

TRENTON CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
October 24, 2022

**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, October 24, 2022, 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 & Forestry Andy Brockhahn, and attorney Joe Heiligenstein

**PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

**PUBLIC INPUT**

**COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – MAYOR**

Mayor Weh will be putting together a committee to decorate the park with lights for Christmas and is looking for volunteers. Anyone interested in helping contact the mayor. Alderman Mohme brought up the vandalism in the park and asked whether the cameras would be installed by the time the park was decorated. City Administrator Marquart hopes to have the cameras installed by Thanksgiving. There was more discussion about the cameras and vandalism. Mayor Weh stated he refuses to stop progress because of vandals. They will be caught and prosecuted.

**COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS- ALDERMEN**

Alderman Brown held a public works committee meeting tonight at the reservoir. If you haven't been there you should go. He thanked Superintendent Brockhahn for his time and explanation of the system.

Alderman Mohme asked where the levy was. City Administrator Marquart said that he and Clerk Buzzard would discuss it this week and have a first draft to council for the first meeting in November.

**COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – CITY STAFF**

Superintendent of Public Works and Forestry Andy Brockhahn said his department is working on replacing water meters on the south side of town.

There was more vandalism at the Nature Preserve and the Nut House Park in addition to the city park this last week.

Chief Joellenbeck announced that this Saturday from 10 am until 2 pm is the DEA Drug Take Back, although we have a drop box in the lobby of the police station at all times.

Attorney Heiligenstein asked if the City has heard back from Clearwave on their expansion into our area. No, there are other communities experiencing problems with them too.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Alderman Brown made a motion to Approve the Minutes of the October 10, 2022 Regular Council Meeting. Second Alderman Deien. All yes, motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Alderman Brown made a motion to Approve Purchase of tilt trailer with tool boxes and pallet fork holders from Camper Exchange, Inc. in the amount of \$13,563.00 to be paid from Capital Improvement Fund. Second Alderman Deien. All yes, motion carried.

Alderman Sampson made a motion to Approve Ordinance 1807 Authorizing Sale of Personal Property. Second Alderman Brown. All yes, motion carried.

Alderman Brown made a motion to Approve Ordinance 1808 Amending Trenton City Code Chapter 2, Article III Officers and Employees, Division 8 Public Works Superintendent. Second Alderman Deien. All yes, motion carried.

City Administrator Marquart had provided to council information from the City of Louisville, Kentucky on how they were able to get a handle on the vacant properties in their city. There was discussion about implementing a similar process here in Trenton. Creating a registry and gathering information on who owns the properties, whether utilities are on, and having on file a plan for bringing the property up to code. Administrator Marquart would also like to work with the Homebuilders Association to have them buy these properties. Alderman Brown read various ordinances from communities with this program and they all have multiple levels of fees involved in their processes. What parameters would Trenton set, how long would a property be empty to be considered vacant, what costs would be involved? Administrator Marquart said that he thought 30 days would be good, and there would not be a lot of bureaucracy although a registration fee would be required. There was much discussion about how to find out who owns a property, how this information would be made public and whether rental property would be considered vacant if not rented for 30 days. There was discussion about our current code, and why we just weren't actively doing code enforcement. If that were done this may not be necessary. Administrator Marquart will work on definitions and draft an ordinance for review.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Alderman Brown made a motion to adjourn. Second Alderman Deien. All yes, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

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Karen Buzzard, City Clerk