COUNCIL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 21, 2022

The second regular monthly meeting of the Mannington City Council, with Mayor Lora Michael presiding, was held November 21, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at city hall. Council members in attendance were 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. Fletcher seconded the motion and all approved.

Several visitors were present. Mariah Sides asked if there had been any update on the arrest of the person who ran over her dad. Chief of Police Jim Rigsby said there was no update and he thinks the case will eventually be turned over to the state police.

Bob Fletcher, speaking on behalf of several others from Grandview Addition, said he had done research on electronic speed signs and the cost is $5,000 for two signs. The signs will send data to designated phones. Michael said a permit must be approved by the WV DOH’s traffic engineering department before any action is taken. Fletcher also mentioned establishing a Neighborhood Watch Group. Councilman Craw said his wife has been trying to do so for several months but has gotten little support. Fletcher gave Craw his phone number so that they could coordinate their efforts. Brenna Hibbs thanked Mayor Michael for sending Officer Wheeler to Grandview to monitor the traffic. She said the difference is noticeable.

In New Business, Michael said the cinder spreader was not sold at the auction but Daymon Reynolds has offered $200 for it. Russell made the motion to approve the sale to Reynolds for $200. Craw seconded the motion and it carried.

Michael recommended a $500 stipend for the city employees. Craw made the motion to approve the $500 stipend. Fletcher seconded the motion and it carried.

City Clerk Michele Fluharty said the audit committee met last week and reviewed the three proposals received. She said they are recommending BHM CPA Group. Since the city received COVID funds this year, they must get a Single Audit which significantly increased the cost. Fletcher made the motion to accept the committee’s recommendation and approve the BHM CPA Group for the 2022 & 2023 audits at a total cost of $22,400. Russell seconded the motion and it carried.

Mayor Michael asked for an executive session to discuss the tax sale held by the State Auditor’s Office and the possible injunction on one of the properties sold at that sale. Fletcher made the motion to adjourn into executive session. Fluharty seconded the motion and it carried. The time was 7:30 p.m. Craw made the motion to reconvene into regular session at 7:40 p.m. Fletcher seconded the motion and it carried.

Fluharty made the motion to go into executive session to discuss the police department scheduling. Fletcher seconded the motion and all approved. The time was 7:40 p.m. Fletcher made the motion to reconvene into regular session at 8:15 p.m. Russell seconded the motion and it carried.

The properties purchased at the recent land sales were 107 Highland Avenue, $50; Mill Alley (Railroad Street) $50; and the corner of Market & Water Streets $1800. Craw made the motion to approve the purchases. Fletcher seconded the motion and all approved.

In department reports, Rigsby said the Dodge cruiser must get inspected.

The city clerk reported that Bennett & Dobbins were at city hall today to begin work on the City’s and Sanitary Board’s annual PSC reports.

The outstanding bills were reviewed. Craw made the motion to pay the bills as listed. Fletcher seconded the motion and it carried.

Craw made the motion to adjourn. Fluharty seconded the motion and it carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.