

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRINCETON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON
FEBRUARY 24, 2011, 7:00 P.M. IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Mayor Jeremy Riddle called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Council members present were Paul Whitcomb, Victoria Hallin, Dick Dobson and Thom Walker. Staff present was Finance Director Steve Jackson, Community Developer Jay Blake, Public Works Director Bob Gerold, Police Chief Brian Payne and City Clerk Katie Hunter. Administrator Mark Karnowski was absent. Also present: City Attorneys Damien Toven and Dick Schieffer.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

It was the consensus of the City Council to add under Ordinances and Resolutions:

- B. Resolution #11-11 Providing Issuance and Sale of Temporary Sewer Revenue Bond

Dobson said he would like to give an update on the new teen center in Princeton.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 10, 2011

WHITCOMB MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 10, 2011. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 AYES, 0 NAYS).

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Permits and Licenses

- 1. Tobacco License for Prince Tobacco (smoke shop) in North Mall Riverside Mall Effective March 1 - December 31, 2011; contingent upon background check

B. Personnel: none

C. Donations/Designations: none

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. WHITCOMB SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 AYES, 0 NAYS).

OPEN FORUM - No one was present for the Open Forum.

PUBLIC HEARINGS – There was no Public Hearing.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, AND COMMITTEES

- A. Princeton Area Visionary Committee January 24, 2011 Minutes

The above minutes were reviewed with no motions needed and with no further comments.

PETITIONS, REQUESTS, AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. Princeton Lion's Club Request

Hallin asked the other council members if the request should be decreased twenty percent as has been done in the past. Whitcomb answered saying that in the past, the council had decided not to decrease the request amount if it was for gift cards.

WHITCOMB MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FROM THE PRINCETON LION'S CLUB FOR FIVE (5) TWENTY DOLLAR GIFT CARDS TO WINE AND SPIRITS FOR THEIR SPRING RAFFLE FUNDRAISER HELD ON MARCH 26, 2011. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 AYES, 0 NAYS).

B. 2011 Princeton Senior Party Request (party held on June 3, 2011)

HALLIN MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE PRINCETON SENIOR PARTY REQUEST FOR ONE (1) SIX-PACK OF SODA POP PER ATTENDING SENIOR UP TO THE AMOUNT NEEDED. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION.

Walker added that his top priority would be the benefit of giving kids a safe and chemical-free environment to celebrate their graduation.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 AYES, 0 NAYS).

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

A. Ordinance 662 Discharge of Firearms Summary Publication Consideration

Blake explained that when the firearms ordinance was adopted at the last meeting, the summary publication portion was inadvertently left off of the approved final reading.

DOBSON MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE SUMMARY PUBLICATION FOR ORDINANCE 662 DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 AYES, 0 NAYS).

B. Resolution #11-11 Providing Issuance and Sale of Temporary Sewer Revenue Bond

Finance Director Steve Jackson said that George Eilertson with Northland Securities was present to discuss the bond.

Eilertson reminded the council that this bond is related to the tripling of the Waste Water Treatment Plant and sized around the United States Department of Agriculture loan amount. The bond is structured with a three-year term. The City can do an early call of the bond after one year if they choose and the timing works out right with the funding from (USDA).

Eilertson went on to say that three bids were received: Piper Jaffray with a purchase price of \$15,295,543.20 and net interest cost of \$845,056.80. Morgan Stanley & Co. Inc with a purchase price of \$15,369,933.60 net interest cost of \$997.466.40. Finally, BB&T Capital Markets with a purchase price of \$15,604,596.00, net interest cost of \$1,783,404.00. Piper Jaffray's bid is very favorable.

Eilertson added that he and Jackson have set up a meeting with a firm that does investments to insure that the money will go to work for the city.

Dobson said it pleases him to see a company in Minnesota that came in with the lower amount. The council thanked George Eilertson for his time and effort.

WHITCOMB MOTIONED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 11-11 PROVIDING ISSUANCE AND SALE OF TEMPORARY SEWER REVENUE BOND. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 AYES, 0 NAYS).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – there was no Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Sale of Lind House

Blake explained that the Lind house located at 601 Old Highway 18 South was purchased by the city recently for a Mark Park expansion and Princeton Splash Park expansion. The sale closed in January 2011. Due to the condition of the property, staff believes that the buildings on the lot should be offered up for sale to be removed from the property.

The land will be cleared and the basement filled in this spring. The Park advisory Board has recommended that the property be added to the adjacent land previously acquired from the Lind Family to allow for the future expansion of the Splash Park facilities.

HALLIN MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE ADVERTISE OF THE SALE OF STRUCTURE ON LIND PROPERTY AND STRUCTURES REMOVED. WHITCOMB SECONDED THE MOTION.

Whitcomb asked if the proceeds will then go back to the Park Fund. Blake said that was recommended by staff to do so.

B. Chamber of Commerce Representative

1. Request for Closure of Parking Lots

Mary Chapman with the Chamber of Commerce was present to request the closure of the Princeton Mall on June 11, 2011 for the Rum River Festival Craft Fair and on September 24, 2011 for the Chili Fest.

