

COUNCIL MEETING OF JULY 2, 2018

The first regular July meeting of the Mannington City Council with Mayor Charles Kolb presiding was held Monday, July 2, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at city hall. Council members attending were Denny Efaw, Nelson Elliott, Ken Fletcher, Ray Shadrick and Becky Williams.

City Clerk Michele Fluharty read the minutes of the last meeting and they stood approved as read.

Reid Martin said he asked about bringing a produce truck to Mannington but so far, nothing has been done. He also asked again about a bus to a Pittsburgh Pirate game. Kolb told Martin that he should attend the next Mannington Main Street meeting to bring his ideas to them.

In department reports, Chief of Police David James gave his June report in which he noted they made two arrests and received 109 calls for assistance.

In Old Business, Kolb reported that he received a call last week from Murray Energy's Strickland who asked that the City open the valve at the dam. Kolb said the City crew was very busy last week with a water leak and various jobs and they did not get the valve opened which upset Strickland. Kolb asked council if they want to allow Murray Energy to keep their pumps in the dam or ask them to remove them or just leave as is. Shadrick said he thought they should remove them since they did not agree to any of the City's conditions. Williams and Efaw both said there is plenty of time and the City does not need to hurry into a decision. Fletcher said he would not open the valve.

The next item of old business was the police department full time patrolman position. James introduced Tristan Evans who he was recommending for the job. According to the chief, he passed the physical ability test, had a good background and would be an asset to the police department. Williams made the motion to hire Tristan Evans. Fletcher seconded the motion and it carried. Shadrick said he would like to go into executive session to discuss hiring another part time officer. James said his department is fully staffed now and if an uncertified officer is hired, he

would need to go to the academy. Kolb asked James if he had checked on hiring grants. James said there are grants for juvenile issues but none for manpower.

Kolb said WBOY was coming to town tomorrow to do a story on the Mockler Hill slip. He also reported that he spoke to Don Williams at the DOT who said a geo-technical engineer is coming to look at the slip.

Several property maintenance issues were discussed including Nwoko Columba's burnt house on Bluff St, Freeman's garbage can in Homewood and 720 Burt Street which has a leaking sewer.

In New Business, the first on the agenda was Ordinance #436 which abandons a portion of Stony Drive in Homewood. Efaw made the motion to read the heading only. Fletcher seconded the motion and all approved. Kolb read the heading. Efaw made the motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance #436. Elliott seconded the motion and it carried.

The municipal judge position which is currently held by the mayor was discussed. Fletcher said he would like to see an attorney be hired to handle that job and he said Fairmont's may be interested in the position. Shadrick made the motion to authorize an ordinance be drawn up by the City Attorney to amend the City's charter in regards to the municipal judge position. Fletcher seconded the motion and it carried. Fluharty said a public hearing is required and if 15% of the citizens sign a petition against the change, it must be put on the ballot at the next election.

Budget Revision #1 for the FY 2018-19 Coal Severance Fund Budget was presented for review. The surplus would be moved to the Street Department supplies account. Fletcher made the motion to approve the Coal Severance Fund Budget revision. Elliott seconded the motion and it carried.

The final item of New Business was the Ken Conner property (former Colonial Building). Kolb asked for an executive session to discuss its possible acquisition. Fletcher made the motion to go into executive session. Efaw seconded the motion and it carried. The time was 7:30 p.m.

Shadrick made the motion to reconvene into regular session. Fletcher seconded the motion and it carried. The time was 7:40 p.m.

Fletcher made the motion to authorize the city attorney to write a letter to Conner asking if he would be interested in donating the property to the City and if not, to offer him \$2000. Shadrick seconded the motion and it carried.

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

Elliott made the motion to adjourn. Efaw seconded the motion and it carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.