

TRENTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 13, 2020

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, January 13, 2020 followed by the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Deien, Kniepman (absent), Mohme. Sims, Weh, Woods

Also present were City Administrator John Marquart, Superintendent of Public Works Kurt Wehrle, Police Chief Chris Joellenbeck, Officer Mitchell Braun, and Mike Conley of the Trenton Sun

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

PUBLIC INPUT

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – MAYOR

Mayor Jones welcomed everyone to the first meeting of 2020. He hoped everyone had a good holiday and happy new year. Recently Officer Salvi responded to a request for assistance with the Major Case Squad. A statement from the Major Case Squad was read to the Council.

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS- ALDERMEN

Alderman Weh asked for a follow up on behalf of the resident at 416 E 2nd street regarding their water issues. Mayor Jones stated that with the heavy rains there were issues on Jefferson and Cedar too. Engineering will be done and new inlets will be installed in the 2nd street area. This will take care of the water on the street, but nothing can be done for the water that accumulates in his backyard. Superintendent Wehrle stated that this weekend there were water issues on N. Oak and Washington near the railroad tracks too. There are at least 4 or 5 more spots that need work. The areas that public works have already addressed are working well and no backups occurred. Superintendent Wehrle made a plea for everyone to clean up their leaves. This simple task will help to eliminate some of the problem.

Alderman Kniepman entered the meeting at 7:21 p.m.

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – CITY STAFF

Clerk Buzzard reminded all elected officials and department heads to fill out the economic interest statement. Forms will no longer be distributed. You must go onto Clinton County's website and complete the form there.

Chief Joellenbeck informed the Council about a video registry he is starting. He is asking all business and private owners of video surveillance equipment to register that equipment with the police department. Forms can be found on the City's website or picked up at City Hall. He also wanted the public to be aware of the settings on their equipment; for night vision, resolution and storage capacity.

City Administrator Marquart mentioned that as more developers/contractors do excavation work in the City's right-of-way we need to be sure they are informing City Hall and getting the proper permits. Most often the City is not informed of work being done until after the fact. We will reach out to these developers/contractors with our code and a copy of the permit application. Mayor Jones said that we will enforce fines for those that do not comply.

A meeting was recently held with the engineers from HMG on the OSLAD grant application. A list of potential projects was discussed and the engineers are working on getting cost estimates. This will be brought to the Council at a meeting in February for further discussion.

City Administrator Marquart informed the Council that he is officially a Trenton resident. He moved this past weekend and is happy to be here.

CONSENT AGENDA

Alderman Weh made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as read. Second Alderman Woods, all yes. Motion carried. The Consent Agenda included the Minutes of the December 23, 2019 Regular Council meeting, the Bills for December 2019, the Payrolls for December 2019, the Treasurer's Report for November 2019, a motion to Approve Appointment of Mary Lee to Plan Commission term to expire 3.2022, a motion to Approve Appointment of Pam James to Plan Commission term to expire 3, 2022, and a motion to Approve Appointment of James Wagoner to Plan Commission term to expire 3.2022.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Alderman Deien made a Motion to Approve Purchase of 40 American Flags from Carrot Top Industries for \$1,669.04. Second Alderman Sims. All yes, Motion carried.

Alderman Woods made a motion to Approve Resolution #20200113 Authorizing the Execution of the Right-Of-Way Use Agreement Between the City of Trenton and AT&T. Second Alderman Sims. All yes, Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

City Administrator Marquart discussed with the Council the spending limits set by code for his office. The current limit is \$500.00 which prevents him from being able to order items needed for everyday operations without first consulting the Mayor so he can declare the purchase an emergency. Administrator Marquart polled numerous surrounding municipalities to find out what their spending limits were and relayed that information to the Council. The range was from a low of \$1000, 00 to a high of \$25,000.00. He is asking for the Council to consider increasing the limit to \$10,000.00. All purchases will continue to be presented in the Council packet with special purchases being conveyed to the Council by e-mail. An ordinance authorizing the change will be on the next agenda.

Alderman Woods expressed concern over the fund balance of the water fund. It is extremely low. Mayor Jones stated that we have made improvements with the radio read meters but we need to look at the water fund again. City Administrator Marquart said that he is looking at the system as a whole. Mayor Jones stated that the general fund will not have a surplus like years past. We have done more projects this year. The IPTIP revenue is up about 1% over last year this time.

CLOSED SESSION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Woods made a motion to adjourn. Second Alderman Deien. All yes, Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Karen Buzzard, City Clerk