

CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF MAY 5, 2008

The first regular May meeting of the Mannington City Council with Mayor Frank White presiding was held Monday, May 5, 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 meeting and they stood approved as read.

Sheena Hunt of Region Six presented Pay Requisition #18 for payment. It included \$4,400 to Thrasher Engineering for engineering fees and \$1300.46 to Region Six for administration fees. Mayor White recommended that the requisition be approved. Liller made the motion to approve Pay Requisition #18 for \$5700.46. Garcia seconded the motion and it carried. Discussion followed about the demolition of the plant property. White asked Hunt to get a clarification of the deadline because he said the city does not want to miss the deadline and lose the funding to demolish the plant and the plant house.

Ken Witt, chairman of the Mannington Planning Commission, reported that the Commission has recommended that the road through Stillings Addition be accepted by the city and named Stillings Drive. The request by Sam Stillings was primarily due to his concern about his mother's welfare. Witt said the street is in good condition and is being maintained by the city crew in the winter now so it would not incur added expense to the city. Mayor White recommended that the street be accepted by the city. Garcia made the motion to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation. Starsick seconded the motion and it carried.

In his report, Mayor White said several events have occurred in town that he and others at city hall were unaware of and he would like to set up a system whereby a log is kept in the clerk's office so if he, council members or citizens call, the information would be available. This would be in reference to fires, major accidents, homicides, or any type of catastrophe.

Jim Hayes said the door to the Longstreth property is open again and kids were seen inside. Mayor White directed Superintendent Rexrode to secure the door.

Sam Wilson presented pictures of several properties by his house on Grafton Street that need the attention of the code enforcement officer. White said he would send him to inspect those properties this week and added that it is his priority this summer to clean up properties in town. Wilson also asked for dirt to be placed over the old drain by his mother's house in Sycamore or for the drain to be put back in.

Al Babcock, on behalf of the Marion County Commission, presented a sample address ordinance. He asked that council discuss it and the city attorney review it before taking action on it. Babcock said he thought Mannington had already complied with much of the ordinance but he would like the city to consider its passage. He said that he would come to the hearing on the ordinance once it is ready for passage. Babcock also said that the

county has a mobile recycling unit available plus the tire people from Sutton would work with the city on a program to get rid of old tires.

Dave Liller commended Mayor White on his job as mayor and particularly on his job as chairman of the Sanitary Board. He said White has made some courageous decisions pertaining to the Sanitary Board that were long needed and no one else would do.

The mayor read the written Street/Water Department report.

Chief James gave his department's April report in which he noted that they had received 134 calls for assistance. He also reported that nine vehicles have been tagged and 7 of those were towed.

Under old business, the alley in Grandview was discussed again. Ronnie Powell said that he was told to stay off the Fair Board's property so he cannot access the alley because it means crossing their property. White said Powell might want to consult an attorney but in the meantime, the city will try to get copies of any plats & maps so that the Planning Commission can re-visit the issue at their July meeting. The Fair Board will be contacted to get copies of their documentation also. White said he was not in favor of abandoning alleys because they may be needed in the future. Powell said he just wants access.

Under new business, the only item of business was the appointment of a person to fill the vacancy in Precinct #67. Mayor White said letters of interest had been received from Michelle Rosier, Harold Rosencrance, Marian Walker, Ken Witt, Harry Moore and Candy Rinehart. He said any of those candidates present would be given an opportunity to speak. All but Walker were present and each gave a short talk about themselves and their qualifications. Since Walker was not present, her letter of interest was read by Fluharty. White said that after listening to each of them and reviewing their qualifications, he was recommending Harold Rosencrance because of his past experience of serving on council, his attendance at several council meetings this year and because as a businessman in Mannington, he comes in contact with citizens daily. Starsick made the motion to appoint Rosencrance to fill the unexpired term from Precinct #67. Liller seconded the motion. Starsick and Liller voted aye, Watson and Garcia voted nay. Mayor White said he had anticipated a deadlock and had contacted the city attorney to research for options if one did occur. He then read City Attorney Peter DeMasters' opinion that the state code gives the mayor the right to cast the tie-breaking vote if he has not previously voted. White then said that he was exercising that right and casting his vote for Harold Rosencrance. The motion then carried and Rosencrance was appointed to fill the vacancy. White said he hoped that all of those who had submitted letters of interest would run in the next election in 2009.

Liller made the motion to adjourn. Starsick seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.