

Mt. Pulaski City Council Meeting  
City Hall  
Tuesday, September 12, 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: Sean McCormick, John Aylesworth, Joe Butler, Brad Davis, and Randy Hagenbuch. Also present were Chief, Tony West and Dee Howard.

Mayor Bobell then led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Recognition of Guests:** Mike Chandler and Joyce Maxheimer

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

**Public Comments:** None

**Reports by Officers**

- **Police Chief Tony West:** Chief West reported 219 N. Marion was fined. The Fall Festival went well with no issues. Joe Butler asked if there were any updates on the breakin north of town. Tony had not heard anything. He said the vehicle that went down Vine St. might have been a part of it. Tony and Jordan Klein were in court for the property at 102 S. Washington. Debbie said she had a buyer for it but he has not seen or heard anything from him. The judge has given until this Friday, and if nothing is done the city will proceed with demolishing it. If it is bought, then things will start all over again. Dee was told that the buyer knows all this is wrong with the property.
  
- **Director of Public Works:** Matt is unable to be here tonight but Josh Poffenbarger is present to give the report. Josh handed out a bid for paint striping from, The Cutting Edge Asphalt, LLC. He gave them a tour of all the areas that needed done. Dylan Hatala, the new employee, is doing working hard and doing well. They are working on rough stops in the roads. Council wanted to know if there is anything they can do on intersections being lower than streets before milling Vine Street. Josh will see how far down it needs milled. Joe wanted an update on when the stumps will be removed, back filled, and seeded. Josh said the guy comes when he has time but it should be done this fall. Joe then asked if they had gotten all the signs in yet at which Josh answered yes. John Aylesworth asked what had been decided on planting new trees. Mayor replied we have not decided on anything yet. He said usually you plant in the spring and will check on planting trees who pays and how much.
  
- **City Treasurer:** Dee Howard gave the treasurers report. She corrected the last report that had two entry's that were the same.

**Old Business:** Jordan sent council the amended ordinance regarding inquiry rights be given Paula Holcomb for city bank accounts and CD/investment accounts.

Motion by Brad Davis, second by Randy Hagenbuch, to approve ordinance to amend city collector inquiry permission for city bank accounts and cd/investment accounts be given Paula Holcomb with the change of village to city. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Sean McCormick, John Aylesworth, Joe Butler, Brad Davis, and Randy Hagenbuch. No nay. Motion carried.

Dee met with Green & Associates who brought surveyors who worked with Dave Leonati on the Town Square Revitalization Project. They saw no need for architects to do landscaping. Dee also met with Massie Massie & Associates regarding landscaping ideas. She felt they had some really good ideas but it would be like starting all over again. The retaining wall is a problem that hopefully the surveyors have some good news on what we can do with it. Brad commented on how bad the steps look. Matt said they will be fixed. Randy said the money is there just waiting on the state to ok it. Mayor Bobell thinks maybe Sally could find something out about the retaining wall. Dee thought the civil engineer should be able to do something. Council asked Dee if the EDPB would help pay for some of the services. She said there is a CD marked for square revitalization. They have funds as well as a grant.

**New Business:** The annual treasurers report is completed for period ending May 31, 2022.

Motion by Joe Butler, second by Sean McCormick, to approve the Annual Treasurer's Report for period ending May 31, 2022. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Sean McCormick, John Aylesworth, Joe Butler, Brad Davis, and Randy Hagenbuch. No nay. Motion carried.

There were only two bids submitted for the demolition of Vinegar Hill. There was a big difference in the cost of demolition. Mayor said he is waiting for more details on the bid from All Industrial Group. He asked council if they would like to put it back out for more bids. Brad asked why he thought they would get more bids. Randy asked if there were more places to contact to get bids out. He said it goes in the newspaper as well as online and assured him a lot know about it, but wondered if the joint building was a factor. Mayor asked if they just wanted to give it to Jay Burn. Mayor will talk to Matt and Farnsworth to see what they think. Jay asked if the city was liable for anyone getting hurt in the building. Matt said a mortgage company in Texas owns it so it's private property.

Joe Butler asked for streets and alleys to be put on the agenda. He would like to see a more detailed plan on streets/alleys like the did for the sidewalk to Casey's. He feels the city workers are not very proactive when they say they're doing what they can. People avoid certain streets because of holes or bottoming out on intersections.

**Other Business:** Sean wanted to know if concrete work is hired out and if they had more equipment if there were enough staff. The work done at the ball field tied them up from working on the rest of the town. Josh said there were some kids who wanted to help this summer but they weren't old enough.

**Public Comments:** Mike Chandler addressed council as a concerned citizen wanting to know what the city has planned for emergency situations. Dee said there is a binder with information but it's more for natural disasters. Brad asked if there was something for terrorism which there is not. Joe asked if he meant for food and water. Mike said yes, and went on to say people don't

grow food like they used to. He said globally things are not good. Brad asked if he had an outline of what he was thinking. Mike wants to start training people on how to do things such as planting, and where to get water. Brad asked if committees were needed. Mike is going to get a plan and report back to council.

**Executive Session:**

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

Anna Beckers – City Clerk