

COUNCIL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 2, 2020

The regular monthly meeting of the Mannington City Council, with Mayor Ray Shadrick presiding, was held Monday, November 2, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at city hall. Council members attending were Chris Efaw, Denny Efaw, Nelson Elliott and Tim Fluharty.

The minutes of the last regular meeting were approved in a motion by Fluharty. Elliott seconded the motion and it carried.

In the visitors' portion of the meeting, Robin Smith, representing Mannington BAD, said they are very close to meeting their \$20,000 goal and the canine has been ordered. Main Street Director Lora Michael reported that they have a buyer for the depot and their by-laws have been sent to the Secretary of State's office for approval. She invited everyone to participate in Shop Small Saturday on November 28.

There was no old business, but Councilman Elliott asked that the request from Blackshere Pre-K be added to the next agenda.

The first item of New Business was the first reading of Ordinance #456 which amends the zoning ordinance to allow park space within the HR1 Historic Residential District. Fluharty made the motion to read the heading only. Denny Efaw seconded the motion and it carried. Shadrick read the heading. Chris Efaw asked the reason for the ordinance. City Clerk Michele Fluharty said it would allow parks & playgrounds to be added as a conditional use in the HR1 District since they are allowed in all the other residential districts. Efaw said there is a playground already in that district. M Fluharty said it was grandfathered in and T Fluharty said that playground is kept locked by the Board of Education. Planning Commission Chairman Ken Witt said that anyone wanting a park or playground on their property must apply to the Board of Zoning Appeals and a public hearing would be held before a decision is made. Elliott then made the motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance #456. Denny Efaw seconded the motion and it carried.

Ordinance #457 which amends the City's employee handbook, particularly the probation and sick/personal leave sections, was considered next. Elliott made the motion to read the heading only of Ordinance #457. D Efaw

seconded the motion and it carried. Shadrick read the heading. Chris Efaw made the motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance #457. Elliott seconded the motion and all approved.

Chief of Police Jim Rigsby asked that Madison Vincent be approved as a part time officer. She passed the physical ability testing with flying colors and is currently in college. Elliott made the motion to accept Rigby's recommendation and hire Vincent as a part time officer. Fluharty seconded the motion and it carried.

M Fluharty said the audit committee met last week and reviewed the two proposals to conduct the City's 2020 and 2021 audits. She said their recommendation is BHM CPA whose cost to do the audits is \$6,000 per year. Elliott made the motion to accept the committee's recommendation. D Efaw seconded the motion and all approved.

Cameron Mitchell's probation period has ended and Mayor Shadrick recommended that he be hired as a permanent police officer. Rigsby said he agreed 100% with that recommendation. C Efaw made the motion to hire Cameron Mitchell as a permanent city employee. D Efaw seconded the motion and it carried. Elliott asked when he would attend the academy and Rigsby said that is still unknown due to COVID.

Code Enforcement Officer Shane Carpenter said he will have a full report at the next meeting.

The city clerk reported that the City's insurance for the employees is set to renew in January and she is getting quotes from difference agencies in an effort to lower the City's cost and better the benefits. In addition, she has been notified that the CARES money can be used to establish a new website or update a current one since many people are still staying at home and accessing city information, forms, etc. on the website. The current website is not very user-friendly, and she would like people to be able to fill out forms online to submit to her office. She is currently getting quotes on updating the City's website.

Superintendent Ted Nice gave his report. He said the slip onto Sycamore Road is still a problem and suggested the City write a letter to the DOH asking

them to correct it as soon as possible. He also said his crew patched holes on High Street since the DOH has failed to do so and the street was becoming impassable. He said a bill should be sent to the DOH.

Rigsby said his department needs test kits for the drugs that are being confiscated in town. He also said since a dog has been ordered, he will make a new work schedule to optimize use of the canine. Officers Stewart and Mitchell are set to attend training on drug interdiction.

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

D Efaw made the motion to adjourn. Elliott seconded the motion and it carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.