

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL
March 13, 2017**

The Common Council of the City of Rensselaer met on March 13, 2017 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 Mayor Wood and the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Also in attendance were: Robert Schenk with Rensselaer Adventures;

The minutes of the March 2, 2017 council meeting were presented. There was a motion by Barton, and second by Hollerman, to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments: There were none.

Resolution 04-2017, Gas Tracker: Lockridge presented the gas tracker to council. It represents a 3¢ increase per 100 cubic feet of gas. There was a motion by Hollerman, second by Odle, to approve Resolution 04-2017 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution 05-2017, Transfer of Funds: Bretzinger told the council this transfer of funds in the MVH Fund was to transfer \$12,132.96 from regular salaries to superintendent salary. There was a motion by Barton, second by Hollerman, to approve Resolution 05-2017 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Building Dept. Request to Purchase a Lap Top Computer: Haun asked permission to replace his old laptop computer and to purchase mapping software. The total cost of the laptop and software would be approximately \$2,500.00 and he would like to pay for everything from Contractor Registration Fund. There was a motion by Hollerman, second by Cover, to approve the request. The motion passed unanimously.

Cemetery Deed Request: Bretzinger presented a cemetery deed request from Dave Goodman. There was a motion by Barton, second by Hollerman, to approve the request. The motion passed unanimously.

Administration Building Appraisal: Wood and Riley had the Administration building re-appraised. The charge to have the building re-appraise was \$500.00. There was a motion by Cover, second by Odle to approve payment. The motion passed unanimously.

Water Well Property Purchase: Riley and Wood talked to Mark Taulman with Farm Credit. Farm Credit wants to revoke its release to us unless our payment of \$64,600.00 for the purchase of the St. Joseph's College land is either in an escrow account or we provide a Letter of Credit. Riley said this is not a typical practice for a real estate transaction. There was a motion by Cover, second by Watson, to approve either an escrow account or a Letter of Credit. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports: There were none.

Administrative Comments:

Barton had nothing.

Bretzinger had nothing.

Cover had nothing.

Hollerman had nothing

Odle had nothing.

Watson had nothing.

Wood had nothing.

Claims Approval: The claims were presented for payment. There was a motion by Cover, second by Odle, to approve the claims. The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendents Reports:

Building Dept.: Haun had nothing. Cover said he saw a letter regarding the cleanup of the property on Weston Street. He asked if we were moving forward on that. Haun said it is scheduled for March 21st.

Cemetery Dept.: Cochran had nothing.

Electric Dept.: Miller had nothing. Grow had nothing.

Fire Dept.: Haun had nothing.

Gas Dept.: Lockridge had nothing.

Legal Dept.: Riley had nothing.

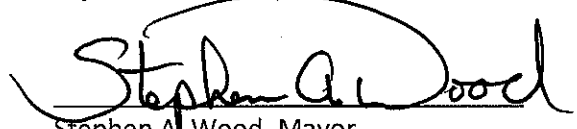
Park Dept.: Effinger asked permission for he and Tony to attend mosquito control seminar at Cedar Lake on May 18th. The cost is \$85.00 per person. There was a motion by Barton, second by Watson, to approve the request. The motion passed unanimously.

Police Dept.: Phillips told council the BPW approved a technical review committee for the police station.

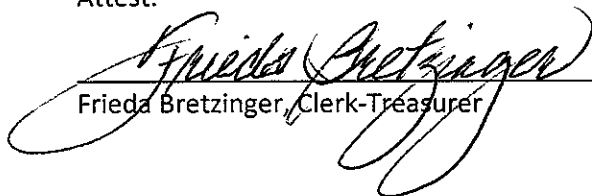
Street, Sanitation, Sewage and Water Dept.: Daniels said they tore down the house on College Ave. and they will be hauling it out tomorrow. Lockridge asked for \$400.00 from Public Relations Fund for water and ice through the week for Clean-Up Week and lunch and pop on Friday. Clean-Up Week is May 1 through May 5. There was a motion by Barton, second by Hollerman, to approve the request. The motion passed unanimously. He met with Walsh-Kelley regarding the street resurfacing of Grace Street from Cullen Street to the Grace Street bridge. They will tentatively begin on April 10 and will be closing Grace Street from Cullen Street to Park Avenue for several weeks. They will be doing a temporary start-up of the Wet Weather Treatment Plant on March 20th.

Utility Office: Smart had nothing.

There being nothing more to come before council, there was a motion by Cover, second by Hollerman, to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.


Stephen A. Wood, Mayor

Attest:


Frieda Bretzinger, Clerk-Treasurer