

TRENTON CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING AUGUST 4, 2015

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Trenton City Council was called to order by Mayor Kyle Jones on Tuesday, August 4, 2015 at 7:00 PM at City Hall.

**ROLL CALL**

Hooker, Mohme, Sims, Woods, Zurliene, all present.

Also present were Officer Ralph Owens, Clerk Karen Buzzard, City Administrator Doug Brimm, Mike Conley of the Trenton Sun, Superintendent of Public Works Kurt Wehrle, Attorney Tim Palen, Dan Kohlbrecher, Russel Rendlemann, Linda Evans, Jim Brefeld, Kelly Ross of the Breese Journal, and Tina Litteken

**PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

**INPUT FROM RESIDENTS**

Dan Kohlbrecher announced that the Citizens for Trenton Dinner/Dance would be November 7, 2015 featuring the Jorrells. He has tickets, \$65 per couple. Mr. Kohlbrecher passed out flyers to each of the aldermen.

**COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – MAYOR**

Mayor Jones announced the first of Republic Services bulk item pickups will be August 19. Information regarding the rules for bulk item pickup can be found on the City's website or by calling City Hall.

The City will be conducting smoke testing of the sanitary sewer system this fall. This will help to identify cross connections and doing this in conjunction with the health/safety inspections on properties we hope to alleviate some of the strain that is being put on our sewer plant and eliminate some of the backups that happen during heavy rains. We possess the equipment necessary to complete smoke testing and all residents will be notified prior to their area being tested.

**COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS- ALDERMEN**

**COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – CITY STAFF**

Superintendent Wehrle stated that road prep work and ditching has begun in preparation for the Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) program that will take place September 15, 2015 with September 16, 2015 set as a rain date.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Alderman Hooker made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. This includes: minutes of the July 7, 2015 Regular Council Meeting, minutes of the July 13, 2015 Council working session, minutes of the July 27, 2015 Council work session, Treasurer's report for the month of June 2015, Bills for July 2015, and Payroll for July 2015. Second Alderman Sims, all yes, motion carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Alderman Woods made a motion to Approve Ordinance #1614, Amending Chapter 38 of Code of Ordinances, Utilities. Second Alderman Zurliene, all yes, motion carried.

Mr. Rendlemann asked the Council if the ordinance for inspections had been written. He was told it had been. Mayor Jones gave background as to the Council's reason for bringing to the table this ordinance. Attorney Palen reviewed the ordinance as it is written. Mayor Jones clarified that the testing for cross connections is backed by state law and the courts have tested this. He also pointed out that due to feedback from landlords; we have incorporated an appeals process for homeowners/landlords. Jim Brefeld asked for a worst case scenario of violations. Alderman Woods read from a list of common violations that New Baden uses to inform their residents. It was asked of the Council to have that list made available on the City website. It was then asked how much of the inspection fee goes to the inspector. Mayor Jones stated that our public works department will be doing the cross connection inspection and that the camera equipment to perform those inspections will need to be purchased. There was more discussion about the previous times that something similar to this has tried to be passed, and failed. Mayor Jones and Mr. Brimm stressed to everyone that these are minimum standards for health/safety and that this will benefit all residents of Trenton. Linda Evans spoke as a renter. She welcomes this. Now landlords will have to maintain their properties, and may have to charge more for rent, which will bring better renters and everyone will be happier. Alderman Woods made a motion to Approve Ordinance #1615 Providing for Health/Safety Inspections. Second Alderman Sims. Hooker, yes, Mohme, yes, Sims, yes, Woods, yes, Zurliene, no. Motion carried.

Alderman Woods made a motion to Approve a Renewal of the Line of Credit with Community Bank of Trenton (\$50,000). Second, Alderman Zurliene, all yes, motion carried.

Superintendent Wehrle described for the Council a Ratech Camera System for inspecting sewer systems. It is sold and serviced right in St. Louis. This can not only be used for cross connection inspections, but for some small sewer main work. It is not self-propelled and the camera is not large, so it could not be used for some of the work that we previously hired Breese or Visu-Sewer to do. Alderman Hooker made a motion to Approve the Purchase of Sewer Inspection Camera from Midwest Drain Equipment Co. Inc. in the amount of \$9410.75 to be paid from the sewer fund. Second, Alderman Sims, all yes, motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Jones stated that some key part time employees are leaving the City and this has put a wrinkle in the plans for some of the projects that the public works department planned to do. If the City wishes to continue to do projects in-house then we need to look at increasing the manpower. Mr. Brimm passed out a spreadsheet with several public works staffing scenarios and the costs associated with each. After some explanation of the spreadsheet Alderman Woods asked if adding another public works employee would eliminate the need for summer help. Mr. Wehrle said that he would probably need one person on a part time basis primarily for grass cutting. Mayor Jones asked what the Council thought. Financially this would be a wash from where we were in April of this year, although during the summer there would be the extra person. The City stands to save a considerable amount of money by doing projects in-house. The savings for the project near KMK would pay this persons salary for two years. Mr. Wehrle expressed his desire to have someone hired ASAP. We could draw from the applications that were submitted when we hired Mr. Potts in June. Interviews could be conducted in the next week, we could make the same conditional offer, do the background check, physical, and hopefully have the Council approve a hire at a special meeting or at the September meeting.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Dan Kohlbrecher announced that the Chamber of Commerce will hold an early bird drawing for cash at the Trenton Fest.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Alderman Woods made a motion to adjourn. Second Alderman Hooker, all yes, motion carried.  
Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

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Karen Buzzard, City Clerk