

COUNCIL MEETING OF DECEMBER 20, 2021

The second regular monthly meeting of the Mannington City Council, with Mayor Lora Michael presiding, was held Monday, December 20, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at city hall. Council members attending were Kris Bates, John Craw (via Face Time) and Tim Fluharty.

The meeting began with a moment of silence for former city employee Kathy Glover Mouser.

The minutes of the last regular meeting were reviewed. Fluharty made the motion to approve the minutes as read. Bates seconded the motion and it carried.

The first item of business was the public hearing on Ordinance 461. Craw made the motion to read the heading only. Bates seconded the motion and it carried. Michael read the heading. There were no public comments. Bates made the motion to adopt Ordinance #461 which provides for the inspection of sanitary sewer laterals serving any existing dwelling or building or any under construction. Fluharty seconded the motion and it carried.

Bryan Wilson, the City's insurance broker, recommended that The Health Plan's insurance policy for the employees be renewed as of January 1, 2022. However, he would like to switch to All State as of February 1, 2022 as a savings to the city. The employees' deductible will be carried over if the switch is made. The switch will depend on the review of the employees' applications. One employee and two dependents will be switched to Medicare at a considerable savings to the city. Craw asked if the three who are switched to Medicare will be in a bind as a result. Bryan said no because their coverage will take effect on January 1, 2022. Fluharty made the motion to renew The Health Plan policy and review the All State policy in February. Bates seconded the motion and it carried.

In New Business, Mayor Michael asked for a motion authorizing the submission of the SWCF grant. Craw made the motion authorizing the submission of the SWCF grant for the new pool. Bates seconded the motion and it carried. Michael said she attended the MCPARC meeting today and they pledged \$250,000 over a five-year plan toward the pool project. She also reported that they have raised approximately \$32,000 as of today.

Michael also said the EPA has checked all three of the downtown buildings that the city recently purchased from the State of WV and that grant is to be submitted in March.

Michael announced that Eddie Price is retiring, with 40 years of service, on January 28, 2022. Since he and Dennis Hayes will both be retiring now, she recommended Derek Gregory and Scott Jarvis be hired in the Street/Water Department. Fluharty made the motion to accept Michael's recommendation and hire Gregory and Jarvis as Laborer I employees. Bates seconded the motion and all approved. Michael said that after the completion of their 90-day probation, the need for an assistant superintendent will be reviewed.

Michael then recommended that Brad Moore be promoted to a Laborer 2 since he has been earned his Water Distribution license. Craw made the motion to accept the mayor's recommendation and promote Moore to a Laborer 2 position. Bates seconded the motion and all approved.

Dennis Hayes has asked for permission to hunt on the city's property after his retirement. Fluharty made the motion to grant permission to all retired employees to hunt on the city's property at Dent's Run. Bates seconded the motion and it carried.

In department reports, Superintendent Ted Nice said the repairs to the back-up plow truck will be \$3,000 - \$4,000.

Mayor Michael read Chris Efaw's letter of resignation from his council-at-large position, effective immediately. She said the position must be filled within 30 days and it will be advertised.

The outstanding bills were reviewed. Bates made the motion to approve payment of the bills. Fluharty seconded the motion and it carried.

City Clerk Michele Fluharty said she received the paperwork from the County Clerk's Office today for the three properties that the city purchased from the state.

Fluharty made the motion to adjourn. Bates seconded the motion and it carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.