COUNCIL MEETING OF JULY 18, 2022

The second monthly meeting of the Mannington City Council, with Mayor Lora Michael presiding, was held Monday, July 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at city hall. Council members attending were Kris Bates, John Craw, Ken Fletcher, Tim Fluharty and Roger Russell.

Fletcher made the motion to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting. Craw seconded the motion and it carried.

In Old Business, the second reading and public hearing on Ordinance #471 which adopts the 2018 State Building Code and related codes was the first item of business. Bates made the motion to read the heading only. Fletcher seconded the motion and all approved. Mayor Michael read the heading. There was no public comment. Fletcher made the motion to adopt Ordinance #471. Fluharty seconded the motion and it carried.

In New Business, the first item on the agenda was General Fund Budget Revision #1 for FY 2023. City Clerk Michele Fluharty said this was mandated by the State Auditor’s Office to bring the estimated beginning balance into the actual balance as of July 1. Mayor Michael said she was recommending that the surplus from last year be used to give all the employees a raise of seventy-five cents an hour. Fletcher made the motion to approve the General Fund Budget Revision #1 with the recommended raise for the employees. Craw seconded the motion and it carried. Councilman Fluharty abstained.

The final Mead Fund budget for FY 2023 was reviewed. Fletcher made the motion to approve the budget as presented. Bates seconded the motion and it carried 3-2 with Craw abstaining and Fluharty voting no.

Bennett & Dobbins’ proposal to prepare the annual PSC report for the water department was next on the agenda. Craw made the motion to accept Bennett & Dobbins’ proposal at the cost of $1,950. Fluharty seconded the motion and it carried.

Mayor Michael said she and the city clerk went to Charleston last week to attend the DEP’s meeting on the Abandoned & Dilapidated Properties Program that the city has been selected to participate in. They have allocated $175,000 to Mannington for residential demolitions provided the application is submitted and approved. Code Enforcement Officer Randall Jaggie-Moore said he would like to talk to someone involved in that program to make sure the legal steps are followed. Michael said she will give him all the contact information. Craw made the motion to authorize the application to the ADP Program be submitted. Fletcher seconded the motion and it carried.

Michael asked council to approve advertising for an engineer of record. She said that would involve asking for statements of qualifications from engineering firms and then conducting interviews before selecting one. This would not eliminate the need to advertise for an engineer on any large projects planned by the city. Fletcher made the motion to advertise for an engineer. Craw seconded the motion and all approved.

In department reports, Jaggie-Moore said the three vehicles by the swinging bridge should be towed tomorrow and he is planning to issue citations for several residents who have no water service. He asked for contact information for the Presbyterian Church so that he could talk to them about their plans and possibly help them in their efforts. Fletcher said he would like a monthly written report detailing progress on code violators.

Superintendent Ted Nice said the paving should begin this week. Jobs completed the last two weeks included moving the two cars at the gun range, using the new motorized sweeper to clean the streets/sidewalks and the water violation letters were distributed to all the residents. He said a possible swap with the Town of Farmington has been discussed and he is waiting to hear back from Farmington this week. It would involve giving them a small roller in exchange for the city getting their bucket truck. The City’s bucket truck is turning into a money pit. Lastly, the blocks for Mark Starsick’s wall replacement have been ordered.

The city clerk said the Home Rule meeting will be held this Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. They want the names of anyone planning to join in on the call. Fletcher, Fluharty and Jaggie-Moore said they would be calling in and Fluharty said she would send them the information.

Fluharty made the motion to pay the outstanding bills. Craw seconded the motion and it carried.

Bates made the motion to adjourn. Fluharty seconded the motion and it carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.