

Mt. Pulaski City Council Meeting
City Hall
Tuesday, August 27, 2024
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: Kate Davis, Randy Hagenbuch, Sean McCormick, Ed Anderson, John Aylesworth, and Brad Davis. Also, present were Chief, Tony West, Matt Presswood, and Dee Howard.

Mayor Bobell then led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recognition of Guests: Michelle Hagenbuch, Greg Maus, and Boy Scouts David Butler, and Vincent Tabor or are working on Communication Merit Badges.

Mayor Bobell then had Seth from Milano and Grunloh give an update on Safe Routes to School Project. Funding in the amount of \$250,000 has been given to the city. There is a \$29,715.00 fee that the city will have to pay for design engineering fees that is not part of the grant. The project is currently in design coordinating with IDOT. There is no news on adding more sidewalks. Mayor asked if the city paid cash or use ITEP if that would help with the sidewalk work. Seth said they would love that, and it would also improve the chances of getting an application in the future.

Mayor then allowed Justin from The Stone River Group to speak on the municipality aggregation plan. They can lock in a flat rate for a year saving residents money. The rate that would be locked in is \$0.07853/kWh, a savings of 4%. There are no fees to join, and you can cancel at any time, but you can't renew with Stone River for a year per Ameren. There are 23 communities using it now and 10 more will be added.

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

Public Comments: None

Reports by Officers

- **Police Chief Tony West:** Officer West reported traffic and ordinance violations along with a theft under \$500. A lady stole a credit card from an elderly lady when helping her to the car. Tony attended a meeting with the school district about a new system they're using with handheld radios to communicate with each other. All administrators, Louie Volle, Head Custodians, Gene Schoth, Officers Pharis and West will have them. Tony would like the city to paint the corners yellow around the schools, so people know not to park there.

- **Director of Public Works:** Matt Presswood said they have been working on a storm drain issue by the post office. He also has fixed some of the steps around the square. Tree trimming will resume after the Fall Festival. They have a new line painting equipment. Matt stated he hasn't heard from Ameren since he sent them pictures, they asked for regarding the demolition of 104 S. Washington. Dee said she has seen them on her camera. Matt has also met with Farnsworth regarding Vine Street construction. The final plans have been sent and bids will be sent out this fall or early winter. Construction will begin in the spring. IAW should be done with their work before then. Dee stated the railing will be put up on Cooke St by Longview Bank within the next few days. No parking signs will be put back up on the street in front of the swimming pool. They were taken down when the pool was put in and never replaced.

- **Treasurers Report:** Dee gave the treasurers report.

New Business: Pam Erlenbush and Jill Gabriel, from the tree committee, contacted the mayor regarding replacement of trees that have been cut down. There have been around 100 trees cut down in the last couple years. They would like to see 60 new trees planted. The hope is to get outside groups to help. The committee will have 25 trees at a cost of \$5,000 to start with and those residents that have asked to have one replanted will be the first to get one. If a tree has been cut down on the boulevard there has to be one replanted whether the resident wants one or not. The city will help with some of the watering with the hope that residents will help also. More discussion will be made after the next Tree Committee meeting,

Old Business: None

Other Business: Consolidate election forms are out. Those whose terms will be up are, Mayor Bobell, Kate Davis, and Randy Hagenbuch. Due to being appointed Ed Anderson, Sean McCormick, and Dee Howard must run if they want to continue. Packets are due November 8th. The number of signatures needed has drastically changed, with only a couple signatures needed now.

Public Comments: Fall Festival is coming up and they are asking for help putting tents up on Wednesday from 5:00-5:30 pm on the square. On Sunday morning there will be a Sunday Service, a picnic, and tearing down of tents.

Executive Session:

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

Anna Beckers- City Clerk

