

**VILLAGE OF MAHOMET
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
JULY 28, 2015**

The Village of Mahomet Board of Trustees met at 6:00 p.m. Tuesday July 28, 2015 at the Village of Mahomet Administrative Offices, 503 E. Main St., Mahomet, IL.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bruce Colravy, Vicki Cook, Donald Lynn, Bill Olinger, and Brian Metzger

MEMBERS ABSENT: Andy Harpst

OTHERS PRESENT: Village Administrator Patrick Brown, Village Clerk Cheryl Sproul, Chief of Police Mike Metzler, Village Attorney Jim Evans, Dani Tietz of the Mahomet Daily, Amelia Benner editor of the Mahomet Citizen, Mark Thompson, Doug Kimme and Don Clapper.

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ROLL CALL:

Village President Widener opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, upon Roll Call a quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mark Thompson, had distributed a document on the American Flag. Thompson had mentioned the gold braid on the Village's American Flag at a previous meeting.

Thompson stated he had expected to come to the meeting a few months ago but due to the death of his mother-in-law he could not attend. He also mentioned he had come to what he thought was the Board meeting but was mixed up on the date and showed up on a Wednesday.

Thompson began to speak to the name of Mahomet. He stated the Village of Mahomet can mean only one and that is "The Village of Mohammed. He stated there is no other meaning.

Thompson stated there are 14 Christian churches in this town and no Mosque. He stated Mahomet being named after the Prophet Mohammed was an apostasy.

Thompson referenced the 1st commandment that "there shall be no other gods before me". He stated he believed it was a slap in God's face by having a town named Mohammed.

Thompson distributed a document called the Life of Mahomet and History of Islam to the Board and the press.

Thompson stated as a Christian he is deeply offended by the Village being named after a Muslim Prophet. He stated the Confederate flag has been banned because someone was offended and added that he is much more offended by our town being named Mahomet.

He stated the name can be changed. He asked what he would have to do to start the process. He asked if he brought a petition, how many signatures would it take to change the name. He asked if he should start a Go Fund Me campaign and take this nationally to see how many Americans are also offended.

Thompson stated that Muslims are killing Christians every 5 minutes in the world but the Muslims would tell you they are a people of peace, but there are a revolutionary group of Muslims and they should not be ignored. He stated having our town named Mahomet was not compatible with our constitution.

He stated just recently there have been shooting in America that can be traced back to radical Muslim thinking.

He stated he was not here to make a speech, but looking for an answer. He asked if they could answer this tonight.

Widener stated he believed Thompson would not receive an answer tonight but he has the right to pursue whatever he believes he needed to do.

Widener stated he did not know the answer to this question.

Lynn asked Thompson if he understood how much money it would take to change the name. Lynn stated making a change like this through the mail system could cost millions of dollars.

Thompson stated as a Christian he is offended by the name and he would hope others are as well.

Thompson stated he understands it costs money but he hopes everyone understands that the name Mahomet. He added that he had mentioned a Go Fund Me campaign and believed it would be supported nationwide.

Thompson added that the word Mahomet appears on our water tower so that is what people see when they enter our town.

Thompson stated he was disappointed in the response from the Board. He stated he believed the right answer would have been to encourage Thompson to circulate a petition.

Attorney Evans asked Thompson his address. Thompson stated his address was 564 B 2400 N., Dewey, but added that his children went to school in Mahomet. Brown stated this Board's jurisdiction was on for the corporate limits. He stated if Thompson wanted to collect signatures he would need to canvas both the Village and Township, but this Board's concern would be with the residents inside the Village limits.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 23, 2015**
- B. SPECIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES – JULY 14, 2015**
- C. STUDY SESSION MEETING MINUTES – JULY 14, 2015**
- D. STUDY SESSION MEETING MINUTES – JULY 21, 2015**
- E. TREASURERS REPORT**
- F. BILL LIST**
- G. RESOLUTION 15-07-02, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LEAF DISPOSAL SERVICES WITH LISA HAYNES FOR \$3 PER CUBIC YARD**
- H. ORDINANCE 15-07-01, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION FOR LAND COMMONLY KNOWN AS 507 and 509 E. FRANKLIN ST, VILLAGE OF MAHOMET, IL FROM R-3 MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL TO C-2 GENERAL COMMERCIAL**
- I. RESOLUTION 15-07-03, A RESOLUTION CONCERNING FINAL PLAT FOR RIDGE CREEK THIRD SUBDIVISION, VILLAGE OF MAHOMET, IL.**
- J. RESOLUTION 15-07-04, A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN OWNER AND ENGINEER FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES – MAHOMET WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT (WWTP) EXPANSION (PHASE 1) (FARNSWORTH NO. 08M066)**
- K. RESOLUTION 15-07-05, A RESOLUTION CONCERNING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH AN ILLINOIS TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM GRANT.**

