

TRENTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 22, 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, October 22, 2018.

ROLL CALL

Hooker (absent), Mohme, Sims, Wagoner, Weh, Woods

Also present were City Clerk Karen Buzzard, City Administrator Doug Brimm, Superintendent of Public Works Kurt Wehrle, Chief Chris Joellenbeck, Attorney Joe Heiligenstein, Mark Brown, Jim Litteken, Officer Joe Berry, Mike Conley of the Trenton Sun and Jerry Green.

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

PUBLIC INPUT

NEW BUSINESS

Mark Brown attended the meeting to request closure of Northland Acres during Trick-or-Treat. He cited the volume of people in his neighborhood and is looking out for the safety of the children. He has talked with Westgate Baptist Church and they have no problem with people parking in their parking lot. Barricades would be put up at Tyler at W 3rd and Harrison at W 3rd. Only residents and emergency vehicles would be allowed past the barricades. Alderman Woods, who lives in the area, said that he is afraid that by doing this it would create a larger traffic problem on W 3rd. That street is already crowded and by restricting access to the back of the subdivision you will bottleneck all of the traffic onto W 3rd creating a safety issue there. Mayor Jones is concerned with subdivisions all over town wanting to do the same. After much more discussion Mayor Jones called for a motion to authorize closure of Northland Acres. No motion was made therefore Northland Acres will remain open during Trick-or-Treat.

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – MAYOR

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS- ALDERMEN

Alderman Wagoner stated that he and Alderman Weh received e-mails today about why the daycare was not put on lockdown when the school went on lockdown as a result of the incident at Casey's. Chief Joellenbeck stated that if a lockdown had been necessary he would have communicated that with the school and daycare facilities. Mayor Jones stated that again social media had the City tried and convicted before the facts of this matter were made known. Chief Joellenbeck said that today the decision to have the school on lockdown was made without consulting with the police department. The children are our #1 priority and that is evident with the police presence at the school every day. Mayor Jones stated that Alderman Wagoner and Weh were put into a bad position and if this were to happen again please contact City Hall for information. We have protocols in place for a wide variety of incidents and those protocols are reviewed and revised as necessary.

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – CITY STAFF

Superintendent of Public Works Wehrle stated that the sewer plant has been seeded. The Broadway sewer project is finished and he will start on the storm sewer tomorrow. The boring project has begun and they popped through today. We will set a manhole in place prior to the pipe being closed up. The timber has been cleared on the Artensen property and Superintendent Wehrle will begin clearing the Deien property soon.

Mr. Brimm reported that he, Gene Norber and the Mayor met with the Wesclin School board last week to discuss the proposed new Tax Increment Financing district. The City planned to gradually progress from single family residential to multi-family residential to commercial and on to industrial zoning in the area to the west of Northland Acres. After discussing this with the school board the plan commission will be convened to amend the Comprehensive Plan to reflect the change in intended use of this property. The ten acres recently purchased by the City will be removed from the proposed TIF and zoned for single family residences. The property to the west of that will be zoned commercial and industrial.

CONSENT AGENDA

Alderman Mohme asked for Ordinance #1721 to be removed from the Consent Agenda. Alderman Woods made a motion to approve the Consent agenda as amended. Second Alderman Wagoner. All yes, Hooker absent. Motion carried. The consent agenda included a motion to Approve Minutes of the October 8, 2018 Regular Council meeting, a motion to Approve Ordinance #1720 Authorizing the Sale of Surplus Personal Property (2008 Chevrolet Impala PPV), a motion to Approve Ordinance #1722 Changing the Zoning Classification of Property from Agricultural (A-1) to Industrial (I-1), and a Motion to Accept Utility and Drainage Easement from the Sugar Creek Township Fire Protection District.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Alderman Weh made a motion to Approve Ordinance #1721 Granting a Special Use Permit for 313 South Adams Street, Trenton, Illinois (St. Mary's Parish). Second Alderman Woods. Mohme – abstain, Woods, Weh, Sims, Wagoner – yes, Hooker – absent. Motion carried.

Alderman Woods made a motion to Approve the Appointment of Rebecca Learned to the Position of Administrative Assistant. Second Alderman Weh, all yes, Hooker absent. Motion carried.

Mr. Brimm passed out a packet of pictures that he took of potential code enforcement violations. The potential violations ranged from tall grass, garbage piles and derelict vehicles to peeling paint, mold on siding and missing house numbers. He asked for Council guidance and for them to set priorities for the staff on moving forward with this. Mayor Jones asked Jerry Green, the city's building inspector to attend tonight's meeting and answer questions. Mayor Jones asked Mr. Green what approach other municipalities take. He stated that most take a step approach. Deal with the most obvious violations and work from there. When asked what the most common deficiencies are with our health and safety inspections. Mr. Green said smoke/CO detectors missing or not operational and wiring problems in older homes. Not very much related to the exterior of buildings. When asked if he has ever had to displace a resident, he answered yes. There is a process that needs to be followed and it is best to consult the city attorney for that process. Mayor Jones stated that code enforcement will be a burden on our police department and residents will point to our worst offenders and want to know what action the City is taking against them. Attorney Heiligenstein gave a general overview of the legal process. After much discussion it was decided to proceed with action on the two worst properties. Attorney Heiligenstein will prepare documents for review before filing. Staff will then compile a list of the next 8 properties and letters will be sent to them.

NEW BUSINESS

CLOSED SESSION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark Brown informed the Council that the Country Store leaves their gas pumps on all night. The owners are aware of this. Mr. Brown said that it is ok as long as a shut off is accessible. The only shut off is located inside the store. The City does not have a code that states that pumps

must be shut off. Mr. Brown will reach out to the fire marshal to see if there is something in their code.

A reminder that Trick-or-Treat will be on Halloween night from 6:00p.m. – 8:00p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Woods made a motion to adjourn. Second Alderman Weh. All yes, Hooker absent. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Karen Buzzard, City Clerk