

Mt. Pulaski City Council Meeting
City Hall
Tuesday, August 22, 2023
6:30 P.M.

The City Council Meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M., Mayor Bobell presided. Roll call was taken. Those present: Randy Hagenbuch, Sean McCormick, John Aylesworth, Joe Butler, Brad Davis, and Kate Davis. Also present were Chief, Tony West, Matt Presswood, and Dee Howard.

Mayor Bobell then led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recognition of Guests: Sandy Bowles, Wyatt Waterkotte, Greg Maus, Mike Chandler, Diane Blaum, Lora Hoe, Leanne Volle, and Marla Blair

Mike Chandler addressed the council with concerns of where they want trash bins stored. He said if there is nowhere to store them out of sight, they would have to put them in the garage which presents health issues. The elderly aren't mobile enough to drag them to the curb so he feels the city needs to get addresses and have the city workers pick them up. Brad Davis explained they do not have to store them in the garage, and they took out "can't be seen from the street". Tony said they have 48 hours to get them off the street and he will not ticket the ones who can't take them in. Mike said once they cross the sidewalk they are encroaching on their rights, but the city has some power to keep it looking nice.

Wyatt Waterkotte then spoke on the state no longer providing road signs for schools that have achieved state awards. He said the city can put in to order one. He has had several students earn State Officer. Matt Presswood is concerned that his employees are not covered in the areas where they go. It was suggested the city hire it done then they would be responsible. The south side is not a problem. Wyatt hoped they come up with something before the next sign is needed.

Approval of Consent Agenda: Motion by Brad Davis, second by Randy Hagenbuch, to approve the Consent Agenda Items: Claims, Accounts, and July Minutes. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Randy Hagenbuch, Sean McCormick, John Aylesworth, Joe Butler, and Brad Davis. No nay. Motion carried.

Public Comments: None

Reports by Officers

- **Police Chief Tony West:** Chief West reported seven or eight of the ordinances have cleaned up and more are working on it. There was a small fender bender at the last 2nd Friday. Aaron Steinberg took care of it.

- **Director of Public Works Matt Presswood:** Matt has been doing street work using the new equipment and it is working well. He hopes to finish up on Lafayette St. this week. He jet cleaned the lines out so should be good. They will be busy with more catch basins, milling, tree work, as well as getting ready for Fall Festival. Sean McCormick asked if he had any applicants for the opening. Matt has received four applicants and has talked to two of them. GFL has been

contacted and have assured them everything is set for Fall Festival. John Aylesworth has been contacted by a resident regarding spraying gutters. Matt has sprayed and is trying to keep up. Some things can't be used due to contaminating the water.

- **City Treasurer:** Dee Howard sent a copy of the Annual Treasurers report to the aldermen. She will be sending out Appropriations for 2024. Sally Turner is working on the Levy. Green & Associates brought engineers from Venstra Kimm, Inc to get opinions on the square renovation. They didn't see a need to hire an architect. Massie & Massie Landscape is very interested in the square revitalization.

New Business: The ordinance to amend city collector inquire permission of city bank accounts and CD/investment accounts be given to Paula will not be voted on this evening but will be on the agenda next meeting.

A copy of the consulting services proposal from Moran Economic Development, LLC was given to all the aldermen. Mayor Bobell said it is clear on what must happen in the process of getting a grant. If the grant doesn't go through the city does not have to do it.

Motion to Sean McCormick, second by Brad Davis, approve Consulting Services Proposal from Moran Economic Development, LLC. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Randy Hagenbuch, Sean McCormick, John Aylesworth, Joe Butler, Brad Davis, and Kate Davis. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Brad Davis, second by Kate Davis, to approve Resolution of Financial Support SRTS Grant. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Randy Hagenbuch, Sean McCormick, John Aylesworth, Joe Butler, Brad Davis, and Kate Davis. No nay. Motion carried.

A representative from Milano & Grunloh was present to go over the plans for the bicycle, pedestrian, and streetscape plan.

Old Business: None

Other Business: Mayor Bobell opened the two bids turned in for the demolition of the Vinegar Hill building. Jay Burn had a bid of \$198,500 that covered all expenses. All Industrial Group, LLC had a bid of \$78,755 that did not include asbestos removal. There will be no awarding of bids tonight.

Rise has been fixing some of the places that they tore up to install their fiber optics. Paula stated she had not talked to them lately. They are in town pulling the cables through now.

Public Comments: Mike Chandler addressed the council with a suggestion to extend the sidewalk from the library up Washington St. to North Park and then to Veteran's Park. He then asked if the city had money not tied with federal or state to put in place for anytime of war. He

said the county needs to set up a place for people to go for food, water, or housing in times of disaster.

Lora Hoe thanked the council for new sidewalks to help get the young to walk. She appreciates the vision and thanks them for working on it. Mayor Bobell and the council were appreciative of her kind words and said it isn't often they get thanked.

Executive Session:

Adjourn: Motion by Randy Hagenbuch, second by Brad Davis, to adjourn. Voice vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

Anna Beckers – City Clerk