- L. **RESOLUTION 15-07-06, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE MAHOMET-SEYMOUR COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #3 TO LEASE THE DARK FIBER OPTIC NETWORK TO CIRBN, LLC.**
- M. **ORDINANCE 15-07-02, AN ORDINANCE EXTENDING THE AUTHORIZATION TO AMEREN ILLINOIS COMPANY D/B/A/ AMEREN ILLINOIS ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN AN ELECTRIC UTILITY SYSTEM IN THE VILLAGE OF MAHOMET COUNTY OF CHAMPAIGN AND STATE OF ILLINOIS**

Widener noted that one item had been removed from the Consent Agenda and place on the Regular Agenda.

Metzger noted he was omitted from the July 14th Study Session attendance record. He stated he had missed the July 21st Study Session and asked if there had been any objection to the Ridge Creek Final Plat. Widener stated there had been no objections to the Final Plat.

Colravy moved, Lynn seconded, "TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED WITH CORRECTIONS." ROLL CALL: ALL YES. Motion carried.

REGULAR AGENDA – (TO BE ACTED UPON)

RESOLUTION NUMBER 15-07-07, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CROSS CONSTRUCTION TO CONSTRUCT THE WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT ON MAIN AND LINCOLN STREETS (MAIN STREET PROJECT) FOR THE SUM OF \$264,215.53.

Widener stated Evans advised that this Resolution needed a 2/3 vote so his suggestion was to remove the items from the Consent agenda and place it on the Regular Agenda.

There being no discussion or comments, **Oliger moved, Lynn seconded, "TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NUMBER 15-07-07, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CROSS CONSTRUCTION TO CONSTRUCT THE WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT ON MAIN AND LINCOLN STREETS (MAIN STREET PROJECT) FOR THE SUM OF \$264,215.53." ROLL CALL: ALL YES. Motion carried.**

MAYOR'S REPORT AND COMMENTS." ROLL CALL: ALL YES. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Brown reviewed the Commercial Development Round Table that had been held Thursday, July 23rd and stated it had been very well attended. He stated the group included, bankers, developers, realtors and others. He stated there was not as much discussion as he would have liked, but it was good to get everyone together and introductions were made.

Brown reviewed the speakers that were involved in the event.

Brown stated he had expected around 25 people to attend but there were 58. He thought maybe this contributed to the lack of discussion. He stated to have almost 60 attendees was a surprise.

Brown noted he would be seeking feedback from those that attended and perhaps the next meetings would be broken down into smaller segment groups.

Widener stated the Village's purpose was not to be their answer but to connect the dots with people and now they can talk to each other now that they know each other and foster future discussions.

Cook stated she had attended and felt that it was very informative but agreed there could have been more discussion. She agreed it was a good venue to "connect the dots" as Widener said and she was looking forward to the next one.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Widener stated the meeting dates for August were as follows: Joint Study Session with Plan and Zoning and Economic Development Tuesday, August 11, 2015 at 6:00 p.m., regular Study Session Tuesday, August 18, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. and Board of Trustees meeting, August 25, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

Widener mentioned a Joint Study Session with the school was tentatively scheduled for Sept. 8. Brown stated the meeting would probably be held at Middletown Prairie Elementary School. He stated the time is to be determined but would be either 6 or 7 p.m.

Widener stated the agenda for the Joint meeting August 11th was almost complete.

Widener stated the drop off facility had been discussed in the department head meeting and he wanted to update the Board of the progress. Widener stated the gates have been installed but there are other items to be completed, but progress was being made. He anticipated testing it out possibly in August. He noted the service will be free and for Village residents only. He stated a check in or address verification process will be used.

ADJOURNMENT:

Lynn moved, Metzger seconded, "TO ADJOURN AT 6:20 P.M." ROLL CALL: ALL YES. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Cheryl Sproul

Cheryl Sproul
Village Clerk/FOIA Officer

approved as presented, August 25, 2015