

Mt. Pulaski City Council Meeting
City Hall
Tuesday, February 14, 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, Joe Butler, Brad Davis, and Kate Davis. Absent were Tim Emrick and Dan Smock. Also present were Treasurer Dee Howard, Chief of Police Tony West, and Matt Presswood.

Mayor Bobell then led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recognition of Guests: Michelle Hagenbuch, Chris Hagenbuch, Josh Poffenbarger, Sandy Bowles, and Paula Holcomb.

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

Public Comments: None

Reports by Officers:

- **Police Chief Tony West:** Officer West called to check when the new cruiser would be ready. They are working on it now and should be done in the next couple of weeks. He will take it to Lincoln to have the computer installed. Another officer will ride with him to the dealership in Greenville to pick it up. He said they'll probably keep the old car for a year or two and then sell it. Mayor stated they will have to put it up for bids when the time comes.
- **Director of Public Works Matt Presswood:** Matt was not able to come tonight. Josh Poffenbarger reported for him. He said they have been working at Frazier Park cleaning up the back where its become a dumping ground. They have cleared trees out and kept the good ones. The plan is to extend parking using the millings from the high school for now. There was another bid come in for fencing that is \$20,000 higher than the last bid. The new fencing will have a gate that will be closed at night. The EDPB has \$100,000 set aside to help with updating the park. Josh said he used the roller on the skid, and it works great for cleaning the gutters out.
- **City Treasurer:** Dee Howard gave the treasurer report. With the sale of the water works, IAW said we either get all easements or pay them \$38,000. Jordan said by giving them the \$38,000 are hands are washed of all problems getting easements. Dee said there is money set aside for it.

New Business: Jordan Klein, the city lawyer, has increased his fees. His current fees are \$150 per hour and \$250 per meeting. The increase rates will be \$165 per meeting and \$350 per hour. Jordan expressed his appreciation for giving him the opportunity to work with the city.

Motion by Joe Butler, second by Randy Hagenbuch, to approve Fee Increase for Jordan Klein pursuant to provided Fee Agreement. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Randy Hagenbuch, Joe Butler, Brad Davis, and Kate Davis. No nay. Motion carried.

Health Insurance renewal is due in April. Currently the city has BC/BS. They will be raising their rates to just under \$2.00 per month. Joe Butler asked if they would be interested in looking into other options with some health providers not taking BC/BS. Paula feels they are satisfied with BC/BS and it is getting to late to find other options for this year.

Motion by Brad Davis, second by Kate Davis, to approve BC/BS Health Insurance Annual Review. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Randy Hagenbuch, Joe Butler, Brad Davis, and Kate Davis. No nay. Motion carried.

Old Business: None

Other Business: IAW will be coming to a meeting soon to discuss the future new water treatment facility. The water will taste better and won't smell like chlorine once they get the nitrates out, but unfortunately it won't be soft water.

Jordan briefly touched on fiber optics. He said the city can not charge them a fee for anything, but we can control some of what they do. The city can make them accountable for any damage they may do while installing the fiber optics. An ordinance needs to be in place to make them abide by it. The city cannot stop them from coming in, but some guidelines need to be in place. Mayor Bobell and Jordan would like to get some feedback from the street department as well as council. No permit has been applied for yet.

Public Comments: None

Motion by Kate Davis, second by Brad Davis, to adjourn. Voice vote. All ayes. Motion passed.

Executive Session:

Anna Beckers – City Clerk