

CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF APRIL 7, 2008

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

City Clerk Michele Fluharty read the minutes of the last regular and special meetings and they stood approved as read.

In the visitors' portion of the meeting, Tony Michalski of the Marion County Parks & Rec presented checks for the Huey Playground Association (\$1,000), Girl's Fastpitch Softball (\$1,255) and the Mannington Park Board (\$1,240). Jennifer Tetrick also of MCPARC described their playground program and asked the city to consider participating again this year. Michalski said the cost to the city would be \$1,500. Upon questioning by Councilman Starsick, he said approximately 25 kids took part in the program at Hough Park last summer. Mayor White thanked him for the funding and said council would consider the playground program. Michalski urged the Park Board to contact him if any help is needed at the park.

County Commissioner Randy Elliott said the Commission's attorney is looking into the guarantee on Mannington's pool lining. He added that the County has \$40,000 to help with small parks & playgrounds this year and they hope to continue that assistance next year.

The first item of business was the changeorder on the city's portion of the SCBG. Liller made the motion to accept Randy Watson's recommendation to approve a changeorder in the amount of \$8050 for road improvements to the city's water tanks. Starsick seconded the motion and it carried. In a motion by Starsick, Watson was also given authorization to approach the WV Development Office about other improvements to the tanks that would be funded by the grant monies. Liller seconded that motion and it carried.

Elliott asked for any update on the joint water project with the City of Fairmont. Mayor White recapped a recent meeting held at Fairmont's water plant between officials from both entities. He said that the project should be able to go to bid very shortly.

In his report, Mayor White said it is still in the planning stage but he would like to offer a \$500 reward for information that leads to the arrest & conviction of anyone who commits a breaking & entering or similar crime in town. He said he wants the quality of life to be the best in Mannington and that offering such a reward may deter such acts. White also asked for any comments pro or con on the work order system that is in place for city officials or citizens to request service from the various city departments. He asked council to use the system instead of giving out his work cell phone number. The work order system was developed to document the requests and produce the fastest results. Starsick asked Charlie Rexrode how the system worked for him and Rexrode said it works okay.

John Higgins of the Mannington Fire Department read a letter from Central Communication's Carolyn Ledsome concerning the switch to low band radios. Commissioner Elliott said they cannot proceed with the switch without the Commission's approval. He said if the switch is made then the county would need to provide new minitors for the fire departments. Elliott said he would keep the city updated. In a related matter, Elliot said that an alternate site for a new radio tower has been found at the top of Whetstone hill.

Mayor White read the written Street/Water Department report. He told Superintendent Rexrode that a schedule for sweeping the street needs to be worked out so that residents can move their cars.

Chief of Police David James said he and Sgt Liller recently attended a course on the new accident reports that are mandated for police departments this year. He said the reports are to be done online so internet access will be necessary for their office computers.

The first item under new business was the Spring Clean-up Day. Garcia made the motion to authorize two dumpsters for clean-up day on April 26. Watson seconded the motion and it carried.

The three proposals for the sidewalk by the library on Clarksburg Street were reviewed. They were as follows:

Wildman Construction \$6,500; Martin Repair \$9,680 and C W Stickley \$16,160. Liller made the motion to accept the proposal from Wildman Construction. Starsick seconded the motion and it carried. White said he would also ask Wildman to give a quote to extend the sidewalk to Pleasant Street. Garcia asked if there had been any response from the Board of Education about their sidewalk. White said no but he would have Anthony Horton contact them again.

Fluharty said no bids were received for the mowing at the water plant. Mayor White asked that another notice be put in the newspaper.

Councilman Starsick said there appears to be some confusion about the start and end of the rail trail. He said if the city's lease with Consol begins at the Dent's Run Spur then that is located behind the Mannington Home Center. White said the City of Fairmont has secured a 10,000 foot right of way from CSX as part of the water project so that should eliminate any confusion once it is finalized. Elliott said that Marion County's plan is to purchase the CSX property for the trail.

Garcia made the motion to adjourn. Liller seconded the motion and all approved. The time was 8:20 p.m.