

COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 19, 2013

The second regular February meeting of the Mannington City Council with Mayor Bob Garcia presiding was held Tuesday, February 19, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at city hall. Council members attending were Christina Dunigan, Larry Smith, Terry Starsick, Rana Taylor and Becky Williams.

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

Budget requests from outside agencies were the first item on the agenda. Olive Marie Utt, representing the West Augusta Historical Society and the Mannington Perpetual Cemetery Care Fund, asked that both groups be included in the FY 2013-14 Mead Fund budget. Starsick asked Utt how much she was asking for each of the organizations and she said that would be up to council. Written proposals were received from the United Way, Link, Mannington Public Library, Historic Landmark Commission, and the Planning Commission. Utt also said she was told that the Historical Society's properties could be covered through the City's insurance policy. Fluharty said she would check with the City's carrier.

In department reports, Superintendent Ted Nice gave an account of their work detail during the last two weeks. Chief of Police David James gave his department's January report in which he said they received 109 calls for assistance during the month. Fluharty said the audit report has been received and is available in her office for anyone to review. She also said that the filing period for the City's June election is March 12 through 26.

In Old Business, the only item was the Wintergarden property. Mayor Garcia said he was approached by a person interested in purchasing the Wintergarden but in order to sell it, the City must put it up for auction. He said the asbestos report has been received and he will make it available to the interested party to see if they are still interested in purchasing the property. Starsick made the motion to put the Wintergarden property up for auction. Dunigan seconded the motion and it carried.

In New Business, James recommended that Andrew Schwartz be hired as a full time patrolman and Donnie Wheeler as a part time officer. Starsick made the motion to accept James' recommendation and hire Schwartz and Wheeler, subject to a six month probation period. Smith seconded the motion and all approved. Schwartz is scheduled to attend the academy on March 25.

James asked for authorization to purchase five tasers and a desktop computer through the COPS grant. He said they have already been approved through the COPS office. Dunigan

made the motion to approve the purchase of the tasers and computer using COPS grant monies. Starsick seconded the motion and all approved.

Garcia said that the City's sewerage plant was not annexed when Rainbow Plaza and several other businesses in that area were brought into the City. He recommended that it be annexed now. Starsick asked if the State Road has ever been approached about being annexed. Garcia said they have not since there would be no benefit to the city. Starsick made the motion to authorize the attorney to begin annexation proceedings. Smith seconded the motion and it carried.

General Fund Budget Revision #3 was presented for council's review. Taylor made the motion to approve the revisions. Starsick seconded the motion and it carried.

Garcia recommended that Mike Beaty and Gary Bowers be appointed to fill two of the vacancies on the Planning Commission. Dunigan made the motion to accept Garcia's recommendation and appoint Beaty and Bowers to the unexpired terms on the Commission. Taylor seconded the motion and it carried.

State officials from the DOT met with Garcia and Fluharty last week to discuss the West End Sidewalk Project that was originally scheduled to replace the sidewalk along Buffalo Road next to the fairgrounds. Both sides agreed that the project was not feasible at this time. The state officials want a list of alternate sidewalks that need replaced. Garcia suggested the one in front of the Mannington Middle School and several on High Street from the corner of Clarksburg Street to the Bowers Bridge. Starsick and Taylor said the sidewalk coming off the Brookside Bridge is in very bad condition. Starsick made the motion to table a decision until a survey of the Southside and Brookside areas can be completed. Dunigan seconded the motion and it carried.

The final item on the agenda was Ordinance #408 which establishes a transportation fee to charge Downs PSD for the use of the city's lines, etc so that they can purchase water directly from Fairmont. Dunigan made the motion to read the heading only. Starsick seconded the motion and it carried. Garcia read the heading. Dunigan made the motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance #408. Starsick seconded the motion and it carried. A public hearing will be held during the next regular meeting.

Dunigan made the motion to adjourn. Starsick seconded the motion and it carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.