COUNCIL MEETING OF DECEMBER 5, 2022

The first regular monthly meeting of the Mannington City Council, with Mayor Lora Michael presiding, was held Monday, December 5, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the council chambers at city hall. Council members attending were Kris Bates, John Craw, Ken Fletcher, Tim Fluharty and Roger Russell.

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

Bryan Wilson and Dave Mudrick, the city’s insurance brokers, were present to give a brief overview of The Health Plan’s renewal and Wilson distributed proposals from United Healthcare and Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Wilson said he was recommending that the City stay with THP based on their benefits. Fletcher made the motion to renew THP’s coverage at the cost of $12,946 per month. Craw seconded the motion and all approved.

Amber McElwain said she saw that the City had received funding for a radar sign and asked if it recorded data. Mayor Michael said it did and it was portable so it can be moved to the different neighborhoods. Michael said the sign should be delivered in 6-8 weeks. She will be submitting a request for an annual permit that would allow the city to place the sign on state highways. Fletcher said if the city gets the DOH permit, EQT should be contacted for additional signs. McElwain asked about the number of radar guns the city has and why all the officers did not have access to one.

In department reports, Superintendent Ted Nice said the steering column in the Ford Ranger needs replaced and the Marion County Vo-Tech Center will be doing the work. He also reported that the Mannington Refuse’s large truck is damaging property through-out town. They are documenting the damage and then suggested a meeting be held with the garbage company to discuss the problem.

Chief of Police Jim Rigsby said Don Sides is expected to be off work for 6-8 months. The actuator in the Ford Explorer needs replaced and he is checking on prices. Councilman Fluharty asked about Valor, the police dog. Mayor Michael said she spoke to several people who told her no action is needed now as long as he is being fed and exercised. They suggested a week’s refresher course for Valor a week or so before Sides returns to work.

Mayor Michael expressed appreciation to the Mannington Elks for the donation to purchase the radar sign and the many other generous actions they do during the year. She also thanked John Craw and his committee for the recent Christmas parade. It was reported that the city’s application for sidewalk replacements through the DOH was not granted.

Michael said she is waiting on a letter from the city attorney before she signs off on the Dent’s Run Dam Project.

The outstanding bills were reviewed. Craw made the motion to pay the bills as listed. Fluharty seconded the motion and all approved.

Fluharty made the motion to adjourn. Craw seconded the motion and it carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.