COUNCIL MEETING OF AUGUST 15, 2022

The second regular monthly meeting of the Mannington City Council, with Mayor Lora Michael presiding, was held Monday, August 15, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the council chambers at city hall. Councilmembers in attendance were Kris Bates, John Craw, Ken Fletcher, Tim Fluharty and Roger Russell.

The minutes of the last regular meeting were reviewed. Fluharty made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Craw seconded the motion and it carried.

Visitor Beanie Leeson said the police need to crack down on the vehicles with no exhaust running in town in the early morning hours.

In New Business, the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1055 has asked the city to take over the maintenance of their memorial by the Joel McCann Trailhead. City Clerk Michele Fluharty said their treasurer will turn over their checking account with funds to maintain it so a separate checking account must be opened. Fletcher made the motion to accept responsibility for the VV Memorial and to authorize the new checking account. Russell seconded the motion and all voted aye.

The first reading of Ordinance #472 which approves a 1% sales tax was next on the agenda. Fletcher made the motion to read the heading only. Russell seconded the motion and it carried. Mayor Michael read the heading. Fletcher made the motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance #472. Bates seconded the motion and it carried. Copies were available for anyone attending the meeting.

The first reading of Ordinance #473 which approves a water rate increase was next. Fletcher made the motion to read the heading only. Bates seconded the motion and it carried. Michael read the heading. Russell made the motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance #473. Fluharty seconded the motion and all approved. Copies of the ordinance were available for anyone attending the meeting.

The agreement between the City of Mannington and the Town of Farmington was discussed. Superintendent Ted Nice said it would be an exchange of the City’s 1990 bucket truck and an unused roller for Farmington’s 1989 bucket truck. Nice said their truck was in much better shape than the City’s. Bates made the motion to approve the agreement. Fletcher seconded the motion and it carried.

Michael asked council if they wanted to put a differential pay option in the employee handbook when it is updated soon. Craw asked if it would be for the street & water department only and Michael said it would be the only department that it pertained to. Fletcher made the motion to add the pay differential option to the employee handbook. Fluharty seconded the motion and it carried.

In department reports, Randall Jaggie-Moore, the code officer, said he had prepared four letters to send to SHPO as a part of the DEP demolition grant requirement, plus he sent out eight condemnation letters. He also reviewed the Exxon plans and they meet the code as does the 7-Eleven remodeling job. He met with Phil Prichard about the Presbyterian church and another meeting is in the works. Jaggie-Moore said funds are available for historic preservation. He also reported a new sign application for the Main Street Pharmacy, a cat complaint on Clarksburg Street, an obscenity violation on Highland Street and he will follow up on 219 Chestnut Street on September 1. Russell asked him to look at 306 Buffalo Street and Fluharty said the property at the corner of High and Clarksburg also needs his attention.

Chief of Police Jim Rigsby distributed the call report. Mayor Michael asked if they are getting calls on their cell phones because the numbers can be changed to eliminate that problem. Rigsby also said he was contacted about his department’s participation in the Municipal Police & Firefighters Retirement System. They are currently members of the WVPERS. He did not have details but gave the city clerk information on their website. The Ford cruiser is at Corwin Ford waiting for the a/c to be repaired plus the catalytic converter code is flashing. Michael asked him to get a second opinion before ordering a new converter. She is looking for a good, used cruiser.

Michael said the DEP sent her an email stating that the   
Dent’s Run Dam repairs were not done according to the specs. She has a telephone meeting with the city attorney and the engineers this week.

Michael reported that the DEP REAP grant application was submitted last Friday.

Tyler Hayes has returned to school, so he is no longer working the tire trailer. Another worker will be solicited on Facebook.

Fluharty said the ad for a city engineer has been sent to the Times-West Virginian and the deadline is August 31.

Fletcher made the motion to pay the outstanding bills. Bates seconded the motion and all approved.

Fluharty made the motion to adjourn. Fletcher seconded the motion and it carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.