

COUNCIL MEETING OF OCTOBER 19, 2020

The second regular October meeting of the Mannington City Council with Mayor Ray Shadrick presiding was held Monday, October 19, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at city hall. Council members attending were Chris Efaw, Nelson Elliott, Ken Fletcher and Tim Fluharty.

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

Visitors were next on the agenda. Lisa Hayes & Teresa Michael, representing Blackshere Pre-K, asked for funding help for their efforts to resurface the playground for special needs children at Blackshere Elementary School. The total cost of the project is \$42,000 and they have received \$20,000 in grant monies. Hayes said they understand that the current budget has already been adopted but they would like to be included in the FY 2021-22 budget. City Clerk Michele Fluharty said she would check the contingency account in the Mead Fund. Robin Smith suggested that they go to GameTime.com to apply for additional grant funds.

Fire Chief Jim Moran said his department is not in favor of the fire levy that is on the November ballot. He said there is no provision for handling the money that is generated by the levy plus the money is not being distributed fairly. Moran said Mannington's Fire Department covers 70% of Marion County and they will receive the same amount as the smaller departments. He also said since the City assesses the municipal service charge that allocates \$54,000 to the fire department that will mean Mannington residents will be paying twice. Plus, he said that fundraisers will drop off along with the collections of locator fees if the levy passes. Moran also reported that the personal protective gear that was included in the budget this year has been partially received. The total cost of that gear has decreased from \$150,000 to \$100,000. Lastly, two front tires are needed for the tanker truck and Larry Smith said the cost will be between \$1100-\$1200. Fletcher made the motion to authorize the purchase of the two tires for the tanker truck. Fluharty seconded the motion and it carried.

Lora Michael, representing Mannington Main Street, said they had a successful Octoberfest and commended Officer Cameron Mitchell for his presence during the day. She said a Trunk or Treat for businesses is being planned for October 24. The regular monthly Main Street meetings will be held on the second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at city hall. Other projects include working on Citizens' Square and working with students on a web design.

Robin Smith, representing Mannington BAD, said they are over \$7,000 in their fundraising efforts for a canine for the Mannington PD. They hope to have enough money by the end of October to purchase a dog.

In New Business, Fluharty said the handheld meter reader needs replaced. It has been on the blink for several months and a loaner is currently being used. The cost of a new reader is \$7300 but the City will also save \$3,300 since the new handheld has a 2-year warranty period. Elliott made the motion to purchase a Ranger handheld meter reader for \$7,300 from Core & Main. Fletcher seconded the motion and it carried.

Tires for the Ford Taurus cruiser are needed, and Chief of Police Jim Rigsby said he got the following quotes: Gwynn Tire \$880.00, Wholesale Tire \$785.82 and Michael's Tire \$840. The city clerk said another quote was dropped off at her office today. Shadrick opened it and it was from Eric's Tire for \$808. Rigsby said Wholesale Tire and Michael's did not have the requested Goodyear Eagle tires. Shadrick and Rigsby both objected to the quote from Eric's Tire since they did not ask him for a price. Fletcher and Efaw said the idea is to purchase at the least expensive price. Elliott made the motion to accept the quote from Eric's Tire for \$808. Fletcher seconded the motion. The vote was 2-2 so it did not carry. Fletcher asked why they wanted to go with Gwynn's quote. Shadrick said they had already made an appointment and the tires have been ordered. Fletcher then made the motion to accept Gwynn's quote of \$880. Efaw seconded the motion and it carried. Fletcher said, in the future, businesses in Mannington should be approached for quotes. Rigsby asked about the purchasing procedure and Fluharty said she has it, in writing, in her office.

Jeremy Drennen's proposal to prepare the City's pre-audit financial statements was reviewed. Fluharty said he has done the work for the last two years and does an excellent job. Efaw made the motion to accept Jeremy Drennen's proposal for \$3,500. Elliott seconded the motion and it carried.

Fluharty said that a revision to Pay Request #2 for the Wintergarden Project was submitted in order to meet the deadline for the FY 20 Cultural Facilities funding. Efaw made the motion to approve the amendment to Pay Requisition #2 for an additional \$14,445.31. Fletcher seconded the motion and all approved.

Robin Smith said she was approached by Shadrick about a welcome sign as you enter into Homewood Addition. They would like to put the sign on city property by the Homewood bridge. Elliott made the motion to grant Smith and Shadrick permission to put the sign on city property by the Homewood bridge. Fluharty seconded the motion and it carried.

The city clerk said that when the City began receiving the CARES grant monies, she had to sign up for an EFT account so that they monies could be direct deposited. Since then, the State has begun deposited all payments due to the City into the General Fund including water account payments. In order to alleviate that, the state said the city must open a clearing account at the First Exchange Bank. Once the funds are deposited, they can then be moved into the correct account. Efaw made the motion to approve the establishment of a clearing account at the First Exchange Bank. Fluharty seconded the motion and it carried.

Shadrick said the auction of the 2001 Jeep Cherokee was held this morning and the high bid was \$1,200 from Ken Nicholson. Fletcher made the motion to accept Nicholson's bid of \$1200. Elliott seconded the motion and all approved.

In department reports, Rigsby said there have been several instances of tire slashing in town and they are working on finding those responsible. He also said physical testing for a part time officer will take place next week. Efaw asked for extra patrol around the Senior Center since it is a gathering place at night.

Superintendent Ted Nice gave a report on the jobs they have completed and plan to work on this week.

Fire Chief Jim Moran said his department is cutting down on illegal burning in town.

The outstanding bills were reviewed. Efaw made the motion to okay the payment of the bills as presented. Elliott seconded the motion and it carried.

Elliott made the motion to adjourn. Fletcher seconded the motion and it carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.