to discuss. Gary will contact the state to see what they say. |
| Bill Pierson  | Nothing   |
| John Erbes    | Nothing   |
| Gloria Campos | Status of 15 <sup>th</sup> Street. Darrin stated it was bad but lots of our streets are that way.   |
| Tom Ridings   | Wants to know what our noise and nuisance ordinance is and also wants council to pursue and get equipment to determine levels of noise and then issue tickets.  |

<b>DEPARTMENT HEAD ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS</b>
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|-----------------|---|
| Ed Heller       | Nothing   |
| Sandra Ripley   | .Nothing  |
| Harold Sheffer  | Nothing   |
| Steven Swafford | Rapid Intervention class on Thursday  |
| Brian Hollo     | He will work on noise ordinance, he knows cars and cycles are 75 feet if can hear. Also he has bought the 7 <sup>th</sup> police car and everyone is invited to check it out. |
| Eric Kennedy    | Nothing   |
| Tim Lee         | Nothing.  |

Brian Manwaring      Nothing

Ron Manwaring      Nothing

Darrin Mills      Nothing

Jim Stewart      Nothing

**Motion: To adjourn**

Motion by Alderman McComb

Second by Alderman Brown

Mayor Stephens called for a voice vote. All were in favor.

**Motion Carried**

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.