

Mt. Pulaski City Council Meeting
City Hall
Tuesday, March 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: Joe Butler, Brad Davis, Kate Davis, Tim Emrick, and Randy Hagenbuch. Absent was 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: Jennifer Wernsing, Eric Cowan, John Aylesworth, Marla Blair, Sandy Bowles, Josh Poffenbarger, 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: Joe Butler, Brad Davis, Kate Davis, Tim Emrick, and Randy Hagenbuch. No nay. Motion carried.

Public Comments: Jennifer Wernsing wanted to say how thankful she is to Matt Presswood, Josh Poffenbarger, and Randy Hagenbuch for their help getting a tree taken care of during the wind storm. It was to dangerous to leave from falling limbs.

Reports by Officers:

- **Police Chief Tony West:** Officer West reported the side-by-side permits are going well. He will be going to get the new squad car this Thursday. He will need to get the computer installed but they are having trouble getting the parts in. Tony has a few ordinances he has been dealing with. He is waiting for the secretary to give him a court date for the buildings in town the city has been dealing with. Once there is a date set the owners will be served.
- **Director of Public Works Matt Presswood:** Matt reported the wind storm the other day took the steel roof off the Vinegar Hill building and blew it down to the south building. With the nice weather they have been working at Frazier Park getting ready for ball season. Fencing has been put out for bids. They are to be returned to city hall and will be read at the March 28th meeting. Matt said the city will remove the old fencing. Millings from the high school are being used to create more parking.
- **City Treasurer:** Dee Howard gave the treasurer report. Mayor Bobell would like to know what all is in the ACH Fund. Dee will include a detailed ACH report in the next report. Jordan inquired if IAW has requested a wire for the escrow yet. Dee has not heard from them.
- **New Business:** Eric Cowan, President of the School Board, presented a proposal to city council asking for help with the cost of renovations at MPGS. The tentative plan is to update the front of the school fixing sidewalks that have sunk, taking out the trees, replanting new ones, and addressing the water pooling issues. Matt Presswood stated the water pooling is due to gutter

work that was installed years ago and has sunk. The school would also like to make some improvements to the north parking lot by getting the sidewalk and parking area up to grade, adding some lighting and trees. The district will have their architect draw up some plans and present it to the council for their approval.

The Master Agreement Fiber Optic was presented but due to Brad Davis having some concerns he would like clarified there was no vote on it tonight.

Joe Butler has concerns about some trees in town that need to be taken down. There are some at the grade school and on his property. One of his trees is root dead and the other has disease causing branches to break off. He stated the trees didn't get trimmed when he was told they would be. He also didn't receive any feedback when he contacted them. He wants some governance if there isn't any. Mayor Bobell let him know there is one and he guaranteed that action was taken. He advised Joe to resubmit the paperwork. Josh will be removing trees this spring/summer and trimming them in the fall. Josh is taking classes to be an arborist. Mayor would like to make him the city arborist when he is finished. Joe was advised the Tree Committee meets once a week. Paula keeps notes of contacting those who put in requests.

One of the GFL trucks hit a tree limb with their boom on Lafayette Court. GFL wants the city to trim the trees, but Lafayette Court is private property. GFL needs permission to go in there so those residents are responsible.

Old Business: Mayor Bobell will be attending the Historic meeting at the museum They meet the last Monday of every month at 1:30 P.M. There needs to be a Historic Site committee if the decision to join is made. More grants would be available to the city.

Other Business: The draft audit is completed.

Public Comments: None

Motion by Joe Butler, second by Randy Hagenbuch, to adjourn. Voice vote. All ayes. Motion passed.

Executive Session:

Anna Beckers – City Clerk