

Agenda City of Salem
Regular City Council Meeting December 5, 2016
6:00 PM Regular Session

- I. Call to Order & Roll Call**
- II. Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. Presentation of Petitions/Public Comments**
- IV. Mayor's Report and Presentations**
- V. City Council Action**
 - 1. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of Minutes – November 21, 2016
 - 2. Approval of Assignment of US Sonet Franchise to Wabash Communications
 - 3. Presentation by, Selection of, Bond Advisor for Refinance of 2009 Series Bond
- VI. City Manager Report**
- VII. City Attorney Report**
- VIII. Finance Director Report**
- IX. City Council Report**
- X. Executive Session**
 - 1. 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1) – Personnel
- XI. Adjournment**

Bill Gruen City
Manager

MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 5, 2016

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular December 5, 2016 meeting of the City Council was convened at 6:00 p.m. and called to order by Mayor Rex Barbee.

Council members present:

Councilman Tim Hudspeth
Councilman Nic Farley
Councilman Craig Morton
Councilwoman Sue Morgan
Mayor Rex Barbee

Council members absent:

None

Others Present:

City Manager Bill Gruen	City Clerk Bev Quinn
Finance Director Ben Stratemeyer	Chief of Police Sean Reynolds
Public Works Director John Pruden	Code Enforcement Officer Brian Hunt
Deputy Chief Susan Miller	Animal Control Officer Paul Wimberly
Asst. Public Works Dir. Annette Brushwitz	City Attorney Mike Jones
Members of the Media and Public	Economic Development Director Jeanne Gustafson

II. PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Opening prayer was given by Councilwoman Sue Morgan, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

III. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS – None.

IV. MAYOR'S REPORT AND PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Barbee wished everyone a Merry Christmas and happy holiday season.

V. CITY COUNCIL ACTION

1. Consent Agenda

- a.** Approval of Minutes – November 21, 2016

City Clerk Bev Quinn mentioned that the minutes have DC Susan Miller listed as attending, and she was not at that meeting. ***Motion was made by Councilman Farley and seconded by***

Councilwoman Morgan to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Farley, Councilman Morton, Councilwoman Morgan, Councilman Hudspeth, Mayor Barbee. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

2. Approval of Assignment of US Franchise to Wabash Communications

City Manager Gruen noted that a franchise agreement with US Sonet was approved in September of this year. The City was aware at that time that the franchise was being requested in conjunction with a future sale of US Sonet to Wabash Communications. US Sonet is now requesting that that agreement be transferred/assigned to Wabash. Mr. Gruen indicated the City doesn’t have to approve the assignment for the franchise to be transferred, but it may if it wishes. As US Sonet has requested this action, Mr. Gruen recommended that Council take action approving it. Barry Adair of Wabash reports that 30 of their 50 employees are responsible for on-site customer service and for infrastructure maintenance. Wabash will retain US Sonet staff.

Ms. Sue Andrews, US Sonet manager, indicated US Sonet has a state-wide franchise agreement, but Wabash does not yet have that, and approval of the transfer is crucial to the sale of the company to Wabash.

City Manager Gruen added that if the City does not take action, the franchise will transfer automatically to Wabash 120 days after closing. ***Motion was made by Councilwoman Morgan and seconded by Councilman Farley to approve the assignment of the US Sonet Franchise Agreement to Wabash Communication. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Morton, Councilwoman Morgan, Councilman Hudspeth, Councilman Farley, Mayor Barbee. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

Councilwoman Morgan thanked Ms. Andrews for the services US Sonet has provided. Ms. Andrews responded that US Sonet would not have been able to accomplish all they have without the City being behind them 150%.

3. Presentation by, Selection of, Bond Advisor for Refinance of 2009 Series Bond

City Manager Gruen indicated the City’s 2009 Bond will be callable in the spring, and he is requesting that Council consider retaining a bond advisor for the refinance. The following firms made presentations to Council:

<u>Firm</u>	<u>Presenters</u>	<u>Office Location</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Hiltop Securities	Chris Collier and Reagan Holliday	St. Louis, MO	\$10,000
Piper Jaffray	Michelle Bock	St. Louis, MO	\$15,000
Speer Financial	Kevin McCanna	Chicago, IL	\$9,000

City Manager Gruen had provided the three presenters with a list of questions, which all responded to during their presentations and in writing. Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Council that they would like to review the materials provided in more detail and defer action until the next meeting.

VI. CITY MANAGER REPORT

Brown Shoe Cleanup: City Manager Gruen indicated he is working on the Brown Shoe building clean up. The cleanup may involve the removal of debris, filling the basement, cutting and mowing the weeds, and dropping and removing the water tower. The driveways and retaining walls may stay, depending on what City Council wants to do with the property. Council questioned if the City will obtain ownership. Mr. Gruen responded that the City will place a lien on the property for the cleanup, and then foreclose on the property. Councilman Morton asked how many years it would take before the City could foreclose. City Attorney Mike Jones indicated the process would take approximately four months. Mayor Barbee suggested removing demolition of the asphalt drive from the bid request. City Manager Gruen indicated he will put together an itemized list of demolition items, and City Council can pick and choose from the list. City Attorney Jones indicated he does not feel there will be a lot of interest in the property after it is cleaned up. Mayor Barbee and Councilman Farley indicated they feel the opposite. Mayor Barbee indicated he would like to see the City move forward with the bid request. Councilman Farley asked if the City can reduce the cost to clear the property by storing some of the

materials. Public Works Director John Pruden indicated he does not expect that an answer from the IEPA permitting section any time soon.

Travel Expense Ordinance: City Manager Gruen provided a draft Travel Expense provided by the IML, with no dollars to be spent on alcohol, entertainment, etc. Mr. Gruen indicated adoption of a Travel Expense ordinance is now a state requirement, and he is proposing the following:

- Breakfast - \$15.00;
- Lunch - \$15.00;
- Dinner - \$25.00;
- Hotel - \$300/night

Other items that may need to be added in the future are taxis, trains and mileage. This will be brought back for Council action.

VII. **CITY ATTORNEY REPORT** – No report.

VIII. **FINANCE DIRECTOR REPORT** – No report.

IX. **CITY COUNCIL REPORT**

Councilman Farley reminded those present that the City Christmas Dinner is on Friday night and that the Salem Theatre is presenting the Polar Express at the theater on Saturday night.

X. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- 1. 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1) – Personnel

Motion was made by Councilman Hudspeth and seconded by Councilwoman Morgan at 7:55 pm to enter into executive session, after a brief break, for the purpose of discussing Personnel. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Hudspeth, Councilman Farley, Councilman Morton, Councilwoman Morgan, Mayor Barbee. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Return to open session at 9:12 pm.

XI. **ADJOURNMENT**

As there was no further business to discuss, upon **motion by Councilman Hudspeth and second by Councilman Farley, the meeting was adjourned at 9:12 pm. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilwoman Morgan, Councilman Hudspeth, Councilman Farley, Councilman Morton, Mayor Barbee. NAYS: None. Motion carried.**

Bev Quinn, CMC
City Clerk

Minutes approved: _____