

COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 4, 2008

The first regular February meeting of the Mannington City Council with Mayor Frank White presiding was held Monday, February 4, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. Council members in attendance were Robert Garcia, Robbie Ice, Betty Liller, Terry Starsick and Del Watson.

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

Planning Commission Chairman Ken Witt reported that the terms of Jim Taylor and Dorothy Haugh have expired and the Commission has unanimously recommended that they be reappointed. He also said he was present to support the trail head project. Mayor White told Witt that both items would be addressed later in the meeting.

Several others voiced their support of the trail head project. Leisha Elliott said the lease with Consol has been submitted to the State during all three rounds of the Joel McCann Rail Trail funding and it was acceptable to them. She asked why council had a problem with it if the State of WV does not. Charles Hall said he would hope that the City will approach Marion County to continue the trail from Mannington to Fairmont.

In his report, Mayor White said the city has been advised by Region Six that the CSX right of way has been secured by the City of Fairmont. This should clear the way for the water line project to go to bid in the near future. White reported that he is still pursuing an alternate water source and he is awaiting a response to his latest correspondence. However, White said if this other option does not pan out, he has informed Region Six that a chlorination building needs to be added to the joint project with Fairmont.

Fire Chief Jim Moran reported that his department had 28 hours, 9 minutes in response time for the month of January.

Mayor White read the Street/Water Department's written report.

Fluharty said it is time to begin work on the FY 2008-09 budgets. It was agreed to hold a budget work session at 6:00 p.m. prior to the next regular meeting.

The first item of business was reconsideration of the proposal for the trail head design/inspection. Councilman Starsick presented his correspondence with Consol in

which they reaffirmed the lease with the City and offered to meet with officials to discuss any plans for construction on the right of way. Fluharty also produced a certified plat showing Consol as owner of the right of way plus the City of Mannington as owner of property on both sides of the right of way. Mayor White then asked for a motion to accept the proposal. Garcia made the motion to accept the design proposal from Gustafson & Associates and to release the funds for the project. Liller seconded the motion and it carried.

Mayor White recommended that Dorothy Haugh and Jim Taylor be reappointed to the Planning Commission. Liller made the motion to reappoint Haugh and Taylor to three year terms on the Commission. Ice seconded the motion and it carried. Garcia asked Witt how many precincts were represented on the Commission. Witt said he thought most of the precincts were covered because geography is always a concern when new members are considered.

A notice from the Marion County Assessor's Office advising the city that back taxes are owed on the Duncan property on Buffalo Street was discussed. The property was purchased by the City in 2004 but the deed was not recorded until 2006. This resulted in taxes being assessed because the County was not aware that the city had purchased the property. The amount of the redemption is \$2,438.29 but Fluharty said she contacted the Assessor's Office and they have agreed to refund the portion from 2006 to the present once it is redeemed. Garcia made the motion to authorize the \$2439.29 to redeem the property. Watson seconded the motion and all approved.

The last item on the agenda was the street lighting agreement with Allegheny Power. They have submitted a proposal to replace all the mercury vapor lights in Mannington with sealed sodium lights which would result in a substantial annual savings. Garcia made the motion to authorize the audit of the lights by Allegheny Power and the changeover of the lights. Watson seconded the motion and it carried.

Garcia asked for an executive session. The time was 7:33 p.m.

The regular meeting reconvened with nothing to report from the executive session. Ice made the motion to adjourn. Liller seconded the motion and it carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.