# City of Hoopeston

# Council Meeting Minutes

February 16, 2016

1. Call to order

Alderman Alex Houmes called to order the regular meeting of the City of Hoopeston at 7:00 p.m. on February 16, 2016 at City Hall.

In Mayor Crusinberry’s absence, Hamilton motioned for Alderman Goodwine to be interim Mayor, Seconded by Houmes. Approved by voice vote 7-0.

1. Roll call

Houmes conducted a roll call. The following alder persons were present: Carter, Houmes, Goodwine, Hamilton, Florek, McElhaney and Yaden. Attorney Mudd was also present. Absent were Alderman Ankenbrand, City Clerk Gail Lane, and Mayor Bill Crusinberry.

1. Approval of Agenda

Alderman Hamilton moved to approve the agenda seconded by Florek. Agenda was approved by voice vote 7-0.

1. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting

Houmes read the minutes from the last meeting. Alderman Carter moved to approve seconded by McElhaney. Minutes were approved as read 7-0.

1. Payment of Bills

Alderman McElhaney moved to approve payment of bills seconded by Alderwoman Florek. Roll call vote taken and bills were approved for payment 7-0.

1. Reports of Officers
2. Alderman Hamilton moved to approve Ordinance 2016-10, an ordinance amending the Hoopeston TIF redevelopment plan for the Hoopeston TIF redevelopment project area of the City of Hoopeston. It is intended to emend the land use map for Prairie Meadows site and RJ Corman property from industrial to residential to focus on the development of affordable housing as well as emend the intended land use for Autumn Fields Assisted Living property from industrial to residential to focus on development of senior housing/assistant living.

Motion Seconded by Alderman Houmes.

**Discussion:**

Alderman Carter noted the expansion was already approved so this is just “housekeeping”

Alderman Goodwine wondered if it made sense to spend the 300k on a project to build more housing when there are already so many existing house for sale in Hoopeston. Is it fair to make owners of these homes compete with government assisted housing? Is the $8.2 million project an efficient use of money? Goodwine believed there are better uses than Prairie Meadows for the 300k of TIF funds like the park’s pool house or infrastructure improvements.

1. Niccole Clements, director of community and economic development for Illinois Association of Community Action Agencies, mentioned there is already a waiting list for people to get into the new homes, and that they will increase tax base by bringing people in to Hoopeston. Nicole also noted the city is getting $8.2 million in development invested into the city for only a $300,000 contribution. Price of each house includes infrastructure, land, engineering, utilities, etc. $25,000 a year in properties taxes generated from phase one of Prairie Meadow is already being given back to the city. The application for the project is expected to be submitted to the state on February 29 and construction is expected to begin during the fall.

Ordinance 2016-10 was passed 5-2 by roll call vote with Alderman Goodwine and Alderwoman Florek voting no.

1. Alderman Goodwine had nothing to report.
2. Alderman Yaden reported that the cemetery committee had met.
3. Alderman Houmes reported that the Website project has begun with Premiere currently working to transfer ownership if the web address to the City.
4. Alderman Carter reported that the city has been contacted by Cobblestone Hotels about the possibility of building a hotel in Hoopeston. It was requested the city update its motel feasibility study originally conducted in 2010. Three firms had submitted proposals for this study with TR Mandigo & Co. being the lowest bidder at $3,500. Carter moved to approve Resolution 2016-11 authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with a firm doing a feasibility study regarding a motel within the City. Motion seconded by Houmes. Motioned passed 7-0 by roll call vote.
5. Alderman McElhaney had nothing to report.
6. Alderwoman Florek moved to pay $250 membership fee for Keep Vermillion County Beautiful. Seconded by Carter. Motion passed by roll call vote 7-0.
7. Adjournment

Alderwoman Florek moved to adjourn seconded by Houmes. Council adjourned by voice vote 7-0.

Alderman Alex Houmes,

Acting City Clerk.