COUNCIL MEETING OF DECEMBER 19, 2022

The second regular monthly meeting of the Mannington City Council with Mayor Lora Michael presiding was held Monday, December 19, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at city hall. Council members present were Kris Bates, John Craw, Ken Fletcher, Tim Fluharty and Roger Russell.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved in a motion by Craw and seconded by Fletcher. The motion passed unanimously.

Visitor Amber McElwain asked if Mayor Michael had applied for the DOH permit which allows the new radar sign to be set up on state roads in Mannington. Michael said she was waiting until the first of the year.

There was no old business.

In New Business, the hiring of a part time police officer was the first item on the agenda. According to Chief of Police Jim Rigsby, Phillip Stewart is interested in the position. She said she had no problem offering him a job, but she would like to see his application and talk to him prior to hiring him. Fluharty asked if Stewart is going to work one weekend a month and Michael said she was not sure. Fletcher made the motion to offer Phillip Stewart the job as a part time officer provided, he accepts the city’s package. Russell seconded the motion and it carried.

Mayor Michael said the existing tire trailer grant expires at the end of 2022, but she would like to reapply for the 2023 grant. Craw made the motion authorizing the city’s reapplication for the tire trailer grant. Bates seconded the motion, and all approve.

Michael also reported that the city did not receive the SCBG Grant funding for the demolition of the downtown buildings, but they are accepting new applications now. Fletcher made the motion to authorize the mayor to re-apply for the demolition grant. Russell seconded the motion and all approved.

City Clerk Michele Fluharty said the new water & sewer rate schedules are in the mayor and council folders. The sewer rate increase has been in effect for a couple of months, but the water rate increase will be on the January bills.

Councilman Fletcher said he would like the department heads to send a report even if they are not coming to the meeting and he would like them to be more detailed. Michael said she would relay that to the department heads. She noted that the police department will be using a time clock as of January 2023.

Councilman Craw asked where the boat, penguins and trees that were taken from Hough Park are located. Mayor Michael said she had no idea. She did ask the city guys to remove the trees because she received several calls about them being blown over the creek banks and into the road. She will check with the guys in the morning to see if the other items are there too.

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

Craw made the motion to adjourn. Fletcher seconded the motion and it carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.