

Mt. Pulaski City Council Meeting  
Tuesday, May 8, 2018  
6:30pm

**Present:** Mayor pro tem Darrel Knauer, Alderman Bobell, Neaville, Maxheimer, Palmquist and West, City Attorney Jordan Klein, W/S Supervisor Matt Presswood, S/A Supervisor Bill Fricke, Chief of Police Tony West

**Absent:** Treasurer Tricia Aylesworth

**Recognition of Guests:** Richard Volle

The City Council meeting was called to order, Mayor pro tem Darrel Knauer presided. Mayor pro tem Knauer led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Alderman Bobell and seconded by Alderman Neaville to approve the items of business under the **consent agenda**; Claims and accounts and the minutes from the previous meeting. All voting yea- the motion carried.

**Public Comments – Agenda Items Only:** Richard Volle asked if the water coop was going to be voted on tonight. A forty year contract with joining the water coop is a long time and this needs to be looked into further. The water coop will bring water to town but will do nothing for the infrastructure. This is a huge item of business and would suggest an item be put on a referendum on the ballot and get a real count. This will get the people better educated about join the water coop or selling the water to American Water Company.

**Reports by Officers:**

- **Police Chief Tony West:** Nothing to report
- **W/S Supervisor Matt Presswood:** Matt stated the selling of bulk water to the windfarm company has begun. There has not been any water sold from well 7 at this time.

A water meter at MPGS has been replaced.

Matt is having a hard time getting in contact with the Rail Road to get exploratory work done.

- **S/A Supervisor Bill Fricke:** Bills report is under Old Business.
- **City Treasurer, Tricia Aylesworth:** Deposits to date: \$4,333.25

**Old Business:** Bill Fricke presented the **budget** stating he had help from Alderman Neaville and Charles Fricke. There are areas of concerns under the employee's salaries and wages. Bill stated he is concerned if he will be able to fulfill duties to the community. Bill stated he is going to need some help next year on the budget so he can better understand. Alderman Maxheimer asked Bill Fricke why he did not work with the City accountant, Crystal Kerns. Bill stated she did help him but it got really confusing so that's when he asked for the help from Alderman Neaville and Charles Fricke.

Alderman Neaville stated the budget is \$66,000.00 over budget, trims are going to have to be done and a serious discussion is going to have to happen. Alderman Bobell stated last year's budget was done before

streets and alleys funds were paid for employee's salaries. Streets and alleys department was created last year. Alderman Bobell stated the City cannot work off of a deficient and the budget needs to be looked at again.

The council went around and gave their opinion on the **water coop agreement**. Alderman Maxheimer stated she agreed with Richard Volle, 40 years is a long time and the city needs more feedback from the citizens. Alderman West stated she thinks more feedback is needed. Alderman Palmquist also agrees more feedback is needed. Alderman Neaville stated he feels joining the water coop is the best option for the City. If the council wants to wait and put it on the next ballot Alderman Neaville is not sure the coop will wait as they will move on without us. Alderman Bobell stated the original agreement was \$3.00 but they cannot deliver and he feels there are other options out there. Alderman Bobell stated he feels the coop might not wait. Elkhart, Dawson and Rochester have decided not to join. Alderman Neaville stated rural development approved \$2 million more so the cost would be \$3.53. A motion was made by Alderman Bobell and seconded by Alderman Palmquist to table is matter of business. All voting yea – the motion carried.

**New Business:** After an executive session and entering back into a regular session a motion was made by Alderman Neaville and seconded by Palmquist to select Alderman Bobell as the **act mayor**. All voting yea – the motion carried.

Bill Fricke stated the MFT's from 2014-2017 have been closed out. Justin from The Farnsworth Group presented and discussed with the council a **2018 MFT Resolution**. Justin asked the council to pass the resolution for \$80,000. A motion was made by Alderman Neaville and seconded by Alderman Palmquist to accept the 2018 MFT Resolution as presented. All voting yea - the motion carried.

A yearly **Logan County animal control contract** was presented for \$3,421.44. Alderman Palmquist stated last year we had 16 calls and this year we've had 11 so far. A motion was made by Alderman Palmquist and seconded by Alderman West to renew the Logan County Animal Control contract. All voting yea – the motion carried.

Alderman Neaville stated the **Comcast franchise agreement** is a renewal. The council will review this more and the City attorney, Jordan Klein will look into this more. A motion was made by Alderman Neaville and seconded by Alderman Bobell to table this matter of business. All voting yea – the motion carried.

Alderman Neaville stated Jim Cole is still on **financial accounts**. A motion was made by Alderman Neaville and seconded by Alderman Palmquist to remove Jim Cole and add Matt Bobell with the changes being made after Matt Bobell is sworn into office. All voting yea – the motion carried.

Alderman West stated there is a pull off dumpster down at the recycling center. This is not what is supposed to be there and a phone call has been made. A motion was made by Alderman Palmquist and seconded by Alderman West to accept the current agreement with **AREA Disposal recycling** status quo for recycling until a formal contract is received. All voting yea – the motion carried.

Alderman Bobell stated the finance committee will discuss and bring back to the council **employee raises**.

Alderman Bobell stated a contribution request for the **Logan County Economic Development Partnership** has been submitted to the City. This partnership is something that City has had for a few years. A motion was made by Alderman Bobell and seconded by Alderman Neaville to accept the contribution request. All voting yea – the motion carried.

**Other Business:** A motion was made by Alderman Neaville and seconded by Alderman Palmquist to allocate the funds and sign the contract to live stream the City council meetings. All voting yea – the motion carried.

**Public Comments – Non Agenda Items:** Richard Volle stated **the tree ordinance** came about because the City needed a grant and in order to get the grant the City had to have a tree ordinance. The City is no longer a part of the national Arbor Day foundation. Richard suggests the tree ordinance needs to be reviewed and see if it is appropriate. Alderman Neaville asked Richard if he would be interested in taking part in reviewing the ordinance. Richard stated he would be willing to help review the tree ordinance.

Bill Fricke stated he was approached by Mr. Mileham asking if they could get some help with cleaning up a property on McDonald St. There are certain items they cannot get moved and wanted to know if the City could help with that. Alderman Neaville stated if the City did this it would be obligating ourselves for the next time. The landscape rules were read and Alderman Bobell stated the rules need to be followed.

Roger Bohn asked what the completion date was for the sewer force main project. Alderman Neaville stated it is on track for June 1, 2018.

Alderman Neaville stated after the City Attorney, Jordan Klein looked into if the **City crew mowing the Court House lawn** was a misuse of City equipment and funds it is not a misuse.

Alderman Neaville stated **City accountant, Crystal Kern has submitted her resignation** as of May 31, 2018. The City will need to start looking for a new City accountant.

**Executive Session:** A motion was made by Alderman Neaville and seconded by Alderman Bobell to exit regular session and enter into executive session to discuss selecting an acting mayor for 10 mins. All voting yea – the motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Palmquist and seconded by Alderman Neaville to exit executive session and enter back into regular session. All voting yea – the motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Neaville and seconded by Alderman Palmquist to **select Matt Bobell as the acting Mayor**. All voting yea – the motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman West and seconded by Alderman Neaville to exit regular session and enter into executive session to discuss personnel for 20 mins. All voting yea – the motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Neaville and seconded by Alderman Maxheimer to exit executive session and enter back into regular session. All voting yea – the motion carried.

No action was taken from the executive session.

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Alderman Bobell and seconded by Alderman West to adjourn the meeting. All voting yea—the motion carried.

Kelly Cowan- City Clerk