

COUNCIL MEETING OF MARCH 17, 2008

The second regular March meeting of the Mannington City Council with Mayor Frank White presiding was held Monday, March 17, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. Council members attending were Bob Garcia, Betty Liller, Terry Starsick and Del Watson.

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

Marci Carroll, Democratic candidate for Family Court Judge, asked for everyone's support and vote in the upcoming primary election.

Sheena Hunt from Region Six presented Pay Requisition #17 for the SCBG water project. The total of the invoices were \$36,402.21 and included admin, engineering and legal fees incurred from November to the present. She said all were within budget. Liller made the motion to approve payment of Pay Requisition #17. Starsick seconded the motion and it carried.

Tom Rundle, a candidate for Marion County Magistrate, introduced himself and distributed a leaflet.

In his report, Mayor White said he would like to move ahead with the discussion about an alternate parade route for the fair. It was agreed to write a letter to Fair Board President Bob Thorne and ask him to attend the next work session to discuss the parade.

Deputy Chief Chris Efaw read the February report for the Fire Department. They received 22 calls for the month.

Mayor White read the written Street/Water Department report.

Chief of Police David James gave his department's February report. They received 138 calls for assistance. He reported that he issued an order to his department to begin towing illegal cars off of the streets. They are also giving owners 30 days to remove any such vehicles from private property.

The only item under old business was the second and final reading of the FY 2008-09 budgets. Watson questioned whether a raise was included for the code enforcement officer. Mayor White said no. Watson then said he would prefer a 60 cent an hour raise for everyone instead of the 5% included in the budget. Fluharty said there was not time to revise the budget, read it twice and get it submitted to the State Auditor's Office and published by the March 28 deadline. She said it could be amended in July. Mayor White recommended

that the budget be accepted as presented with the 5% raise. Liller made the motion to accept the mayor's recommendation and approve the budget. Starsick seconded the motion. Liller and Starsick voted yes, Garcia and Watson voted no. White said he would not change his recommendation because the budget must balance and no figures were presented to show that there was enough money in the budget to support the 60 cent an hour raise. Liller asked why Watson waited until now to propose the change since the budget talks began last month. White asked Fluharty to contact the State to see what happens if the budget is not passed by the deadline.

Under new business, the fencing bid from American Fence was presented for approval. The fencing is for the city's water tanks and will be paid with Small Cities Block Grant monies. Garcia made the motion to accept the bid in the amount of \$22,987.50 from American Fence Co. Watson seconded the motion and it carried.

Mayor White reported that Mike Williams and Mike Nicholson have both successfully completed their probation periods. White recommended that Williams be approved as a regular, full time class I laborer. Liller made the motion to accept the mayor's recommendation and employ Mike Williams on a full time basis. Garcia seconded the motion and it carried. White then recommended that Nicholson be approved as a regular, part time patrolman. Liller made the motion to accept the mayor's recommendation and employ Nicholson as a regular, part time police officer. Garcia seconded the motion and all approved.

The renewal of The Health Plan for the employees' insurance was reviewed. The renewal premium included a 3.7% increase. Garcia made the motion to accept the renewal. Watson seconded the motion and it carried.

Liller made the motion to authorize the bid notices for the mowing at the water plant and for the meter reading. Garcia seconded the motion and all approved.

White said Fluharty will check with the State Auditor's Office to see if another meeting will be necessary to reconsider the budget and council will be notified if one is scheduled.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.