

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL
November 28, 2016**

The Common Council of the City of Rensselaer met on November 28, 2016 in regular session in Council Chambers of City Hall. Mayor Stephen Wood called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by invocation offered by Kenin Smith with Hope Community Church and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Answering roll call were: Mayor Stephen Wood; Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Linda DeMoss; Council Members Scott Barton, Bill Hollerman, Rick Odle, George Cover, Ernest Watson, Jr.; City Attorney Mike Riley; Park Supt. Joe Effinger; Cemetery Supt. Kevin Cochran; Fire Chief and Building Commissioner Kenny Haun; Police Chief Jeff Phillips; Utility Office Manager Heather Smart; Gas Supt. Carol Lockridge; Electric Plant Supt. Claude Grow; Asst. Street Supt. Andy Daniels; Project Coordinator Jerry Lockridge and Caitlin Sievers with the Rensselaer Republican. Electric Lead Line Foreman Lenny Larson was absent.

Also in attendance were: Kelton Cunningham with United Consulting and Robert Schenk with Rensselaer Adventures.

The minutes of the November 14, 2016 council meeting were presented and unanimously approved upon a motion by Hollerman and second by Odle.

Citizen Comments and Presentation of Petitions: There were none.

- A. Engineers Report on Owen Street Sewer-United Consulting:** Kelton Cunningham with United Consulting said they had done two study reports for the city. One was Owen Street and the other one was West Washington Street. Owen Street is a 73 acre service area with nineteen single-family homes on about half of the service area. United Consulting has found three different ways to service the Owen Street area. The first one is a gravity sewer alternative where all the sewers are gravity sewers. The northwest corner of Matheson and Wood Road and the Corner of Owen Street and Wood Road there is an eight foot drop in elevation, so when the sewer line comes around the corner, the sewer would be very deep. The total cost for that option would cost 1.7 million dollars. The second alternative would be a low-pressure sewer system where the individual homes would have grinder pumps. The sewer line would be at a much shallower grade. That alternative would cost \$900,000 dollars. The third alternative is a combination of both gravity and grinder pumps. That alternative would cost 1.2 million total project cost. Cunningham said they did look at a fourth alternative but it was not economically feasible. Cunningham said the homeowners would own the pumps and be responsible for the operation and maintenance of the pumps. Cover asked what the cost would be to the homeowners to purchase the pump. Lockridge said the city would install the pumps and the homeowners would be responsible to run the electrical work to the lift station and abandon their septic system. The homeowners would take over the maintenance of the pump after the city installs them. Cunningham said that the cost to put in a grinder pump would be roughly \$3,500.00 to \$5,000.00 and the pump usually lasts around ten to fifteen years. Barton asked if that figure included the line from their house that would take it from their property to the road. Cunningham said the pump would be installed next to their septic system, but for the gravity they would need to put in the line to the right-of-way. Barton asked if the city is providing a line to where the homeowners tanks are. Cunningham said no. Barton said that the homeowners would have the cost of running a line from their tanks to the right-of-way plus the electricity. Hollerman asked if this would increase homeowners sewer bills. Wood said they have water now and sewage is based on water usage, just as it is now. Watson asked when people start to build in the area will the city be responsible for supplying the grinders. Wood said the city would just do the existing nineteen homes. Lockridge said, as a group, they would have to work on the details.
- B. Engineer Report on West Washington Street Sewer-United Consulting:** Cunningham said that gravity would not work for the sewer system on Washington Street. They looked into taking it through the park and running along the river to Milroy and it is not feasible. This would have to be pump options. Wood said the city needed to get a preliminary report but is not in a big rush to do this.
- C. Committee Recommendation on Watt Sub Station:** Odle said that ISC was the lowest bid. ISC has a different superintendent that will run the project and Odle feels that since we are pretty connected to the parent company he feels good about going with them. Watson said the housing will not be built at the site. They will build it in Texas and bring it in so he feels it will be a lot cleaner. Barton asked what the total estimated cost for the project was. ISC's estimated cost is \$1,680,000.00 and it is just an estimate. There was a motion by Cover, second by Barton, to go with ISC Engineering for \$126,000.00. The motion passed unanimously.

2017 City Supply Bids: The committee consisted of Watson, Barton and Jerry Lockridge. Lockridge said the committee was recommending Ceres Solution for items one: unleaded fuel and two: diesel fuel. They also recommended CTS Service for item three: tire repair. There was a motion made by Hollerman and second by Odle to accept the committee's recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

Date change for last Council Meeting in December to Tuesday, December 27th: There was a motion by Barton, second by Watson to change the meeting from December 26th to December 27th. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports: Wood said that he wanted to mention that the Redevelopment Commission had a meeting on November 14th and went out for bids to finish Belville Street up to St Gaspar Drive and around the curve on Drexel Park. There were two bids. On November 21st they had another meeting and awarded the bid to Town and Country Paving for \$190,379.00.

Cemetery Building: Cochran said there is concern for the cemetery's building. It is at the bottom of a hill and has had a lot of damage. It was brought to his attention that he should have his parking lot graded so the cemetery doesn't end up in a lawsuit from people falling down the hill. Cochran checked into it with Town and Country. They said it would be very expensive because it would need a retaining wall. Cochran talked to Councilmembers Odle and Barton, and Mayor Wood and they say it needs a lot of work. Cochran said it will need a lot of work or a new building. Barton said they could bring in a lot of dirt and build a new one south of the existing one but they would be awfully close to each other till they could tear down the existing one. Barton said it was in really bad shape. Wood agreed and said it floods every year and Cochran deals with the public. Wood formed a committee consisting of Barton, Odle, Cochran and Lockridge.

Administrative Comments:

Barton had nothing.

DeMoss had nothing.

Cover had nothing.

Hollerman had nothing.

Odle had nothing.

Watson had nothing.

Wood had nothing.

Claims Approval: There was a motion by Watson, second by Odle, to approve the claims. The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendents Reports:

Building Dept.: Haun had nothing.

Electric Dept.: Grow had nothing. Barton asked if their roof was finished. Grow said yes.

Fire Dept.: Haun had nothing.

Gas Dept.: Carol Lockridge had nothing.

Legal Dept.: Riley had nothing.

Park Dept.: Effinger had nothing.

Police Dept.: Phillips said the Christmas Parade is this Saturday.

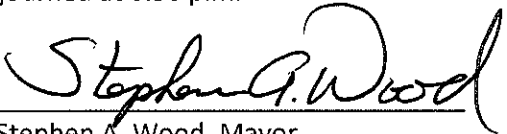
Street, Sanitation, Sewage and Water Dept.: Daniels reported that the 66" concrete pipe that goes from the plant to the river is half way done.

Project Coordinator: Lockridge said they were playing catch up after the holiday.

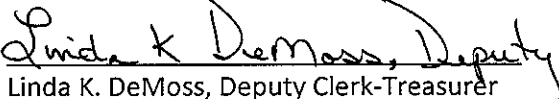
Utility Office: Smart had nothing.

Weston Cemetery: Cochran had nothing.

There being nothing more to come before council, there was a motion by Hollerman, second by Cover, to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m.


Stephen A. Wood, Mayor

Attest:


Linda K. DeMoss, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
Clerk-Treasurer