SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF JANUARY 10, 2022

A special meeting of the Mannington City Council, with Mayor Lora Michael presiding, was held Monday, January 10, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at city hall. Council members attending were Kris Bates, John Craw and Tim Fluharty.

The first item of business was the two council vacancies. Michael said four applications were received for the council at large seat and she is recommending Ken Fletcher. She said Fletcher previously served several years on council and he was actively involved with some of the projects that are still ongoing. Fluharty made the motion to appoint Ken Fletcher as councilman at large. Bates seconded the motion and it carried.

Two applications were received for the Precinct #69 seat and Michael recommended Roger Russell for that vacancy. Bates made the motion to appoint Roger Russell to the council seat from Precinct #69. Craw seconded the motion and it carried.

The police department procedures were the next item on the agenda. The 15-mile radius was discussed. Michael suggested it be changed to state that police officers must live in Marion County but still require the chief of police to live within the 15-mile radius. After further discussion, Bates made the motion to eliminate #3 in the Police Officer Qualifications and Residency Requirements but retain the 15-mile radius requirement for the chief of police. Craw seconded the motion and it carried.

Next, the ATV permits were discussed. Councilman Craw said he would like to change the payment procedure. Instead of paying in the police department, he would like the payments to be made in the city clerk’s office and then the permits issued by the police department upon proof that they have paid the fee. Plus, he would like the money received for the permits be used to clear and maintain the cut from Howard Street to Peanut as a trail for the ATV riders. Michael said CSX must be contacted before anything could be done to that property. Connecting our permits with other area towns was also suggested. That would allow one permit to be valid in all of the other participating towns. Chief of Police Jim Rigsby said the ATV ordinance needs amended to specify that racing ATVs are not allowed, to include muffler regulations and to state that the applicants must show proof of ownership. Prorating new permits was also mentioned. Renewals would not be subject to prorating. Fluharty made the motion to authorize the city clerk’s office to handle payments for the ATV permits. Craw seconded the motion and it carried. Michael said a handout explaining how to get the actual permit would be provided to everyone when they pay.

The final item on the agenda was the Wintergarden Park. Michael said rules and regulations need to be drawn up for anyone using the park. She said currently organizations are using it and the city has no idea if they have the necessary permits, licenses or insurance. She said anyone wanting to use the park is to contact Heather Fluharty at city hall so that she can mark it on the calendar. They would then be required, if necessary, to show proof of event insurance, permits for fireworks or other state required activities and if they are a for-profit organization, proof of licenses/fees. Michael will draw up the regulations for council to consider at a February meeting. Rigsby said the power connection at the park is ready.

Fluharty made the motion to adjourn. Craw seconded the motion and it carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.