

TRENTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
October 9, 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, October 9, 2023, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Berry, Brown, Deien, Mohme, Rakers (absent), Sampson (absent)

Also present was Chief Chris Joellenbeck, Director of Public Works Andy Brockhahn, Officer Salvi, Treasurer Linda Reibold, Dave Lihs and Mike Conley

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

PUBLIC INPUT

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – MAYOR

Mayor Weh wished everyone a Happy Columbus Day. He also reminded everyone that this Saturday is the Harvest Hop from 10-3. There will be over 50 vendors there. Mayor Weh also asked the Aldermen and all residents to come out to the park on Saturday October 28 at 9 am to help put up lights to light the park. His fundraising is going well, and he thanked everyone that already donated to the cause. Light installation will continue on Sunday of that weekend at 10 a.m.

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS- ALDERMEN

Alderman Brown thanked the public works department for their quick response to the water main break. Mayor Weh stated they did a great job.

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – CITY STAFF

Director of Public Works and Forestry Andy Brockhahn informed the Council that the crosswalk sign at Madison and 3rd street was installed today. Some of the directional signs belonging to IDOT will need to be moved and he will call to discuss how far IDOT wants them moved. The boom truck blew a hydraulic hose, and all of the hoses will need to be replaced. Director Brockhahn does not have pricing on that yet. Additionally, the tractor clutch is out and there is no cost on that repair yet either.

Director Brockhahn informed anyone that already didn't know, that IDOT's contractor that installed the new box culvert on old Route 50 hit our water main. Repairs were made, but the box culvert is larger than the previous culvert and this now sits right on top of our water line. After discussing this with IDOT it was determined that our water line is in IDOT's right-of-way, and it is up to us to move the water line. Director Brockhahn is concerned with leaving it there because there are only a couple of inches of rock that separate the culvert from our line. Eventually the weight of the culvert will break our line again and with the way it has been installed we cannot get to it to replace it. He reached out to Korte & Luitjohan and they will bore about 200 feet of our line deeper. It is estimated that this may cost \$10,000.00. That work will likely be done next week. Mayor Weh said this is an emergency and to proceed. Alderman Mohme wanted to know if we could let the public know in advance as this will cause another boil order. Yes.

Chief Joellenbeck said that pricing for the Tahoe is available, but he didn't have it with him. The Lexipol project is about 65% complete, this is the policy only side of the program. Our cadet is doing well in the academy. The new CAD system is improving.

Chief Joellenbeck stated that our senior officers are currently on the night shift and will be going back on days. He accused someone on the City Council of reporting that the new officers will stay on the day shift, thus causing chaos in the police department.

CONSENT AGENDA

Alderman Brown made a motion to Approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Second Alderman Deien. All yes, Rakers and Sampson absent. The Consent Agenda included a motion to Approve the Minutes of the September 25, 2023 Regular Council Meeting, a motion to Approve Bills for the Month of September 2023, a motion to Approve Payrolls for the month of September 2023, and a motion to Approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of August 2023.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Weh said that adding a pickleball court to our park has been discussed in the past. We even got a professional bid which was near \$40,000 and then tabled because of the cost. Since then, there has been more discussion from the residents regarding this topic. Suggestions of converting the tennis court or basketball court into pickleball courts have been made. Mr. Lihs said that all of the surrounding communities have pickleball courts. Most have just striped them onto their existing tennis courts and added portable nets. Mr. Lihs presented information on the portable nets to the Council and offered to order them through Amazon and have the city reimburse him. Mayor Weh expressed concern about vandalism to any portable structure at the park and also asked about the paint. Is there a specific type of paint that must be used and what the cost is. Mr. Lihs had not done any research on that. Director of Public Works Brockhahn said that if you are going to do this, then do it right. The whole tennis court surface needs to be sealed and everything should be painted. There was further discussion about the financing of this project but we have no idea of the cost. Mayor Weh will reach out to Mike Riley in New Baden for details on court striping.

Alderman Brown made a motion to Approve Hiring Kollin Trame as Public Works laborer. Second Alderman Deien. All yes, Rakers and Sampson absent. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Alderman Mohme held a Finance Committee meeting last week to discuss the levy. He informed the rest of the Council that with the decision to not increase the levy more than 5% over last year there was not a lot of money to play with. The goal this year was to increase more line items to their actual cost which resulted in increases in IMRF, FICA, liability insurance and audit with a small increase in police protection. The largest increase was in parks and recreation. These increases came at the expense of street lighting and general corporate. Going forward we can hopefully just toggle these line items by small amounts and increase our general corporate. Mayor Weh thought the committee meeting went well and thanked everyone for their hard work.

Alderman Brown made a motion to Approve Ordinance #1827 Redevelopment Agreement Tut Properties, Inc. Second Alderman Mohme. All yes, Rakers and Sampson absent. Motion carried.

Alderman Brown made a motion to Approve Ordinance #1828 Redevelopment Agreement Jim's Suits & Tuxedos. Second Alderman Deien. All yes, Rakers and Sampson absent. Motion carried. Alderman Brown suggested everyone go and talk to these business owners about the changes they are making. They are so excited and will show you all around their place.

CLOSED SESSION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chief Joellenbeck forgot to mention that he has completed the Federal Use of Force training.

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Deien made a motion to adjourn. Second Alderman Brown. All yes, Rakers and Sampson absent. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Karen Buzzard, City Clerk