

## COUNCIL MEETING OF JANUARY 5, 2009

The first regular January meeting of the Mannington City Council with Mayor Frank White presiding was held Monday, January 5, 2009 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.

In the visitors' portion of the meeting, Ron Powell asked about the progress with the Fair Board's fence in Grandview. Upon questioning by the mayor, Powell said the first gate is still there, the upper gate is open and additional fencing has been installed. White said the main gate was to be moved back to the Board's property but he will have Code Enforcement Officer Anthony Horton check on it and report back to him. Garcia said if the Fair Board changed the alley then they should put it back to its original location. Starsick said he thought the agreement was to put in a gate so there could be access by the surrounding property owners. Powell said he would like the mayor and council to look it over.

Rhonda Martin presented several complaints including the junk and garbage beside Earley's trailer in Hough Addition, parking on the sidewalk on Poolside Drive, and the barking Great Dane in Clayton Addition. Mayor White told Officer Andy Kolb to advise the whole department to write warning tickets to anyone parking on the sidewalk and if the violation continues, then write a ticket. Shirley Garcia and Linda Wildman also said the barking dog is a real nuisance. The mayor asked Kolb to advise all the officers that the barking dog is still a problem and the owner is to be cited. Kolb said they have been called there many times but they cannot catch the dog barking. White also directed Kolb to cite the Earleys if the junk is still piled by their residence. Martin then said that the stones on the wall across from the gymnasium are being washed away on the Buffalo Street side and the parking lot is eroding away. Mayor White asked Superintendent Rexrode to advise the State Road of the problem on the Buffalo Street side. He told Rexrode to reinforce the creek bank with rock on the city's side. Wildman asked that something be done about speeding on Church Street. The police department will run radar in that area between 6 – 9 p.m. Shirley Garcia said that her brother's memorial brick on Citizens' Square has cracked and her family is very upset. Main Street Director Jim Taylor said he believes skateboarders are damaging the bricks. He said there is sign prohibiting

skateboarding there but it is not big enough. Taylor said he has talked to Chief James about the problem. Mayor White said a larger sign would be put up on Citizens' Square. He also said an article would be put in the newspaper stating that the police department will confiscate the skateboard from any violators and it will not be returned until the owner and their parents meet with him. Terry Starsick said there was talk of putting a skateboard park on the old tennis court at Hough Park and that may alleviate some of these problems because there is no place for the kids to go now. Garcia said Bowers Park was also considered but the idea was dropped because of insurance issues. White suggested that Fairmont be contacted about the insurance on their new skate park.

Taylor reported that he is still working with Marion County on the campground at Curtisville. He said the project is dependent upon Consol's participation. Once it is completed, Main Street will take care of the campsites and keep the income from the rentals. White asked if there would be a caretaker. Taylor said they have no plans for one because they hope that the close proximity of the mines will deter vandalism.

The Longstreth building was the lone topic under new business. The mayor and council met with a contractor concerning its demolition in the work session held prior to this meeting. White said he would explore funding for its demolition along with monies for a skate park. He said the Pyles Avenue site could be used to store the city's gravel and cinders once the trailhead project gets underway.

White asked the police department to get the names of the trucking companies who frequently travel over Water Street. Once those names are turned into the city clerk, they will be contacted about contributing to the paving of Water Street since they are a big factor in its deterioration.

Councilman Garcia said he wanted to thank the police and fire departments for responding so quickly to his nephew's recent house fire.

Rosencrance made the motion to adjourn. Garcia seconded the motion and it carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

