

TRENTON CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
NOVEMBER 22, 2021

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of the City Council was called to order by Mayor Andy Weh at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, November 22, 2021, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Berry, Brown, Deien, Kniepman, Mohme, Sampson All present

Also present was City Administrator John Marquart, Chief Chris Joellenbeck, Superintendent of Public Works Andy Brockhahn, Attorney Joe Heiligenstein, Kevin Tepen of C.J. Schlosser, Tim Straszacker and two associates from Horner & Shifrin, Inc. and Mike Conley of the Trenton Sun

**PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

Mayor Weh asked for a moment of silence in honor of those who lost their lives at the recent Wisconsin holiday parade accident.

Mr. Tepen opened the audit discussion by stating that the audit this year was performed on a modified accrual basis as opposed to cash basis. This new accounting gives a better representation from one year to the next. There is nothing wrong with the way we previously did things, but the accrual basis of accounting is better. Mr. Tepen went on to review specific funds. The General Fund had an increase of about \$57,000. The Park fund was down, which can be attributed to no programs being run due to COVID and improvements made to the pool. Water fund had a slight increase in fund balance and sewer had a loss of \$72,500 due to the elimination of two lift stations. There are positive balances in both funds, but cash is not solid in either fund. He cautioned the council to look at fees to make sure they support the needs of these funds. Mayor Weh asked for a comment on the financial stability of the city. Mr. Tepen said we are pretty solid, especially in the general fund with a good 6-month expenses in fund balance. His only area of concern would be water and sewer.

Tim Staszacker with Horner & Shifrin introduced his associates and stated they looked at the usage, growth projections, hydraulic evaluation, system operation and a 5–20-year planning projection. He gave a visual of the water flow through our system, with our supply coming from Summerfield, Lebanon, Mascoutah (SLM) Water Commission. There was discussion about our current infrastructure and ways to improve efficiency with improvements to that infrastructure. Adjustments to pressure valves and re-coating the elevated tower are on the short-term plan of improvements. The long-term plan includes another elevated tower resulting in the elimination of the underground storage and looping our system to the south with New Baden to eliminate the single source of water. There was a question about lead service lines. That was not in the scope of this study for Horner & Shifrin to evaluate.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

**COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – MAYOR**

Mayor Weh wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, especially those who are in the military.

**COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS- ALDERMEN**

Alderman Deien questioned another leak at the pool. City Administrator Marquart said that three more were found.

Alderman Mohme asked if there was going to be discussion on the levy anytime soon. He felt the Council's hands were being tied because there are only two more meetings scheduled before the

levy ordinance needs to be filed with the County and if there is the need for a truth in taxation hearing we are running out of time. City Administrator Marquart said that the ordinance would be on the next agenda for approval. There was lively discussion about the calendar and whether there was time yet to hold the required hearings for processing of the levy ordinance.

Alderman Brown asked about the W 2<sup>nd</sup> Street drainage project. City Administrator Marquart said that project is being pushed back into next year due to the cost of that project and other projects taking priority. In addition, the Parkview Dr. drainage project is being pushed back.

Alderman Brown asked the status of ADA compliance for City Hall. City Administrator Marquart said that he has discussed the entry area with Public Works Superintendent Brockhahn and that can be completed over a weekend. The restrooms are much more expensive and will need to have more engineering done.

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

Chief Joellenbeck informed everyone that the Trenton Police Benevolent Association will be collecting at the 4-way stop this Friday and on December 4.

Attorney Heiligenstein stated that he has no new news on the Tri-Township lawsuit.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Alderman Brown made a motion to Approve Minutes of the November 8, 2021, Regular Council Meeting. Second Alderman Sampson. All yes, motion carried.

Alderman Brown made a motion to Approve Purchase of two 2012 IHC 4400 dump trucks from Holley Sales Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$134,000.00 to be paid from ARPA Funds. Second Alderman Sampson. All yes, motion carried.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Alderman Deien made a motion to Approve Ordinance #1786 Declaring surplus and Authorizing Sales of 1992 Ford L8000 and 1995 Ford F700 trucks. Second Alderman Brown. All yes, motion carried. These trucks will not be auctioned until we have possession of the newer trucks.

Alderman Kniepman made a motion to Approve Ordinance #1787 Granting Variance at 230 N Oak. Second Alderman Brown. All yes, motion carried.

City Administrator Marquart informed the Council that he would like to use some of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to purchase radio read water meters. This funding can only be used for infrastructure improvements and water meters are an approved expenditure. He is working with Superintendent of Public Works Brockhahn to put together a program to have the whole city converted to these meters. Mr. Brockhahn has broken the city into four quadrants and the number of meters required to convert one quadrant at a time has been identified. Due to cost, this would be a multi-year project.

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

Alderman Sampson made a motion to enter closed session citing 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) Collective Bargaining. Second Alderman Brown. All yes, motion carried. The Council entered closed session at 8:40 p.m.

The Council re-entered the regular meeting at 8:50 p.m. Roll Call: Berry, Brown, Deien, Mohme, Kniepman, Sampson. All present.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Weh wished everyone a good, safe Thanksgiving.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Alderman Sampson made a motion to adjourn. Second Alderman Kniepman. All yes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:51 pm.

---

Karen Buzzard, City Clerk