COUNCIL MEETING OF APRIL 3, 2023

The first regular monthly meeting of the Mannington City Council, with Mayor Lora Michael presiding, was held Monday, April 3, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at city hall. Council members attending were Kris Bates, John Craw, Ken Fletcher, Tim Fluharty and Roger Russell.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer by Pastor Charles Legg.

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

In New Business, the first item of business was the Mead Fund Budget. Fletcher made the motion to adopt the Mead Fund budget for FY 2024. Russell seconded the motion and it carried.

Mayor Michael recommended that Interim Chief of Police Donnie Wheeler’s PEIA insurance premium be paid by the City since it is offered through his retirement plan. This would be a cost saving measure for the city. Craw made the motion to pay for Wheeler’s insurance premium since there is a precedent to do so. Fletcher seconded the motion and all approved.

Michael said the bids on the pool project came in over budget. Thrasher Engineering is expecting the value engineering report on Wednesday and they hope the bid can be negotiated down. Thrasher will present the bid for council’s approval once it is within the project budget and/or the project is re-bid.

Discussion followed as to when the Spring Clean Up Day will be held. Craw made the motion to set the Clean Up Day for May 13 and to approve two dumpsters. Fletcher seconded the motion and it carried.

In department reports, Superintendent Ted Nice reported on the large leak that occurred over the weekend which emptied the Burt Hill tank. He said they have also been patching holes and moving the electronic speed sign around town each day.

City Clerk Michele Fluharty said the drawing for ballot positions was held today and she read the names of the candidates as they will appear on the ballot. She said the city was notified today that there will be a city-wide power outage on April 11 from 7 am to 2 pm. Fluharty also reported that her office received a call from the WV Secretary of State’s office after someone reported that Heather Fluharty was helping with the city election even though her husband is on the ballot. Fluharty said Heather works in her office so she will be at city hall every day, but she is not helping with the election and she did not participate in the drawing this morning. She urged people to get their facts straight before jumping to conclusions.

Mayor Michael read the police department report. Bates asked if they had a data report from the speed sign and Michael said not yet.

The outstanding bills were the last item on the agenda. Fletcher made the motion to pay the outstanding bills. Craw seconded the motion and it carried.

Anthony Fluharty asked for an update on the Dent’s Run Dam. Fletcher said they are waiting on the DNR to sign the agreement. Russell said they are also waiting on the brush to be cut at the dam per the agreement with Murray Energy.

Fletcher made the motion to adjourn. Fluharty seconded the motion and it carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.