

COUNCIL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 16, 2009

The second regular November meeting of the Mannington City Council with Mayor Bob Garcia presiding was held Monday, November 16, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at city hall. Council members present were Jeff Michael, Harry Moore, Larry Smith and Terry Starsick.

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

Mayor Garcia said he has reviewed the term staggering issue and the terms must be for two and four years in order to avoid annual elections. He said it will be on the next agenda for further discussion.

In the visitors' portion of the meeting, Denny Clark said he has lived in Mannington for 38 years but is leaving to move to Clarksburg. He thanked the city for providing him with a good living and a good place to raise his kids. However, he said there were several issues that he would like to address. He said he has been trying for several years to get Marshall Street extension paved. He said if money is an issue, he asked why all the rental properties in town are not paying gross sales taxes. He cited McDonald's, the Rainbow Plaza and Rite Aid as business that do not own the property on which they are located and the owners are not paying taxes on the rental income. Fluharty said she would check the tax regulations and if they are liable for taxes, she would get the information from the County Assessor's office and begin sending them tax forms. Clark then asked why the city can't arrest the drug dealer who lives across the street from him. Chief James said he has been arrested several times but it is up to the court whether he is released or not.

In department reports, Garcia read the Street/Water Department report. Fluharty presented the October income report for the General Fund, reported that she sent out 24 notices to delinquent municipal service charge accounts and said the annual audit is currently being conducted. In addition, she reported that the PSC has approved the interim water rates effective this month. The PSC hearing on the full rate increase is scheduled for Friday, November 20 at 10:00 a.m. in the council chambers.

In new business, the change order for the telemetry/power supply is not ready and will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

The other item of business was the year-end bonuses for city employees. Mayor Garcia said \$200 for full time and \$100 for part time employees was in the budget if council wants to grant them this year. Moore made the motion to approve the \$200/\$100 bonuses for all full and part time employees on the payroll who work at least 60 hours per month. Starsick seconded the motion and all approved.

Mayor Garcia distributed copies of the ordinance that provides for a member of council to serve on the Park Board. He said Rana Taylor was appointed in July to fill the council spot on the Board. Smith said that the previous council member should be off the board. Fluharty said that the Park Board fills any unexpired terms so it is up to them to fill any vacancies.

Smith asked that the tree on Windy Hill Drive be put on the next meeting's agenda.

Moore said that something needs to be done about shrubs/trees being planted between sidewalks and curbs in town.

Michael presented a petition to remove the speed bump on lower Meadow Avenue. Since only one of the petitioners lived on Meadow Avenue, Garcia asked Michael to check with the residents on that section of Meadow Avenue to see if they want it removed.

Moore made the motion to adjourn. Smith seconded the motion and it carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.