

COUNCIL MEETING OF DECEMBER 3, 2018

The first regular December meeting of the Mannington City Council with Mayor Charlie Kolb presiding was held Monday, December 3, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at city hall. Council members in attendance were Denny Efaw, Nelson Elliott, Ken Fletcher, Ray Shadrick and Becky Williams.

City Clerk Michele Fluharty read the minutes of the previous meeting and they stood approved as read. Kolb questioned why Don Sides must serve another probation period after being appointed as sergeant. Shadrick said they looked and could find nothing in the regulations. Fluharty said that was standard practice when an employee is promoted to a new job and produced minutes showing that Frank Wright also served another probation when he was appointed as the last sergeant. Kolb said he would investigate it a little further.

Visitors were recognized. Andy Kolb asked why Sides had not received his badge and stripes since being appointed as sergeant. Mayor Kolb said he will check to see if they were ordered.

In department reports, Superintendent Ted Nice detailed the jobs they have completed since the last meeting. He noted that the Ford Ranger was in the shop with possible motor problems. The Case backhoe also needs repairs to the boom and line at an estimated cost between \$1500 to \$2000. The cost to transfer the hoe to Case was \$500. Nice said he has checked on the price of a mini-excavator and it was \$42,000. He said Council may consider setting money aside this year and next year to get the machine. Efaw said the excavator could be used to raze some of the condemned buildings in town. He said a payment plan could be the answer. Elliott made the motion to authorize the backhoe repairs. Shadrick seconded the motion and all approved.

Fluharty asked council to complete the auditor's packets at their earliest convenience.

In Old Business, the second and final reading of Ordinance #438 which regulates ATV/UTV use in Mannington was the only item on the agenda. Williams made the motion to read the heading only. Efaw seconded the motion and it carried. Kolb read the heading. Efaw made the motion to adopt Ordinance #438. Elliott seconded the motion and it carried.

Lee Shaffer of Comcast was present to answer any questions concerning their proposal to provide phone/internet service to city hall. He said the contract would be for two years and the price would be guaranteed for that time. He said there is typically another discount available at the end of those two years. Their technicians are available within four hours, in most cases. The savings would be approximately \$160 per month. Fletcher made the motion to switch the City's service to Comcast. Elliott seconded the motion and it carried.

Ordinance #439 which abandons an alley off High Street was presented for the first reading. Efaw made the motion to read the heading only. Elliott seconded the motion and all approved. Kolb read the heading. Elliott made the motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance #439. Fletcher seconded the motion and it carried. Williams abstained.

The Health Plan renewal was discussed. Fluharty said the best option is offered through the Lewis County Chamber of Commerce but the City must join to be eligible for the insurance coverage. The cost is \$110. This renewal will be at a substantial savings from the original THP quote. Williams made the motion to join the Lewis County Chamber of Commerce and to renew THP policy through the COC. Fletcher seconded the motion and it carried.

The demolition of 405 Adams Street was the final item under New Business. Kolb reported on the City Attorney's recommendation as to the best way to get it razed and it included getting estimates for the demolition. One estimate from Camron Excavating was reviewed but it was agreed to get more quotes. Fletcher said Empire Builders has done several in Fairmont and gives a discount for a bundle. He will see if they will submit a quote.

Elliott said Randy Elliott asked him to remind the City that the County Commission still has \$50,000 interest-free money available to help with any projects or purchases.

Sally Kolb reminded everyone that the annual Christmas parade is scheduled for December 15 at 6:00 p.m. She said artificial trees are needed for decorating the downtown poles if anyone has one, they would like to donate.

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

Kolb asked Shaffer if he could give the Fire Department a quote on their phone/internet service to see if they could save money. Shaffer said they have a referral program that pays \$100 if you refer them a business who switches to Comcast. Fluharty will get him the contact info for the Fire Department. Shaffer said they would also provide free wi-fi for the pool if the Park Board switches.

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