

TRENTON CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
November 13, 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, November 13, 2023, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Also present was Chief Chris Joellenbeck, Director of Public Works Andy Brockhahn, Officer Mora, Steve Howe, Larry Howard, Treasurer Linda Reibold and Mike Conley

**PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

Clerk Buzzard swore in new officer Steve Howe.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

**COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – MAYOR**

Mayor Weh thanked everyone; individuals, businesses and organizations that contributed and helped to install the Christmas lights in the park. The night before Thanksgiving the park will be lit. The mayor went on to ask everyone to be vigilant and report any suspicious activity in the park. There has already been vandalism to the lights.

**COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS- ALDERMEN**

Alderman Brown opened a discussion about our code of ordinances and how it addresses the parking of recreation vehicles and trailers. Currently our code requires them to be parked on an improved surface, which when being defined references our parking lot surface requirements. It would be best to redefine “improved surface”. Alderman Brown also brought for reference a similar section of code from Breese. There was discussion about setbacks and accessory structures. It was decided to run this by the attorney and bring back to the council a first draft ordinance.

Alderman Rakers said that he was contacted by resident Jerome Wieder about his ditch eroding. Director of Public Works Brockhahn will look into it.

**COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – CITY STAFF**

Chief Joellenbeck said that the Trenton Police Benevolent Association will be hosting a Pajama Breakfast with Santa on December 16, 2023 at 8:00 am at St. Mary Parish Center. The cost is \$15.00 per adult, children are free.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Alderman Brown made a motion to Approve the consent agenda as presented. Second Alderman Deien. All yes, Berry absent. Motion carried. The consent agenda included a motion to Approve the Minutes of the October 23, 2023 Regular Council Meeting, a motion to Approve Bills for the month of October 2023, a motion to Approve Payrolls for the month of October 2023 and a motion to Approve the Treasurer’s report for the month of September 2023.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Director of Public Works Brockhahn obtained quotes for the resurfacing of the tennis court and options for pickleball courts. The first quote is for \$17,100.00 and would be for the resurfacing of the existing tennis court. For an additional \$875 a pickleball court would be stripped onto the center of the tennis court. An option for stripping a pickleball court on half of the tennis court

would be \$1325, the difference being the cost of a portable net. A separate quote was given to have a pickleball court stripped onto the basketball court. That option also included resurfacing of the court and came in at \$16,500.00. Director Brockhahn expressed concerns about just stripping onto one of our existing courts without fixing the surface. This will be put into the budget talks for the next fiscal year.

Director Brockhahn informed the Council that after several meetings, an agreement has been reached with Trenton Land Development (Jerry Middeke) for fixing the storm sewer in the Wildwood subdivision. Once the agreement has been signed by both parties, a town hall meeting will be held with all of the residents affected to inform them of the plan for remediation. Upon completion of the project the City will formally accept that storm sewer.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Alderman Brown made a motion to Approve Renewal of General Liability Insurance with Illinois Counties Risk Management Trust for the 2024 Plan Year in the amount of \$85,985.00. Second Alderman Mohme. All yes, Berry absent. Motion carried.

Alderman Brown made a motion to Approve Renewal of Worker's Compensation with Illinois Public Risk Fund for the 2024 Plan Year in the amount of \$35,716.00. Second Alderman Deien. All yes, motion carried. Berry absent.

Chief Joellenbeck stated that the in-car cameras are junk. There was money in this budget for the purchase of 6 body cameras. The in-car cameras would be part of the next fiscal budget. One of our in-car cameras has broken, so Chief Joellenbeck is proposing the purchase of 3 in-car cameras and 3 body cameras now, with the remaining 3 each being budgeted for the next fiscal year. Alderman Mohme questioned the part time officers. Chief Joellenbeck said they won't have one, although it is a good idea to have a spare. Alderman Mohme suggested buying all 6 units now so that some officers won't have to wait, and then for the in-car cameras we aren't using 2 different software systems. We could use the police equipment fund for the purchase of the 3 units not in the budget. One additional question Alderman Mohme had was whether there would be any problems with the police union if 3 officers wore body cameras and 3 didn't. Chief Joellenbeck said there would be no problems. He would assign the 3 new officers to wear the body cameras because they cannot file a grievance. They aren't represented by the union for the first year. Chief Joellenbeck went on to say that there are restrictions on the drug money per County Circuit Clerk Rod Kloeckner. Alderman Brown said that he called and discussed that matter with Rod Kloeckner and was told that there are really no restrictions on those funds especially if they are being used for police matters. This expense is clearly for police. Mayor Weh said this would be put on the next meeting's agenda for approval. Chief Joellenbeck went on about the purchase of 8 body cameras because there will be the need for 2 for part time officers. There was much discussion about sharing units. Per Chief Joellenbeck, that cannot be done. Alderman Sampson asked Chief Joellenbeck to put together a spreadsheet with all 3 scenarios for the council to review. Chief Joellenbeck said the quote had all of the information in it. Mayor Weh asked if the council was willing to move forward with the purchase of 8 body cameras. Alderman Deien stated that he was not. Only 3 were budgeted and he prefers to stick to the budget. The rest of the council agreed. Chief Joellenbeck said that he plans to add part time officers to the weekends. There will be no impact on the budget. These part-time officers will be in addition to the full-time officers on shift.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Alderman Brown made a motion to adjourn. Second Alderman Rakers. All yes, Berry absent .  
Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 pm.

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Karen Buzzard, City Clerk