

TRENTON CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 9, 2017

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Trenton City Council was called to order by Mayor Kyle Jones on Monday, January 9, 2017 at 7:03 p.m. at City Hall.

**ROLL CALL**

Hooker, Mohme (absent), Woods, Zurliene, Sims

Also present were City Clerk Karen Buzzard, City Administrator Doug Brimm, Attorney Tim Palen, Superintendent of Public Works Kurt Wehrle, Mike Conley, Officer Brett Wiebler, Mark Brown, Kurt and Andrew Gajewski.

**PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

**PUBLIC INPUT**

Andrew Gajewski of 422 W 4<sup>th</sup> street presented to the Council his completed Eagle Scout Project. At the Trenton Nature Park Mr. Gajewski made a new map sign complete with new Plexiglas and roof. He installed ten tree labels and installed a culvert where there was once an open ditch. The total cost of the project came to \$393.16, under the budget that the Council previously approved. Mr. Gajewski thanked everyone for their help, especially Superintendent of Public Works Kurt Wehrle.

**COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – MAYOR**

Mayor Jones said that he has been approached with questions regarding the circumstances of Chief Jones' retirement. Mayor Jones wanted it known that Chief Jones was not pressured into or asked to retire or resign. The mayor is the only one with the authority to ask this, and then only with the consent of the Council. Mayor Jones fielded questions about the transition from Mike Jones to Tim Palen. Mr. Palen is not currently a resident of the City of Trenton. He is on a temporary contract that will expire with the term of the mayor. If re-elected in April, Mayor Jones said that he intends to appoint Mr. Palen as Chief of Police, and his new contract will have a residency requirement. Mr. Palen is very serious about moving to Trenton. His current home is already on the market. When asked about the Captains position, Mayor Jones said that a previous Council felt it necessary to have a second in command and that will be looked at now also. He would like for Chief Palen to have some time to assess his department and bring feedback to the Council. There are many factors to consider including the bargaining unit and budget. Chief Palen is currently driving a City vehicle home every day so that he has the necessary equipment to respond directly to an emergency if needed. Mayor Jones said that he will continue to present facts to both the Council and the public.

**COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS- ALDERMEN**

Alderman Hooker called a Community Coordination committee meeting for January 17, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss hiring of pool manager, assistant manager and lifeguards for this summer.

**COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – CITY STAFF**

Mr. Brimm announced the Chamber of Commerce Dinner/Dance/Auction to be held February 25, 2017 at Jailhouse Rock. They have requested a donation of a pool party from the City. The Council agreed to the donation.

Mr. Brimm said that another donation request has come from St. Mary's Glow Bingo. The Council agreed to another pool party. Alderman Woods expressed concern over every organization requesting donations. The line needs to be drawn somewhere.

Mr. Brimm informed the Council that Boy Scout Troop 39 will be having a camp out on February 17, 2017 on the lot between City Hall and Tempo Bank for homeless awareness. The City has no objection; the scouts will be on private property.

Mr. Brimm will be calling a Planning Commission meeting to review three annexations, a change in the zoning code for businesses and to review a subdivision. Details will be coming.

Mr. Brimm will be meeting later this week with Jennifer Thomson from the Trenton Council of Churches to discuss "Mission Trenton". This is a local mission trip with the purpose of cleaning up properties in Trenton. Mr. Brimm will bring more information to the Council after the meeting later this week.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Alderman Hooker made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Second Alderman Woods, all yes, Mohme absent, motion carried. The consent agenda included the minutes of the December 27, 2016 Regular Council Meeting, a motion to approve Payroll for the month of December 2016, a motion to Approve bills for the month of December 2016, and a motion to approve the Treasurer's report for November 2016.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Alderman Hooker asked if there had been any progress on either of the two properties discussed before. Mr. Brimm said that one of the property owners seems to be missing the mark as he has no concerns with the structure of the building. Mr. Brimm has not heard from the other property owner.

Alderman Sims asked about Dollar General. Mr. Brimm said he understands the developer still has not closed on the purchase of the additional ground. The City of Trenton gave its go-ahead in November and materials have been delivered to the site. Mayor Jones wanted to reiterate that the City has done everything in its power to facilitate progress of this project.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Alderman Woods made a motion to Approve Environmental Consultants, LLC Proposal for Consulting Services Pertaining to Asbestos Abatement for 801 E Broadway in the Amount of \$1,750.00 to be paid from revolving loan fund. Second Alderman Zurliene, all yes, Mohme absent. Motion carried.

Mr. Brimm informed the Council that Top Ag has submitted an application for TIF assistance for a renovation of the main office here in Trenton. The information sheet passed out described the renovation to bring that facility into ADA compliance including a ramp and complete overhaul of the restrooms. In keeping with past practice on reimbursements, the life/safety upgrades would be reimbursed at a rate of 90% and everything else would be at a rate of 60%. Total reimbursement would be \$29,431.50 and be paid over a five year period. No one had any questions. This will be on the next meeting's agenda for approval.

The Trenton House Restaurant has also requested TIF assistance for an extensive renovation that they are about to embark upon. The plan is to overhaul the exterior with new siding, paint, and windows. The interior will get new floors, HVAC, bar top, cloth booths reupholstered, new window blinds and the tin ceiling painted and repaired. Everything would be reimbursed at a rate of 60% as there are no life/safety upgrades planned. The total project cost is estimated at \$312,664.93 with reimbursement of \$187,598.96 to be paid over seven years. No one from the Council had any questions. Mayor Jones stated that our desired affect is happening. These businesses have paid into TIF and now they are staying here and improving and growing. Mayor Jones said that there is some infrastructure work that needs to be done near the Trenton House but we will wait until after the renovation is complete. After the election we will look at the downtown revitalization again and incorporate the infrastructure work into that.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Brown asked for a timeline on the decision regarding a police captain. Mayor Jones said nothing will be decided now. Give Chief Palen a chance to evaluate his department. Mr. Conley asked if there would be a Captain or just a second in command. Chief Palen said that he was open to all options and he would need to take many things into consideration including the budget.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Alderman Hooker made a motion to adjourn. Second Alderman Zurliene, all yes, Mohme absent, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

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Karen Buzzard, City Clerk