

COUNCIL MEETING OF MAY 19, 2008

The second regular May meeting of the Mannington City Council with Mayor Frank White presiding was held Monday, May 19, 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 regular meeting and they stood approved as read.

Mayor White welcomed newly appointed Councilman Harold Rosencrance.

In the visitors' portion of the meeting, Patty Fetty said it had been 21 days since the window was broken in her home and asked why she has heard nothing from the police department. Officer Andy Kolb said he was the investigating officer and he was waiting for a copy of the video from 7-11. Kolb also said he would talk to Fetty after the meeting.

Ron Powell asked for any updates on the Grandview alley situation. Mayor White said a letter is going out tomorrow to the Fair Board asking them for copies of any agreements, plats, etc prior to the July Planning Commission meeting. Powell asked to be notified about the meeting also.

Dave Carlin asked if anything was going to be done about the property next to his on Burt Hill. Kolb said he talked to the property owner and he partially cleaned it up.

Randy Elliott commended White on his job as mayor and on the decision to appoint Rosencrance to council.

In his report, the mayor said that there are several pending projects including developing an area at Dent's Run to store the city's gravel and cinders, revising the city's emergency plan, securing money for demolition, repairing or replacing the Clarksburg Street and Northview Bridges, and if the old DOH property is given to the city, developing a heritage park on that property. He encouraged the council members to select one of these projects to spearhead. Del Watson said he talked to the post office about purchasing the property across from them on Water Street to demolish for parking but he has not gotten a response. Mayor White asked each member of council to identify properties in their precinct that need maintenance. The city will then send certified letters and give them two weeks to clean it up. If nothing is done, citations will be issued. He asked the council members to provide the property owners name, house number and street name. Commissioner Elliott said that Marion County has a dilapidated building ordinance if the city would be interested in adopting a similar one. However, he cautioned the city against proceeding against occupied homes since there could be legal issues. The mayor also said he would like to see a senior patrolman position created for graduates of the state police academy.

Under department reports, the mayor read the written Street/Water Department report and it was noted that the work on the water tank should be completed and it will be back on line in a week to ten days.

Discussion followed about the concession stand under construction as a joint project of the Pop Warner and Girl's Softball organizations. Mayor White said it was to be a block building with steel doors. Elliott said he thought it was going to be a block foundation only. Ron Powell said Spanky Shadrick had ordered a large quantity of blocks from the Home Center so it appears that the whole building will be block.

Del Watson presented a petition addressed to Governor Manchin asking that the Fairmont/Mannington water project be stopped. White said he respected the opinions of those who signed the petition but the City of Mannington is under legal contract with Fairmont to proceed with the project. Jim Hayes asked about the water used during fires once the city is on line with Fairmont. White asked Plant Operator Ted Nice is there was a way to draw water from the dam once the plant is closed if large quantities of water are needed. Nice said a hydrant could be placed on the raw water line.

Under new business, council reviewed proposals from Wildman Construction to extend the sidewalk on Clarksburg Street to Pleasant Street and from Martin Repair to repair the ramp at city hall. Starsick made the motion to accept the proposals from Wildman and Martin. Rosencrance seconded the motion and it carried.

Fluharty said Chief James would like to implement a charge for fingerprinting since there has been an increased demand for them. She has checked with several other entities and their fees range from \$ 5.00 for residents to \$10.00 for non-residents to \$ 20.00 for everyone. Garcia made the motion to authorize an ordinance setting the fee for fingerprinting at \$5.00 for city residents and \$10.00 for non-residents and \$10.00 for accident reports. Starsick seconded the motion and it carried.

Council reviewed the plans for the trailhead for the Joel McCann Rail Trail. Mayor White recommended they be accepted. Garcia made the motion to approve the plans as presented. Rosencrance seconded the motion and all approved.

Mayor White said that there has been no response to the Sanitary Board's funding request from the Governor's office. If the grant is not approved, a rate increase will be necessary. White said the Board has made cutbacks in their employees and they recently approved a \$15.00 fee for the concessions at the fair but he said their equipment is continually breaking down so they continue to operate in the red. Councilman Starsick said preventive measures might help with the equipment/pump problems.

Garcia made the motion to adjourn. Liller seconded the motion and it carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.