Dobson and Hallin both commented that their only concern would be that some of the merchants of the Princeton Mall change from year to year. The form turned into the City Council shows signatures of the merchants from August of 2009. Chapman noted that she highlighted the sentence at the bottom of the signature page telling the merchants that the “document will constitute permission to hold these two annual events from this date forward, each year.” Chapman said if the Council disagreed, she would be willing to obtain new signatures. Dobson asked Chapman if the merchants were the same today as the merchants listed from August of 2009. Chapman said that they were the same. The City Council concluded that for this year, this form will be okay but in the future, a new signature page should be done each year in case of different owners of shops, change in merchants, etc.

Whitcomb and Dobson asked Chapman if the Farmer’s Market was aware of the 2011 Chamber use of the parking lot in June. Chapman said that she has not been in contact with them for this year’s event.

Last year, the Farmer’s Market had a portion of the lot and the Chamber had a portion. But, previous to the event, the Chamber, the City Administrator, and a representative of

the Farmer's Market met to discuss and come to an agreement on the sharing of the lot. It was not known whether the agreement included years to follow, or just 2010.

Hallin and Walker both added that they would feel more comfortable if someone from the Chamber of Commerce revisited with the Farmer's Market representative to make sure everything was acceptable.

Payne commented that last year seemed to work out well with the sharing of the parking lot.

HALLIN MOTIONED TO ACCEPT THE CLOSING OF THE PARKING LOT FOR THE RUM RIVER FESTIVAL CRAFT FAIR AND THE CHILI FEST CONTINGENT UPON WORD FROM THE PRINCETON FARMER'S MARKET BEING OKAY WITH IT AND EITHER WAY, TO NOTIFY THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION.

2. Request for Donation

John Herman, President of Fairview Northland Medical Center and Scott Berry, founder and President of Berry Law Offices in town, were present at the meeting to request for a donation from the Princeton City Council. Herman said that the Chamber of Commerce is looking for an increased level of contribution. The Chamber wishes to enhance their programs with the presence of the businesses, and bring more attention to the city. In the past year, the membership is down from 155 plus to 124, therefore there is less money to begin with and expenses keep rising. Herman said he believed the donation last year was \$4500.00, \$6000 in 2009, and \$5200.00 in 2008. (The request was for \$10,000.00 this year.)

Dobson said he really likes the work that the Chamber does, but with the current situation and not knowing what will happen with Local Government Aid, Dobson had even thought about setting another twenty percent reduction in what was given last year.

Herman said he is appreciative that dollars are tight, especially being in the healthcare area. He added that if the city can increase the donation, those dollars will come back to the city.

Riddle asked Jackson if the donation stayed the same in the 2011 budget at \$4500.00. Jackson said the Mayor was correct and an increase was not budgeted for. Whitcomb added that with the way things are, a \$10,000.00 donation was just way out of the City's budget.

Berry added that the more the Chamber can promote the City of Princeton at the end of the day, the more the city and the businesses get out of it. The Chamber understands it is a large request, but if the city can be promoted at a higher level, it will be beneficial to everyone involved.

Herman said that they do not want to raise ticket prices or dues because it's hard on the businesses. Even if the Council agreed upon a minimal increase, it would be such a positive message to take back to the Board to say the city continues to be behind the Chamber and supportive with the increased activities.

Dobson said the City Council increases for one organization, and then they feel the increase would have to be spread across the board for anyone who comes forward with a request.

Riddle suggested keeping the monetary donation amount the same and adding an auction item with Liquor Store Manager Nancy Campbell's okay. Riddle went on to suggest that the Chamber come back in the Fall when the City Council is planning the following year's budget and maybe they could work in an increase for next year.

DOBSON MOTIONED TO AUTHORIZE A DONATION TO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR \$4500.00 AND A CASE OF WINE OR RUM RIVER RUM FOR THE WINTER GALA WITH APPROVAL OF PRINCETON WINE AND SPIRITS MANAGER. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 AYES, 0 NAYS).

MISCELLANEOUS

Dobson updated the City Council that Family Pathways is getting close to starting a Teen Center in old Coborn's store. They will be doing a "jail or bail" fundraiser.

Dobson was unsure of the time and date of the fundraiser.

BILL LIST – \$659,204.42

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE BILL LIST WHICH INCLUDES THE MANUAL CHECKS AS LISTED ON THE MANUAL VOUCHER BILL LIST FOR A TOTAL OF \$96,940.76, AND THE ITEMS LISTED ON THE LIQUOR BILL LIST AND GENERAL CITY BILL LIST WHICH WILL BE CHECKS 63798 TO 63849 FOR A TOTAL OF \$562,263.66. WHITCOMB SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 AYES, 0 NAYS).

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business:

DOBSON MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:40 PM. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 AYES, 0 NAYS).

Respectfully Submitted,

Katie Hunter
City Clerk

ATTEST:

Jeremy Riddle, Mayor