A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE OGLESBY CITY COUNCIL WAS HELD ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2015 A5 5:30 P.M.

PRESENT: COMMISSIONERS CAREY, PORTER, RIVARA, YBORRA; MAYOR FINLEY, CITY CLERK CLINARD AND ATTORNEY ANDREONI.

The Mayor opened the floor to the public for comments. There were none.

Commissioner Rivara started the discussion on departmental updates by asking each commissioner to begin thinking about the FY17 budget and their departmental needs.

Commissioner Yborra updated the council on the repairs to Well No. 4, saying that they were able to push through the debris to 2074 feet, which is even deeper than they had hoped for. He said he was in the process of getting estimates to replace the roof at the waste water treatment plant, noting that he expected the costs to come in between $13,000 and $15,000. He said the roof could possibly be paid for out of TIF funds or the Sewer Fund.

Mayor Finley then asked the council to review the copies of the Risk Assessment Report prepared by the city’s insurance company and work on the items that pertain to their departments. Finley noted that the city had had the report since July of 2014, but yet only a handful of the items had been addressed. He noted that the biggest and most immediate concern was having an employee handbook in place. He passed out a copy of a handbook similar to one used by the City of Sullivan, which is also a commission type of government and asked each council member to look through it. He noted it was “a pretty good start,” to having one done. He asked the commissioners to let the Clerk’s office know of any progress on the items relating to their respective departments.

Finley said next that he would like the city to consider addressing the rental properties in town, noting that some absent landlords’ properties have become not only eyesores, but “decrepit inside and out.” Finley said his hope was to “get the city looking better,” and pointed to the success the City of LaSalle has in cleaning up rental properties. Finley said that “something needs to be done.” He said his goal was to have the properties inspected and “up to code.” He asked the commissioners to review the LaSalle ordinance and let him know what they thought.

Attorney Andreoni said that the city needed to be careful and remember that, as a home-rule community, LaSalle may have different powers than Oglesby. Andreoni asked that a copy of the ordinance be given to him so that he might look it over.

Finley said that there were many buildings that needed to be “fixed and repaired” and that it was time to “start cleaning up the area.”

Lastly, Finley asked the commissioners to start giving some thought to the upcoming fiscal year and their department’s upcoming projects, equipment purchases and improvements. Finley said the city needed to put a budget together and start prioritizing projects.

He then said that he had been approached by John Vezzetti of Bernardi Securities about refinancing the 2010A Bonds. The bonds are paid off in 2021, but if refinanced, the city could save between $10,000 and $12,000 a year in interest.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY PORTER, SECONDED BY CAREY TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 5:53 p.m. AYES: CAREY, PORTER, RIVARA, YBORRA, FINLEY. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY PORTER, SECONDED BY RIVARA to resume the regular portion of the meeting at 6:27 p.m. AYES; CAREY, PORTER, RIVARA, YBORRA, FINLEY. MEETING RESUMED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY YBORRA, SECONDED BY RIVARA to adjourn at 6:29 p.m. AYES: CAREY, PORTER, RIVARA, YBORRA, FINLEY. MEETING ADJOURNED.

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Becky Clinard, City Clerk