

COUNCIL MEETING OF MARCH 1, 2010

The first regular March meeting of the Mannington City Council with Mayor Bob Garcia presiding was held Monday, March 1, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. Council members attending were Jeff Michael, Harry Moore, Larry Smith, Terry Starsick, and Rana Taylor.

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, Dave Carlin said his meter at 706 Burt Street has not been read and his bill is high this month. Mayor Garcia explained that the bills were estimated in January plus the water and sewer rates have been increased since the first of the year. However, he said Carlin's readings will be checked.

Planning Commission member Becka Efaw asked for a copy of the comprehensive plan and Fluharty said she would get her a copy.

Mead Fund Budget requests were the next item on the agenda. Olive Marie Utt who was representing the Mannington Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund and the West Augusta Historical Society was the first speaker. She said the Cemetery Fund needs help in paying for the lawn service at the cemetery. The Historical Society needs funding to pay their liability coverage for the museum and round barn.

Becky Williams, the Main Street Director, asked for \$12,000 to fund many projects for the next fiscal year. Smith asked if the money would be used for salaries and Williams said no. Other requests from the following outside agencies were received: Mannington Library, Connecting Link, Park Board, North Marion Cross Country team, Community Building Foundation. It was agreed to hold a budget meeting prior to the March 15th meeting. The mayor said he will check with Steve & Kristie Latocha about the request from NM Cross Country.

In department reports, Mayor Garcia read the Street/Water Department report and noted that the Marion County Commission donated a 2001 Jeep Cherokee to the city for use by the code enforcement officer.

Lloyd White of the Marion County Rescue Squad and Fire Chief Jim Moran were both present to discuss coverage by the Rescue Squad in Mannington. Moran said he doesn't feel Mannington is getting adequate coverage. White said the Mannington station is staffed 24/7 but someone may not be in the station at all times if they are on a run or a patient transfer. He asked council if they had any questions. Taylor asked

what the MCRS would need to keep someone in the station 24/7. White said he addressed this matter in an earlier meeting with council and asked why they are scrutinized more than anyone else. He said he assumed the purpose of this meeting was to cut their funding again and they cannot afford to lose more money. Moran said he does not want to see the MCRS lose money or leave Mannington but he feels there should be better coverage. White said they are looking to relocate out of Mannington since they are under constant scrutiny. Mayor Garcia said the City of Mannington won't be blackmailed.

Under old business, the uniform proposals from Unifirst and Coyne were reviewed. Mayor Garcia said the city men looked at the sample uniforms and they preferred Unifirst. Taylor made the motion to accept Unifirst's proposal. Smith seconded the motion and it carried.

In new business, Garcia said a part time patrolman is needed to fill in while Wheeler is in the academy. Starsick made the motion to authorize an advertisement for a part time officer. Michael seconded the motion and all approved.

The final item on the agenda was the first reading of the FY 2010-11 General Fund and Coal Severance Fund budgets. Taylor made the motion to approve the General Fund budget for FY 2010-11. Moore seconded the motion and all approved. Moore made the motion to approve the first reading of the Coal Severance Fund budget for FY 2010-11. Smith seconded the motion and it carried.

Smith made the motion to adjourn. Starsick seconded the motion and it carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.