

Mt. Pulaski City  
Council Meeting  
Tuesday, January 22, 2018 2019  
6:30pm

**Present:** Mayor Matthew Bobell, Alderman, Emerick, Maxheimer, Neaville and Rentmeister, City Treasurer Tricia Aylesworth, Director of Public Works Matt Presswood, Police Chief Tony West

**Absent:** Alderman Knauer and Palmquist

**Recognition of Guests:**

The City Council meeting was called to order, Mayor Matthew Bobell presided.

**Public Comments – Agenda Items Only:**

**Police:** Tony West stated they have been busy this last week. There have been several burglaries around town. Four (4) suspects have been detained with the help of the county sheriffs department.

**Water/ Sewer:** Matt Presswood stated the bid opening for the **water main extension out to Herrin** has been completed. The lowest bid is **Goeckner Backhoe Service with a bid of \$36, 210.00**. A motion was made by Alderman Neaville and seconded by Alderman Maxheimer to accept the bid as presented to approve the notion of award to Goeckner Backhoe services with a bid of \$36, 210.00. All voting yea – the motion carried.

Matt Presswood stated **lift station #3 on Spring St.** is running on one (1) pump. This lift station is in need of being replaced and some major money will have to be spent. Matt stated he has been in touch with Petersburg Plumbing and the Farnsworth Group. This is in the preliminary stage right now. Matt stated he wanted to inform the council of this long term project. Alderman Neaville would like to see if we can keep it going and not have to get another \$250,000.00 loan.

**Streets/Alleys:** Matt Presswood stated some phase planning is being worked on for repair work on streets this summer.

**Financing:** Deposits to date are \$18,469.44. Tricia Aylesworth stated the line of credit loan is coming due February 8, 2019. Tricia will talk with Andy at the bank to get this line of credit loan extended one (1) year.

Tricia Aylesworth stated the finance committee has been discussing about presenting something a little more manageable. An account analysis was discussed to help budget/plan out for the year. This is going to be a process.

Tricia Aylesworth asked the council if they felt the City was getting all they wanted from Abbott's for the amount of money that is paid to them. Is it the best use of our funds? The amount of money that is paid to them may be a good deal. Mayor Bobell stated this is something that could be looked into.

**Public Comments – Non Agenda Items:** Jake Collier would like to discuss **Bates Road**. Jake stated he has contacted City Hall and no one is returning his phone calls. Alderman Neaville stated the City does not own or have any rights to the road and we would be maintaining a road that goes back to houses that

do not pay city taxes. Pavement of a road that goes back to houses that do not pay city taxes does not seem fair. Mayor Bobell stated we do not own the road. Jake stated he will talk to the others back there to see about getting annexed in.

Dave Leonatti discussed the proposal for a master plan concerning the town square development. Tom Martin stated there was a meeting about a town square strategic plan and Dave's firm has done all the court house work. The EDPB board met with Dave for a second time and a unanimous vote passed the provision to move forward. Dave explained the proposal and the total cost of \$18,500.00 for the plan. Tom Martin stated the board is wanting to split where the funds would be dispersed from \$9,250.00 from the business district and \$9,250.00 from the windfarm fund. The board is wanting to establish a steering committee stating this project will happen over a period of time. Mayor asked the council to take some time and read over the proposal and be ready to vote on this matter of business at the next council meeting.

Tom Martin stated the EDPB is looking to hire a coordinator. The board is wanting to put a press release out to start accepting applications for a part time position.

**Approval of Consent Agenda:** City Clerk, Kelly Cowan read the bills as presented. A motion was made by Alderman Neaville and seconded by Alderman Emrick to approve the consent agenda items. All voting yea – the motion carried.

**Miscellaneous:** Jim and Valerie with Estes, Bridgewater & Ogden presented and discussed the **FY18 audit**. Valerie stated a clean opinion was made after all the accounting issues. No problems with management. A recommendation of all financial statements coming from the accounting system was made. A motion was made by Alderman Neaville and seconded by Alderman Emrick to approve the FY 18 audit as presented. All voting yea – the motion carried.

Matt Presswood stated the **storm whistle** on Spring St. needs to be replaced as it is nonfunctioning. An estimate from Lincoln Land Communication's is \$8500.00. Alderman Neaville would like a preliminary search done and if nothing is found we could go with Lincoln Land Communication's. Matt Presswood stated he would look into more. A motion was made by Alderman Neaville and seconded by Alderman Rentmeister to go with Lincoln Land Communication's if another option is not found. All voting yea – the motion carried.

Mayor Bobell stated the EAB board approved some community grants. The grants that were approved are Jules Flower Shop for \$1500.00, Masonic Lodge for \$1600.00 and Vinegar Hill Treasure Chest for \$5,000.00. A motion was made by Alderman Neaville and seconded by Alderman Maxheimer to approve the **business district appropriations** for \$8100.00 for the grants as listed above. All voting yea – the motion carried.

Mayor Bobell presented a proposed **ordinance change to the EDPB**. A change to 2-2-3: Composition to the board shall consist of seven (7) members. A change to 2-2-4: Qualifications to add members may also serve if they own property within the Mt. Pulaski Township. A change to 2-2-5: Terms to replace the word two (2) to four (4). A motion was made by Alderman Neaville and seconded by Alderman Rentmeister to approve the ordinance changes. All voting yea – the motion carried.

Mayor Bobell stated the meeting was adjourned.

Kelly Cowan- City Clerk