

TRENTON CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
March 27, 2023

**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, March 27, 2023, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Berry, Brown, Deien, Kniepman, Mohme, Sampson

Also present was Chief Chris Joellenbeck, Director of Public Works and Forestry Andy Brockhahn, Attorney Joe Heiligenstein, Jeff Reitz with TWM Engineering, and Mike Conley

**PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

Jeff Reitz of TWM Engineering presented to Council the plan for this year's Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) program. We are shifting back to oil and chip and not asphalt. This will allow the city to address many more streets than in the past couple of years. In addition to the oil and chip there has been money allocated for hot patch, for street salt, for sidewalks and to re-do the intersection of N King Oak and Indiana with asphalt. That intersection takes a beating with the truck traffic. Not everything in the plan needs to be done. Some basic questions were answered. Jeff will have the paperwork necessary for approval to us for passage at our next meeting.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

**COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – MAYOR**

**COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS- ALDERMEN**

Alderman Brown said that he is set a meeting with Gary Rosen and the city to discuss a possible solar ground array at the wastewater treatment plant for this Thursday at noon.

**COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – CITY STAFF**

Chief Joellenbeck said the grandparent scam is active again. He cautioned older residents to be aware.

Chief also announced that with our trash contract every resident gets 4 large item pick-ups per year. You need to just call Republic Services to schedule a pick-up.

He asked residents not to blow their grass into the street. And said that the police are cracking down on unlicensed vehicles.

The DARE program will have a fish fry fundraiser on April 21, 2023 from 4 – 7 pm at St. Mary's Parish Center. The cost per plate will be \$12.00.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Alderman Brown made a motion to Approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Second Alderman Deien. All yes, motion carried. The Consent Agenda included a motion to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2023 Regular council meeting, a motion to approve the March 20, 2023 Finance Committee meeting, a motion to Approve Appointment of Pat Bassler to Plan Commission for 3-year term to expire March 2026, and a motion to Approve Appointment of Derek Reiking to Plan Commission for 3-year term to expire March 2026.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Alderman Brown made a motion to Approve Purchase of LEXIPOL system for year one in amount of \$11,798.10. Second Alderman Sampson, all yes, motion carried.

Alderman Brown made a motion to Approve Ordinance #1815 An Ordinance Amending the Trenton Zoning Ordinance Chapter 48, Section 48-363 Requirements. Second Alderman Deien. All yes, motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Alderman Sampson made a motion to Approve Resolution 20230327 A Resolution in Opposition to the Proposed 138 KV Ameren Transmission Company Sursee-Aviston Transmission Project. Second Alderman Brown. All yes, motion carried. Mayor Weh wants to get the word out about this. He wants the residents how this will affect them and the City of Trenton. This resolution will be put onto our website.

Alderman Deien made a motion to Approve the Appointment of Andrew Brockhahn as Interim Zoning Officer. Second Alderman Kniepman. All yes, motion carried.

Alderman Brown made a motion to Approve the Appointment of Karen Buzzard as Interim Budget Officer. Second Alderman Deien. All yes, motion carried.

Alderman Deien made a motion to Approve the Amended Employment Agreement between City of Trenton and Chris Joellenbeck. Second Alderman Brown. All yes, motion carried.

Alderman Brown made a motion to Approve the Amended Employment Agreement between City of Trenton and Andrew Brockhahn. Second Alderman Sampson. All yes, motion carried.

Alderman Deien made a motion to Approve the Amended Employment Agreement between City of Trenton and Karen Buzzard. Second Alderman Sampson. All yes, motion carried.

Alderman Deien made a motion to Approve Ordinance #1816 Adopting Zoning Map. Second Alderman Brown. All yes, motion carried.

Director of Public Works and Forestry Brockhahn opened a discussion about a recently passed ordinance allowing chickens in city limits. He wanted to know exactly what the definition of a residence is. Specifically, if a garage, attached to a house by way of a breezeway or other roof type structure is considered part of the house. Attorney Heiligenstein said state statute says anything that is attached is considered part of the residential structure. Director Brockhahn then asked about compost. Will just a pile of chicken poop be considered compost? Attorney Heiligenstein will look at section 68-2b(6) and add some setback requirements. It was also clarified that chickens must be kept inside a coop at all times. They are not allowed to run free in an enclosed yard. Staff will check with the health department to see if the 15 foot from a residence requirement was something set by them.

Director Brockhahn would like to have a public works committee meeting to discuss further the right of way ordinance that the city is looking at passing. We have obtained a copy New Baden's ordinance, and Director Brockhahn has compared ordinances. There are several areas that we would like to incorporate their language into our ordinance. A committee meeting was set for next Monday at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Weh informed the council that we have a meeting set with Clearwave for Thursday at 10 am. Alderman Brown asked if there would be utility boxes in resident's yards. That is something that will be asked of Clearwave.

Alderman Mohme reported that the finance committee met last week and reviewed the budget. The committee feels that overall the budget is good. There were a few changes that were asked to be made, and Clerk Buzzard has that completed. There will be the required budget hearing prior to the next council meeting, and the budget will be presented then for approval.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

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Karen Buzzard, City Clerk