

Mt. Pulaski City
Council Meeting
Tuesday, September 24, 2019
6:30pm

Present: Mayor Pro tem Joyce Maxheimer, Alderman Emrick, Neville, Phillips, Rentmeister and Smock, City Treasurer Tricia Aylesworth, Police Chief Tony West, Director of Public Works Matt Presswood

Absent: Mayor Matthew Bobell

Recognition of Guests: Richard Volle, Tom Martin

The City Council meeting was called to order, Mayor pro tem Joyce Maxheimer presided.

Public Comments – Agenda Items Only:

Police: Tony West stated there have been burglaries in the rural area. Reminding everyone to make sure their property is secure. Nothing reported in town thus far.

Water/ Sewer: Alderman Emrick stated there is progress with the sewer force main project, Justin with The Farnsworth Group has touched base with the CN Rail Road. The rail road has accepted the drawings, an issue was found. Justin is going to have it reengineered and resubmitted.

Alderman Emrick stated pump work is being done at lift station three (3).

Alderman Emrick stated they will be in touch with Lee Beckman to discuss the possible replacement of the water mains around the square.

Streets/Alleys: Alderman Neville stated the committee did not have a meeting. Matt Presswood stated the fall festival is complete and it was a huge success. The city owned tents are in need of repair. Matt has been in contact with vendors and will continue to search to get the tents repaired. Mayor pro tem Maxheimer stated there was a fund at INB at one time for tent repairs. Matt Presswood stated he would look into this.

Matt Presswood stated the 18 year old leave vac machine is in need of repair. The machine is in Missouri, as there is no place in Illinois that works on these machines. The estimated cost to repair is \$15,000.00-\$20,000. The cost to replace the machine is around \$60,000.00 - \$70,000.00.

Financing: Deposits to date: \$85,942.80

Public Comments – Non Agenda Items: Cale West with **The Stone River Group** presented and discussed an electrical and natural gas savings quote. The council will review the quotes.

Deborah May discussed **historic preservation** with the council. There has been a lot of energy with the revitalization of the square and historic preservation would go along with that. Deborah owns a property on the square here in Mt. Pulaski. The greatest asset to a community is its buildings. Does the council have any interest in establishing historic preservation and getting an ordinance in place? Tom Martin stated Deborah is on the EAB board. Tom stated the EAB board would be willing to take the lead on this

and offers the EAB boards assistance. Mayor pro tem Maxheimer stated they will be in contact with Bill Thomas to get more information.

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

Miscellaneous: The majority of the council is in agreement to allow a marijuana dispensary in Mt. Pulaski. Alderman Neaville stated he is against allowing a dispensary. The council is in agreement with a 3% tax. Alderman Neaville will be in contact with the city attorney, Jordan Klein to get a **marijuana ordinance** drawn up.

Doug Johnson has been operating the Johnson True Value Hardware Store for 23 years. Doug would like to relocate his business to the old Johnson's food center. The building is in need of some renovations. Along with renovations, Doug would like to remove the old pharmacy section of the building allowing an entrance to and from high way 121. This proposed project will cost a lot of money. The building is in the **TIF district** and the business district. Doug ask that the TIF be **extended**. Doug asked the council to review his plan and determine what level if any funds could be provided by the TIF funds and the business district funds.

Richard Volle and Tom Martin are here in support of Doug Johnson and the relocating of Johnson True Value Hardware Store. Richard is encouraging the council to extend the TIF. Tom Martin stated the EAB contact Doug Johnson about six (6) months ago. The EAB is waiting to see about the TIF extension before the board comes in and helps.

Executive Session: A motion was made by Alderman Neaville and seconded by Alderman Phillips 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 Smock to exit executive session and enter into regular session. All voting yea – the motion carried.

No action taken.

Mayor pro tem Maxheimer stated the meeting was adjourned.

Kelly Cowan- City Clerk