

TRENTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 8, 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 8, 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, Officer Joe Berry, Mike Conley of the Trenton Sun, Jodie Lucas, and Tom Rakers.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Brimm informed the Council that the Plan Commission held four hearings on Thursday night. The first case was an application submitted by Master M, LLC for rezoning of a property. The applicant withdrew her application at the hearing.

The second hearing was to consider a special use application submitted by St. Mary's Church for the operation of a day care center in the school building. The plan commission unanimously recommends the approval of the special use. Jodie Lucas of Jodie's Day Care was in attendance and answered various questions from the aldermen. This will be on the next meeting's agenda for Council approval.

The third and fourth hearings were to consider applications made by Top Ag. One application was to rezone a piece of property being purchased by Top Ag from Agricultural to Industrial which conforms to the rest of the property owned by Top Ag. The second application is to annex a parcel of land already owned by Top Ag but previously overlooked in regards to annexation. The plan commission unanimously recommends approval of both applications by Top Ag. Ordinances will be drafted and voted on at the next Council meeting.

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

PUBLIC INPUT

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – MAYOR

Mayor Jones followed up on a previous discussion regarding loud noises, odor and a petition being circulated regarding the wastewater treatment plant. He requested that the IL EPA send someone out to inspect the wastewater treatment plant to address the residents' concerns. Christopher Monke came out and examined the complete process and the whole facility. He found everything operating in good order, no odor, and no EPA violations.

Mayor Jones reviewed the latest fund balance report. The General Fund is showing a \$160,000.00 surplus and this does not include the second installment of property taxes. The Water Fund is improving, but slowly. The Sewer Fund shows expenses greater than revenues but there have been some additional expenditure in that fund. Alderman Weh asked how many new meters have been installed and wanted to know if they have helped to improve the accuracy of billing. Mayor Jones has had a new meter installed and his water bill has increased. Superintendent of Public Works Wehrle said that approximately 167 new meters have been installed of the 1200 total meters in town.

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS- ALDERMEN

Alderman Weh stated that while he has been soliciting petition signatures residents want to know the status of the wastewater treatment plant. When will it be finished? Superintendent Wehrle said that the plant is completed. The only remaining work is the seeding of the ground and installation of the privacy slats in the fence. Superintendent Wehrle wanted it known that he was instructed that once the plant was operational there was no time frame for the completion of the dirt work. Mayor Jones confirmed that. Mayor Jones has told the public works department that the dirt work can be completed at any time; other projects have come up and are a higher priority.

Alderman Weh stated that another concern of residents is enforcement of our ordinances. There are houses in town in various states of disrepair and others with vehicles that don't run on properties. Mr. Brimm stated that Chief Joellenbeck does write warnings and will write ordinance violation tickets. Mr. Brimm stated that if the Council wanted he would have Mr. Green (our building inspector) here tomorrow to do a sweep of the town but that will get residents up in arms. Mayor Jones warned that if the Council went down that road they need to be prepared for the consequences. There was a lengthy discussion about two properties that the City is working on, 127 W 3rd street and 219 W 3rd street. With one of those properties being occupied that presents a unique situation. This discussion will be continued at our next meeting when attorney Heiligenstein can be present. Alderman Wagoner thanked Chief Joellenbeck and Mr. Brimm for cleaning up some properties in his neighborhood.

Alderman Weh suggested moving Trick-or-Treating from Halloween night to the Friday night prior to Halloween. He stated that several other communities do that. Alderman Mohme said that he prefers it stay on Halloween night here because Aviston does theirs on the Friday prior and our ambulance goes there. He would like to be able to have our ambulance in both communities. Alderman Woods stated that he thinks it is adults that want to make Halloween into an adult party night and not about the kids any more. He prefers it remain on Halloween. It was decided that Trick-or-Treat would be from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. on Halloween night here in Trenton.

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – CITY STAFF

Mr. Brimm reported that Kyle Elmore's Eagle Scout Project has been approved by the Boy Scout Council. The latest cost estimate is \$23,552.00 and Mr. Brimm will work with Mr. Elmore to reduce that cost.

Mr. Brimm met with Wesclin Superintendent Jennifer Filyaw regarding the second TIF and she would like for him to present at the next school board meeting. Mr. Brimm and Mr. Norber will attend the Wesclin School Board meeting on October 15, 2018.

Mr. Brimm announced that anyone that has registered a deduct meter with the City must bring them in between October 1 and October 20 to have them read for this year.

CONSENT AGENDA

Alderman Hooker made a motion to approve the Consent agenda as presented. Second Alderman Wagoner. All yes, motion carried. The consent agenda included a motion to Approve Minutes of the September 24, 2018 Regular Council meeting, a motion to Approve Bill for September 2018, a motion to Approve Payrolls for September 2018, a motion to Approve Treasurer's Report for August 2018, and a Motion to Accept Utility and Drainage Easement from West Gate Baptist Church.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Alderman Hooker made a motion to Approve Purchase of Materials for Dollar General Extension from Midwest Municipal Supply in the Amount of \$9,835.20. Second Alderman Woods, all yes, motion carried. This will be paid from TIF.

NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent of Public Works Wehrle said that he had Craig Lampe out to fix a wire on the outfield lights on Diamond #1. Mr. Lampe questioned how we currently turn on and off the lights. That is done at the breaker box. Mr. Lampe suggested installing an actual switch to prevent harm to anyone throwing the breakers. Superintendent Wehrle will look into getting quotes. Mayor Jones would like to see this completed prior to the baseball season next spring.

CLOSED SESSION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Brimm informed the Council that he and Clerk Buzzard have conducted interviews for the Administrative Assistant position at City Hall. Offers were made to two candidates and both turned down the offers. Clerk Buzzard has posted the job with an on-line venue and has received a small flood of applicants. She will work to conduct interviews and possibly have someone to present to the Council at the next meeting.

Superintendent of Public Works Wehrle wanted to clarify that for the curbing project he no longer wishes to hire a concrete finisher. He plans to break this project into smaller jobs and work that around the rest of the projects he currently has going on. His department is capable of completing this work.

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Hooker made a motion to adjourn. Second Alderman Wagoner. All yes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Karen Buzzard, City Clerk