

TRENTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MARCH 12, 2018

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Trenton City Council was called to order by Mayor Kyle Jones on Monday, March 12, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

ROLL CALL

Hooker, Mohme, Sims, Weh, Woods, Zurliene All present

Also present were City Clerk Karen Buzzard, City Administrator Doug Brimm, Superintendent of Public Works Kurt Wehrle, Chief Chris Joellenbeck, Cheri Rieger, Gary Sellers, Joe Drees, Deb and Kevin Wellen, Gus Bridick and Mike Conley of the Trenton Sun.

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

PUBLIC INPUT

Cheri Rieger addressed the Council and asked that they adopt the Illinois Home Kitchen Act. Several Clinton County municipalities have already adopted this and Mrs. Rieger provided the Council with a copy of the ordinance adopted by New Baden. Mrs. Rieger sells cupcakes and cupcake bouquets and was recently fined by the County for being in violation of the Act. The Act would require that Mrs. Rieger provide any purchaser the source of her ingredients and disclose that the product is produced in a home kitchen. Mrs. Rieger would not be subject to a special use for her home occupation because she does not meet the criteria. The Council will have a draft ordinance drawn up and reviewed at our next meeting.

Gary Sellers questioned the Council about the fee increase for the golf cart stickers. He was told that with the addition of side-by-sides the stickers themselves had to be changed. In addition a metal plate is now necessary to display the sticker and there is an additional inspection required by the Chief of Police. City residents will pay \$25 annually and non-residents will pay \$50 annually. When asked to consider changing the ordinance and return the fee to the \$10 previously charged, the Council said no.

Kevin and Deb Wellen asked the Council for an update on the zoning code. Mayor Jones informed them that we have contracted with Municode to have our complete code book updated. Once that project is completed then the zoning code will be re-written. The Plan Commission will be responsible for that task and those are public meetings. Anyone is welcome to attend.

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – MAYOR

Mayor Jones stated that through February month end the general fund is showing a surplus of just under \$160,000.00. This will likely be the fifth year running with a surplus over \$100,000.00. The water fund is not doing well but the rate increase will take effect next month. Department heads have begun the budget process for next fiscal year's budget.

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS- ALDERMEN

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – CITY STAFF

City Clerk Buzzard informed the Council that the transition to one billing cycle per month has taken place. This has caused some confusion with some residents as they received two bills within a short period of time. The second bill was pro-rated and if the first bill had not yet been paid the balance was brought forward causing some residents to think they had a huge bill for a short period of time. That confusion will all be cleared up when we bill at the first of the month next month.

Superintendent of public works Kurt Wehrle said that his department has installed 17 water meters since our last Council meeting. There are a couple of locations in town where one water line is split and feeds more than one residence. Mr. Wehrle said that he wants to get these lines separated and by doing so another tap will be required. One such location is the Mayors house. The Mayor would like to put off doing any work at his house because he does not want the perception that he is getting preferential treatment.

Superintendent Wehrle said that gas and electric have been disconnected at the old building at the wastewater treatment plant. As soon as the ground dries out a bit he will get that building torn down.

Chief Joellenbeck reviewed the police activity for the month of February. There was one traffic crash report, one driving while license revoked/suspended, one DUI, one civil cannabis, 1 civil drug paraphernalia, 10 city ordinance warnings, 1 city ordinance violation, 2 domestic battery, one domestic trouble, 2 warrants and one criminal damage to property.

Chief Joellenbeck also asked residents to obtain house numbers and install them on their houses or to get the reflective sign that can be attached to your mailbox with your house numbers.

CONSENT AGENDA

Alderman Hooker made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Second Alderman Weh, all yes, motion carried. The Consent Agenda included the minutes of the February 26, 2018 Regular Council Meeting, Approval of the Bills for February 2018, Approval of the Payrolls for February 2018, Approval of the Treasurer's Report for January 2018, and Approval of Hiring of Zach Swaim for Seasonal Park Laborer Position at an hourly rate of \$10.00.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Brimm explained to the Council that two bids were received for the Diamond #1 concession stand roof replacement. D. E. Martin Roofing bid \$13,700.00 and Crown Roofing bid \$10,658.46. Martin roofing could complete the job right away but Crown roofing indicated that they would not get to the job until mid-late May. When Mr. Brimm reached out to Crown to see if there would be any possibility of getting to this job any sooner they said yes, but at a price of \$12,158.46. There was much discussion about whether we wanted to pay the Martin price, pay the higher price quoted by Crown after the bid prices were know, or just go with the original quote by Crown and have the work done in May. Alderman Woods made a motion to Award Diamond #1 Concession Stand Roofing Replacement Project to Crown Roofing in the Amount of \$10,658.46. Second Alderman Weh. Roll Call: Woods, yes, Sims, no, Mohme, yes, Hooker, no, Weh, yes, Zurliene, yes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Clerk Buzzard brought up for discussion utility bill penalty cap adjustments. In 2014 the Council adopted Ordinance #1579 which caps utility bill penalties at \$50.00 per month. Since that time we have had one business and several residents that have adjustments to their accounts numerous times because the penalty amount exceeds the \$50.00 cap. The one business has had 10 adjustments in the last 12 months totaling over \$2000.00. Both the water and sewer funds could use that money. Clerk Buzzard has always had the authority to waive a penalty fee if working with a resident who has experienced a large leak. She asked the Council to consider repealing the penalty cap so that residents that neglect paying their bill have the full amount charged to them. After some discussion the Council will amend the ordinance with the first offense having the penalty waived, the second offense the penalty will be capped at \$50, and every offense after that the full penalty amount will be assessed.

Superintendent Wehrle asked the Council to authorize the purchase of a roller in the amount of \$3000.00. He is working on building a paver and having a roller will save the City from the cost of renting one each time we need the use of one. Last year a one day rental from Christ was \$800.00. There is fund balance in the Equipment Fund to cover this purchase. This will be on the next agenda for approval.

CLOSED SESSION

Alderman Hooker made a motion to enter into Closed Session citing 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance or Dismissal of Specific Employees of the Public Body. Second Alderman Woods, all yes, motion carried. The Council entered closed session at 8:06 p.m.

The Council re-entered the regular meeting at 8:19p.m.

Roll Call: Hooker, Mohme, Sims, Weh, Woods, Zurliene All present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alderman Woods stated that all of the windows in the restroom located in the middle of the park were broken out over the weekend. They will need to be special ordered due to their size. The public works department will install them when the windows come in.

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Hooker made a motion to adjourn. Second Alderman Zurliene, all yes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Karen Buzzard, City Clerk