

COUNCIL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 15, 2021

The second regular monthly meeting of the Mannington City Council, with Mayor Lora Michael presiding, was held November 15, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at city hall. Council members attending were Kris Bates, John Craw, Chris Efaw, Tim Fluharty and Ray Shadrick.

The minutes of the last regular meeting were approved. Craw made the motion, Fluharty seconded it and it carried.

Councilman Efaw said he would like to put the Cemetery Street property up for auction since there is an interested party. Efaw made the motion to authorize the attorney to draw up an ordinance to hold a public auction on said property. Fluharty seconded the motion and it carried.

Mayor Michael gave an update on the progress of the Dent's Run Dam project. She said they are getting ready for the rebar. Efaw asked if the city wants them to pour cement now. Randy Watson from Thrasher Engineering said they will use blankets and additives so there is no problem pouring cement now.

Michael asked Chief of Police Jim Rigsby to give a report on Officer Cameron Mitchell. Rigsby said Mitchell completed the physical fitness test, but he is now wearing a brace on his knee. His paperwork is due at the academy on Nov 22.

In New Business, four ordinances will be read for the first time. Shadrick made the motion to read the heading only for Ordinances #461, #462, #463 and #464. Craw seconded the motion and all approved. Michael read the heading of Ordinance #461. Efaw made the motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance #461. Bates seconded the motion and it carried. Michael reading the heading of Ordinance #462. Shadrick made the motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance #462. Craw seconded the motion and it carried. Michael read the heading of Ordinance #463. Craw made the motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance #463. Shadrick seconded the motion and it carried. Michael read the heading of Ordinance #464. Shadrick made the motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance #464. Craw seconded the motion and it carried.

A year-end stipend for the city employees was discussed. The mayor recommended that each employee receive \$250 now and if the money is available, another \$100 be given to them in the spring. Efaw said that was a big decrease from last year. Michael agreed but reminded everyone that the budget is still in the red due to the large increase in the city's liability insurance and due to the affect of COVID on income. Efaw made the motion to give a \$250 stipend now and another \$100 in the spring if money is available in the budget. Bates seconded the motion and it carried. Craw & Shadrick voted no.

Watson said he is recommending that the Tank Hill tank be inspected by MidAtlantic. They have given him a quote of \$1500. It will be done remotely by robot and the tank will not be out of service while it is being inspected. Shadrick made the motion to schedule an inspection of the tank by MidAtlantic. Efaw seconded the motion and it carried.

Craw said he would like it specified when the second stipend is to be issued. He then made the motion to grant the \$100 stipend by Easter 2022. Shadrick seconded the motion and it carried.

Code Enforcement Officer Jordan Gump reported that he had issued several building permits, distributed door knockers and sent a letter to the Dollar General Store regarding their run-off problem. Watson said he knew the man who is over the Dollar Stores in this area and he would be glad to talk to him about the run-off issue and the large hole in their parking lot. A copy of the letter will be sent to Watson.

In department reports, Rigsby said his department received 99 calls in the last two weeks and reported that Matthew Castleberry resigned.

Superintendent Ted Nice reported that two fire hydrants need repaired and the cost will be approximately \$2800. Starsick's wall replacement will cost \$2725. Nice said the Christmas lights will be put up tomorrow, Ron Eakle repaired the lights downtown and his guys are getting the equipment read for winter. Nice also gave two options to repair the storm sewer problem by Booths & Lavelles in Homewood. It will be on the next agenda. The DOH's report on the inspection of the Mary Ellen Street bridge was issued this week and it calls for its replacement. Nice said they can paint it in the spring to deter

rusting until a more permanent solution is found. Lastly, Dennis Hayes will be retiring at the end of the year.

The pool replacement project was discussed. Michael said she would like to name the Splash Pad area after Bub Miller and there were no objections. She and Lenny Stafford met with a representative from EQT and with MCPARC to ask for funding. Stafford said Michael gave an excellent presentation and they hope to hear from EQT & MCPARC soon. Watson gave a \$500 donation toward the project.

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

Michael asked for an executive session to discuss with Thrasher Engineering their fees for the pool project. Efaw made the motion to go into executive session. Bates seconded the motion and it carried. The time was 7:40 p.m.

Fluharty made the motion to reconvene into regular session. Shadrick seconded the motion and it carried. The time was 7:55 p.m.

Shadrick made the motion to accept Thrasher's proposal/contract and to authorize the mayor to sign the paperwork. Craw seconded the motion and it carried.

Shadrick made the motion to adjourn. Fluharty seconded the motion and it carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.