

TRENTON CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 10, 2018

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of the City Council was called to order by Mayor Kyle Jones at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, September 10, 2018.

**ROLL CALL**

Hooker, Mohme, Sims, Wagoner, Weh, Woods, all present.

Also present were City Clerk Karen Buzzard, City Administrator Doug Brimm, Superintendent of Public Works Kurt Wehrle, Chief Chris Joellenbeck, Officer Joe Berry, Nikki Wernle, Kevin Huelsmann and Mike Conley of the Trenton Sun.

**PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

**PUBLIC INPUT**

Ms. Wernle was here to express complaints with the soccer program this year. She listed fields not being lined for games, holes in nets and never having a lined field for practice. She stated that these conditions were not fair to the kids or the coaches who volunteer their time. She went on to say that this summer the softball fields were not properly lined for the respective age divisions. Mayor Jones acknowledged receipt of an e-mail from Ms. Wernle which expressed these same concerns. Mr. Brimm said that the biggest issue was communication between the soccer coordinator and the City. There was a sit down meeting last week and all of these concerns were addressed. Alderman Weh had someone complain about the quality of the uniforms this year. He was told that the coordinator last year sought sponsorships and purchased expensive uniforms. Most of those jerseys were not turned back in to the program. This year we went back to t-shirts for the younger players and jerseys only for the older players as this cost was all borne by the budget. Mayor Jones talked of the change in coordinators for all of our programs. Despite the fact that the coordinators are paid, they are essentially volunteers. Long term it is difficult to find people willing to do these jobs and therefore it is increasingly difficult to maintain our programs. The Community Coordination Committee will meet at the end of the soccer season to begin discussion for all of next year's programs.

Superintendent of Public Works Kurt Wehrle addressed Ms. Wernle about the e-mail that she sent to the mayor. He took responsibility for the field not being lined for the game in question. He went on to tell her that he took offense to her comments about him. Mayor Jones said that city employees are often blistered on social media. No one will address the council with questions or concerns; they would rather spread misinformation or twisted facts. Mayor Jones appreciated Ms. Wernle for coming to the Council with her concerns.

**COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – MAYOR**

Mayor Jones said that Trenton had significant rain over the weekend and there were only two properties that reported problems. One had surface water problems and the other had storm water in the basement due to an open basement window. With officially 5.6 inches of rain there was not a single sanitary sewer backup thanks to the diligent work of Kurt Wehrle and the public works department and the new wastewater treatment plant. Not long ago that would not have been the case. The city has done everything to remediate these problems and the public works department needs to be recognized for the work they have done.

Mayor Jones thanked the businesses for their financial support to the Trenton Park Boosters upon cancellation of the Trenton Fest.

### **COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS- ALDERMEN**

Alderman Woods also thanked the businesses for their support of the Trenton Fest and also thanked the City for the work they put in preparing for the fest that wasn't.

### **COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – CITY STAFF**

Clerk Buzzard announced that packets for the April 2, 2019 consolidated election can be picked up and begin being circulated on September 18, 2018. Trenton will have a four year term open in each of its three wards and a two year term available in ward 2.

Chief Joellenbeck reviewed the July police activity. He met today with the Clinton County police chiefs to review the e-ticket program for traffic violations. The Circuit Clerk's office will pay for the first year software license then the cost will be the responsibility of the municipality. The program will be up and running within four to six months. Citations and warnings will be printed from the officer's vehicle and immediately uploaded to the circuit clerk. Mayor Jones wanted the Council to know that no one has the authority to stop a state ticket.

Chief Joellenbeck reminded everyone that tomorrow is Patriot Day, 9-11.

Superintendent Wehrle observed street flooding on 2<sup>nd</sup> street and Parkview. He stated that there is only one inlet and the water rushed right past it. The inlet is the wrong type.

There were problems at the reservoir this weekend. A resident along the supply line complained of low water pressure. When Mr. Wehrle closed a valve at the reservoir then the pressure came back up. He was able to identify and fix the problem today.

Superintendent Wehrle said that he received complaints about the road flooding near the fire house. The problem there is the ditch to the east of Westgate Baptist Church. Over the years that ditch has filled in with silt. Superintendent Wehrle has been in communication with IDOT and an agreement has been made. If the City cleans out the Westgate ditch then IDOT will come along old Route 50 and clean those ditches. This should alleviate the flooding of the road.

Superintendent Wehrle said that the storm sewer in Wildwood Estates has gotten worse. On the plans submitted to the City by the developer there is a swale, but the developer has closed that in and installed an inlet. That inlet was not properly grouted and has been repaired several times. Those repairs are not holding and that is the main reason that the City has not yet officially accepted the development. Mr. Brimm will work with our attorney to address this situation again with the developer.

