

COUNCIL MEETING OF AUGUST 18, 2008

The second regular August meeting of the Mannington City Council with Mayor Frank White presiding was held Monday, August 18, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. Council members attending were Bob Garcia, Betty Liller, Harold Rosencrance, Terry Starsick and Del Watson.

City Clerk Michele Fluharty read the minutes of the last meeting and they stood approved as read.

In the visitors' portion of the meeting, Charles Hall said that the code enforcement officer needs to inspect the Huck Beaty property on Meadow Avenue. He said the roof is caving in on the house.

Mayor White reported that the work for the Town of Farmington was completed and they have been billed for the services.

Fire Chief Jim Moran gave his department's July report in which he said they had 13 hours and 10 minutes in response time.

The mayor read the written Street & Water Department report. It was noted that the Whetstone water line has been buried in the creed.

Fluharty said she contacted Ruth Ice about the timeline for the dedication of the Hough Park football field in her father's honor. According to Ice, they are considering changing their plans to a monument instead of a plaque and they may not hold the dedication until 2009.

In old business, Mayor White recapped the Grandview alley situation and said the Planning Commission has recommended several options including relocation of the fence and leaving the alley as is or shifting the location of the alley via a property swap. Councilman Starsick asked Ron Powell Jr if he talked to the neighbors about their preference. Powell said he had not talked to all of them but the ones he had spoken to were in favor of leaving as is. He said moving any water/sewer lines in the alley may be a problem if the property swap is an option. Superintendent Charles Rexrode said he was not sure about the water lines behind Powell's. White said the simplest solution is to leave as is and to order that the fence be moved. Watson asked who incurs the expense to move the fence and White said it would be the Fair Board's responsibility. Perry Thorne Jr who was representing the Fair Board said no one knows where the fence is to go and the Fair Board is willing to absorb the cost of any property swap. White said a surveyor may be necessary so that it can be determined exactly where the fence is to be moved. Rosencrance made the motion to have the alley surveyed. Starsick seconded the motion and it carried. White said after the survey is completed then the situation will be reassessed.

Under new business, the Planning Commission has issued a recommendation to amend the zoning regulations allowing privacy fences up to eight feet high. White said he

recommended acceptance. Liller made the motion to accept the Commission's recommendation and authorize an ordinance to amend the zoning regulations. Rosencrance seconded the motion and it carried. Watson voted no.

White asked council to consider using \$14,000 of the FY 2008-09 Mead Fund budget so that they can do more paving this fall. He said that would leave \$6,000 in reserve. Rob Yost is willing to rent the city a paver for 2-3 months to use in the spring so that the city can do a better job of patching. Garcia asked where the extra money would be used to pave. White said he would like to do the intersections of Monroe & Washington Streets and Monroe & Pyles Avenue plus any other rough areas on Monroe Street. Watson made the motion to authorize the use of \$14,000 from the Mead Fund paving budget. Rosencrance seconded the motion and it carried.

Jim Sturm of Mannington TV, Inc was present about transferring his cable franchise to Comcast. White told Sturm that the city appreciated his years of service. Fluharty said she provided copies of the ordinance to transfer the franchise along with copies of the current ordinances for council to review prior to the next meeting. Sturm said a representative from Comcast would be at the public hearing in September. Sturm said he was not sure if they would have an office in Mannington but he added that they were not interested in his office.

Mayor White said the business and occupation taxes are an essential income for the city and is needed to fund city improvements. However, he said there are several businesses that are delinquent. He said the city clerk is in the process of contacting those businesses and if they do not respond, Fluharty will file the necessary paperwork in magistrate court.

Jim Moran said his department would like to advertise for a light rescue truck. White told him to proceed with the advertisement and the bid opening will be put on the next agenda.

Garcia made the motion to adjourn. Liller seconded the motion and it carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.