

TRENTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING DECEMBER 14, 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, December 14, 2020 followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Deien, Kniepman, Mohme. Sims, Weh, Woods All present

Also present were City Administrator John Marquart, Treasurer Joe Palas, Chief Chris Joellenbeck, Superintendent of Public Works Kurt Wehrle, Kevin Tepen of CJ Schlosser, Hank and Ian Henderson, Barry Sieron, Roma Sloan, Doris McIntyre, Mark Brown and officer Lampe.

PUBLIC INPUT

Eagle Scout candidate Ian Henderson discussed with the Council his status on fundraising for his project to replace the batting cage at the city park. He is asking the City to commit to cover the deficit of \$8,337.00 in addition to the tear out of the old cage and gravel for the concrete pad. City Administrator Marquart will put together some funding options for the next meeting.

Mr. Sieron of North Creek Crossing questioned the Council on who decided to change his sewer rate to a flat rate. He was told that the City bills sewer based on water consumption and with him receiving water from Tri Township Water District we are no longer able to effectively read his meter. Our code states that when we are no longer able to read the Tri Township meters we can charge a flat sewer rate. There was a very lengthy discussion about the new flat rate and questions/comments were taken from Mrs. Sloan and Mrs. McIntyre on this subject.

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Kevin Tepen with CJ Schlosser reviewed with the Council the audit findings for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2020. Overall, it was a solid year with the General Fund having a fund balance of five and half months of expenses. This was the first year that the audit included fixed assets and depreciation. That was most evident in the enterprise funds, yet there was good cash flow in both funds. The unfunded pension liability of the City is very low. As of December 31, 2020, our IMRF was funded at 96%. Mayor Jones asked how solvent the City was compared to others. Mr. Tepen said that the City has very little debt outside of the IEPA loans. There were no irregularities observed in our internal processes.

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – MAYOR

Mayor Jones informed the Council of the passing of former mayor Margaret Conley. We appreciate her service to the community. A moment of silence was had in her honor.

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS- ALDERMEN

Alderman Weh thanked Brian Berberich and his team on a job well done lighting the park. Alderman Weh would like to give Brian a budget for upgrading of equipment.

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – CITY STAFF

Chief Joellenbeck said that his department collected enough funds to purchase presents for 29 kids this Christmas and with donations of food will provide 11 families with a Christmas meal.

Attorney Heiligenstein entered the meeting at 8:18 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

Alderman Woods made a motion to Approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Second Alderman Weh. All yes, motion carried. The Consent Agenda includes a motion to Approve the Minutes of the November 23, 2020 Regular Council meeting, a motion to Approve Bills for the month of November 2020, a motion to Approve the Payrolls for the month of November 2020, and a motion to Approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of October 2020.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Alderman Woods made a motion to Approve Ordinance #1776 Amending Chapter 44, Article III, Section 44-68(a) of the Trenton City Code of Ordinances. Second Alderman Sims. All yes, motion carried.

Alderman Deien made a motion to Approve Ordinance #1775 Providing for the Levy Assessment and Collection of Taxes for the Fiscal Year Beginning May 1, 2020 and Ending April 30, 2021. Second Alderman Weh. All yes, motion carried.

Alderman Weh made a motion to Enter Contract Discussion with Horner Shifrin to conduct Water Study for the City of Trenton. Second Alderman Woods, all yes. Motion carried.

Alderman Weh made a motion to Approve Contract with TWM Engineering for Pavement Management System in the amount of \$98,700.00 to be paid over 5 years. Second Alderman Sims. All yes, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent Wehrle explained to the Council that on W 2nd street most of the sump pumps drain directly to the street causing standing water in many places. That area is very flat. To fix this the public works department will install a drainpipe on each side of the street behind the curbing and tie all of the sump pumps into that line. After that is completed then the curbing can be fixed. This will cause some disturbances to driveways, but each driveway will be accessible each night. Superintendent Wehrle proposes doing this project in 100 foot segments so that the whole street isn't torn up for an extended period of time. He estimates the project to take three to four months and cost approximately \$50,500.00 for materials.

CLOSED SESSION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Jones wished everyone a safe, enjoyable holiday. Our next Council meeting is scheduled for December 28, 2020 and we will meet that night.

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Woods made a motion to adjourn. Second Alderman Deien. All yes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Karen Buzzard, City Clerk