Superintendent Wehrle said that he has noticed a sinkhole has developed near the storm sewer inlet behind the blue house near Pete Schumacher. He will put a barricade there now until he gets a chance to find the cause of the sinkhole.

Mr. Brimm reported that he is working with Kevin Huelsmann for a business expansion. There was a hearing tonight for a variance on setback requirements. The building Mr. Huelsmann is going to build will house vehicles and store product. In June of 1997 the Zoning Board of Appeals granted a variance for this building, but the building was never built. Mr. Brimm said that it was prudent to conduct another hearing because so much time has passed. The City has no objection to granting the variance due to this being an industrial area. Once we receive the recommendation from the Zoning Hearing Officer this will be on the agenda for Council action. Mr. Huelsmann will also be seeking TIF assistance. The construction of the building is not a TIF eligible expense, but the site preparation, architecture/engineering, and planning expenses are. There will also be a redevelopment agreement brought before the Council for approval after Mr. Brimm gets all of the figures from Mr. Huelsmann.

Mr. Brimm also informed the Council that he should be getting the plans for the new sewer line that we will be putting in behind Mr. Huelsmann's place this week. He said that it takes 30 to 60 days for the IEPA to issue a construction permit and public works estimates 10 days of work to complete the project. This looks to be a mid-November project.

Mr. Brimm received confirmation from our insurance carrier that the boy scouts will be covered under our insurance policy while they are acting under the direction of the City. This is in relation to an Eagle Scout project for replacing the basketball court at the park.

An e-mail from Pehg Zeller of the Trenton Garden Club was read praising public works employee Craig Klein on his assistance with the installation of the Garden Clubs little library at the park.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Alderman Wagoner made a motion to approve the Consent agenda as presented. Second Alderman Weh, all yes, motion carried. The consent agenda included a motion to Approve the Minutes of the August 27, 2018 Regular Council meeting, a motion to Approve Bills for the month of August 2018, a motion to Approve Payrolls for the month of August 2018, and a motion to Approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of July 2018.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Alderman Hooker made a motion to Approve the Purchase and Installation of Two Flygt Pumps from Vandevanter Engineering in the Amount of \$39,450.00. Mr. Brimm explained that an agreement has been reached for the City to be reimbursed for the two Grundfos pumps in an amount of \$15,000.00. The difference in price will be added to the IEPA loan through a change order. The above motion also authorizes the Mayor to sign the change order. Second Alderman Woods, all yes, motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Clerk Buzzard reviewed with the Council a list of closed session minutes as part of the semi-annual review of closed session minutes. Any Alderman that has questions should see her prior to the next meeting when this will be on the agenda for approval.

Superintendent Wehrle let the Council know that he has gotten from HMG the engineers estimate of probable cost for the S. King Oak apron resurface project. It came in at \$105,084.00. With all of the heavy truck traffic at that intersection and the short turning radius it has been difficult to keep that road up. It has even started to deteriorate on the actual highway which IDOT says the City is responsible for fixing. Superintendent Wehrle says that his department can do the work and only hire concrete finishers for a total of \$50,865.22. He would like to do this project after harvest as all traffic would need to be re-routed down Main Street and over Indiana to access the co-op. Funding for the project can be split between TIF and MFT funds.

Mayor Jones mentioned an explosion type sound heard on Saturday night around 8:30 p.m. He had residents tell him that it was an explosion at the wastewater treatment plant. Several aldermen and employees also hear that sound. Mr. Brimm stated that had it been an explosion at the wastewater treatment plant alarms would have sounded and Superintendent Wehrle would have been contacted. Mr. Brimm and Superintendent Wehrle met with Brian Buchheit and Sarah Tebbe this morning and there was nothing that indicated an alarm had sounded. Mayor Jones has received complaints again from residents surrounding the wastewater treatment plant about the smell and timeframe on completion of the plant. It was said that after the heavy rain this weekend the smell changed to a chlorine/bleach smell. It is rumored that the residents have started a petition. Tell us what your issues are and we would be happy to have a meeting to address them.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Alderman Woods made a motion to enter into Closed Session citing 5ILCS 120/2 (c)(1) Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance or Dismissal of Specific Employees of the Public Body and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5) Purchase or Lease of Real Property for the Use of the Public Body. Second Alderman Hooker, all yes, motion carried. The Council entered closed session at 8:41 p.m.

The Council re-entered the regular meeting at 9:01 p.m.

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Superintendent Wehrle apologized for his actions earlier tonight. There was more discussion about how the public uses social media and how employees of the City respond.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Alderman Hooker made a motion to adjourn. Second Alderman Woods, all yes motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

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Karen Buzzard, City Clerk