COUNCIL MEETING OF JANUARY 17, 2023

The second regular monthly meeting of the Mannington City Council, with Mayor Lora Michael presiding, was held on Tuesday, January 17, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at city hall. Council members in attendance were Kris Bates, John Craw, Ken Fletcher, Tim Fluharty and Roger Russell.

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

There was no Old Business.

In New Business, the first item on the agenda was the payment of the properties bought through the state’s land purchase program. The properties were on Highland Avenue (Ronald Scott), Railroad Street (Andreas Annie) and the corner of Market & Water Streets. Fletcher made the motion to purchase the three properties for $2310.80. Russell seconded the motion and all approved.

Michael reported that she has appointed Ken Fletcher, Roger Russell, Tim Fluharty, Bill Michael and Jack Rinehart to the Dent’s Run Dam Association board, and they met for the first-time last week. The officers are Fletcher: president, Russell: secretary and Fluharty: treasurer. Fletcher reported on last Friday’s meeting which Randall Kocsis from the DNR attended. He also plans to talk to the biologist from the DNR.

The first reading of Ordinance #477 which removes the political affiliation requirement for city elections was next on the agenda. Fletcher made the motion to read the heading only. Bates seconded the motion and it carried. Michael read the heading. Fletcher made the motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance #477. Fluharty seconded the motion and all approved.

Michael said she was notified about a hole in the city’s building on Buffalo Street. Chief of Police Jim Rigsby said the hole appeared last week and it looks like someone is using it for access to the creek. He also said there is garbage on the roof of the TKMI building. Michael said she will call the owner of that property.

Lora gave an update on the demolition project. She said a new application has been submitted to the DEP for the downtown properties.

Rigsby said Phillip Stewart would be at the meeting tonight. Michael asked Rigsby if he had anything else to report and he said no. She then asked him about the recent arrest of Sgt Don Sides and why she wasn’t notified. Rigsby said he wanted to wait until he had more information. Michael asked for an executive session to discuss Don Sides. Fletcher made the motion to adjourn. Fluharty seconded the motion and it carried. The time was 7:27 p.m.

Craw made the motion to reconvene into regular session. Fletcher seconded the motion and it carried. The time was 8:47 p.m.

Phillip Stewart then come into the meeting. Councilman Fluharty asked him when he would be available to work. Stewart said every other Friday afternoon starting on January 20.

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

Fluharty made the motion to adjourn. Craw seconded the motion and it carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.