

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 24, 2021 IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF MARTINSVILLE, ILLINOIS.

*The meeting was called to order by Mayor Davidson, Alderman Lovell opened the meeting with prayer and all in attendance recited the "Pledge of Allegiance". Roll call was answered by the following council members and elected officials: Chris Davidson, Chris Perry, Melinda Lovell, Troy Propst and John Skinner with Preston Rukes absent. Also, in attendance were Mayor Herman Davidson, Clerk Marlene Wilhoit and attorney Richard Bernardoni. Employees and citizens in attendance are attached to the back of the minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Gas Supt Terry Gard addressed council concerning the natural gas market pricing issues we have received due to the below freezing temperatures in the southern states with the following; "I was notified Sunday morning 2-14-21 of the severe spike in the natural gas markets because of record cold in Oklahoma and Texas. Oil and natural gas production was shut down in these areas to protect equipment from freezing and damaging or destroying it. The extreme cold coupled with decreased production caused the markets to skyrocket on several pipelines. We have 75% of our winter gas locked in at \$2.82 and the remaining 25% was purchased at spot market prices of \$60 per DTH. This will drive our average to \$9.18 per DTH. Our joint action agency, IPEA, and our marketer, Constellation have been working to keep us informed and providing information." Keeping in mind these are just estimates and things may still change. Council will need to discuss how to re-coupe this rate hike and even consider changing meter reading dates to coincide with billing dates.

*Motion by T Propst 2nd by M Lovell to approve minutes of council meeting from 02/10/2021
Upon roll call vote all alderman present voted for the motion (5)

A retirement letter submitted by employee Marlene Wilhoit was read noting retirement date of May 28, 2021. (Letter attached)

*Motion by C Davidson 2nd by C Perry to accept the letter of retirement.
Upon roll call vote all alderman present voted for the motion (5)

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

- commend employees with a good job of removing snow and with a recent water tower leak
- shout out to our guys and Casey and Marshall for their mutual-aid with the water tower leak repair that happened 2-21-21
- the old water tower is out of service at this time due to the leaks that developed in the main trunk, it is still scheduled for removal after the new water tower is built and even though empty is still structurally sound for now
- a few changes need made to the garbage contract and it should be ready to put out for bids soon.
- the meetings will be moved back to City Hall starting with the first meeting in March

With no other comments:

**Motion by C Davidson 2nd by C Perry to adjourn the meeting @ 7:30 PM.
All council members present voted for the motion. (5)

Marlene Wilhoit
City Clerk