COUNCIL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 6, 2023

The first regular monthly meeting of the Mannington City Council, with Mayor Lora Michael presiding, was held Monday, November 6, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at city hall. Council members attending were Kris Bates, Tim Fluharty, Taylor Garrison, and Robin Smith.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance and Rev Legg saying a prayer.

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed. Fluharty made the motion to approve the minutes. Smith seconded the motion and it carried.

Visitors were recognized. Scott Kellar thanked Chief of Police Donnie Wheeler and Superintendent Ted Nice for their help in dealing with his neighbor at 1010 E Main Street.

Becky Williams, representing Mannington Main Street, said the Christmas parade will be on December 1 and a horse & buggy will be provided for the mayor and council to ride in during the parade. She also noted that a representative to serve on the Main Street Board needs to be appointed by the mayor by January 2024. The paperwork for the annual Pepperoni Roll Drop has been filed so she asked for the city’s approval to hold it again on New Year’s Eve. It will be on the next meeting’s agenda.

Civic Plus’ renewal for the hosting and updating of the city’s website was reviewed. City Clerk Michele Fluharty said the renewal increased by $315 this year. Smith made the motion to approve the renewal. Garrison seconded the motion and all approved.

The renewal of the employee’s The Health Plan insurance coverage was next on the agenda. The premiums increased by 1.4% which was the smallest increase since the city went with THP. Bates made the motion to approve the renewal of The Health Plan. Smith seconded the motion and it carried.

Garrison said she received complaints from two constituents about the speed bump on Terrace Drive. Nice said the 2-inch speed bump is not effective, so they installed one with a piece of plywood underneath to increase the height to 2 ¾ which meets the safety regulations. He said safety is the issue.

Nice and Wheeler gave their department reports and Mayor Michael read the code enforcement officer’s report.

The city clerk reported that the first sales tax payment was received this month for $22,800. That amount was below the amount estimated for this year’s budget, but she said the next quarterly payment will include Christmas so hopefully it will increase.

Bill Michael said the Dam Committee is still waiting on the DNR to put in the parking lot at Dent’s Run.

The mayor said the city has been approved for the second round of REAP funding. Smith asked for a list of the houses to be razed in that round of funding.

Fluharty also said she received an email today saying the city’s $66,000 for the police department cameras was approved.

John Craw asked about a grant for a new fire truck. The mayor said she and the fire chief attended a webinar on that subject and will be meeting with a rep from WVU also.

Shirley Goldstein of Homewood complained about a tractor trailer that has been in that neighborhood during the night. She said sometimes it sits outside her house running. She was advised to contact the police when it is there. Chief Wheeler said Brandon Clyde is working on that complaint.

The outstanding bills were reviewed. Bates made the motion to approve the bills as presented. Smith seconded the motion and it carried.

Garrison made the motion to adjourn. Bates seconded the motion and it carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.