

TRENTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, January 13, 2025

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the City Council was called to order by Mayor Andy Weh at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, January 13, 2025, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Berry, Brown, Deien, Rakers, Sampson, Sims All present

Also present was Chief Chris Joellenbeck, Officer Stogner, Director of Public Works Andy Brockhahn, Barry Sieren, Treasurer Megan Donjon, Dave Brandmeyer, Rhonda Breslin of Republic Services, Mike Fielder and Mike Conley of the Trenton Sun,

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

PUBLIC INPUT

Mayor Weh called upon Mr. Fielder to speak. Mr. Fielder has lived in Trenton for 5 years and loves this town. He asked Council if anyone had ever made remarks on Facebook? He is not pleased with what Public Works Director Andy Brockhahn did after Mr. Fielder made remarks on Facebook about the city and specifically Director Brockhahn. He asked if it was protocol to call a person's place of employment? Mr. Fielder said Director Brockhahn's actions were unprofessional and disrespectful. When asked if Mr. Fielder's comments on a public forum were unprofessional and disrespectful he stated that he had a right to free speech and he could say anything that he wanted. Mayor Weh stated that if Mr. Fielder had questions or problems he should have called or come to City Hall or reached out to the Mayor to get answers, not blast the city of Facebook. There was much more arguing back and forth between Mr. Fielder, Director Brockhahn and the Mayor with Mr. Fielder leaving the meeting.

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – MAYOR

Mayor Weh gave a big Thank You to the staff starting with Andy Brockhahn and his crew. They have worked numerous hours over the last week cleaning up this snow mess. A thank you went out to Chief Joellenbeck and to the office staff for handling all of the angry phone calls. Mayor Weh appreciates everyone's efforts and told everyone to keep up the good work.

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS- ALDERMEN

Alderman Deien has been contacted by a family requesting an autistic child sign. Mayor Weh is in favor of putting one up. Director Brockhahn had a quote for two signs, poles, and fasteners for \$270.18. With further discussion it was determined that 3 signs would be needed due to the location. (5th and Walnut)

Alderman Brown said that in the Wildwood subdivision there is a street light leaning. That is Clinton County Electric Co-op there. Director Brockhahn will reach out to them.

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – CITY STAFF

Clerk Buzzard informed Council that a closing date for the property at 203 E Broadway has been set for January 22, 2025.

Director Brockhahn stated that the bid opening for the painting of the water tower is set for January 21, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.

Bid opening for the sewer pipe lining is set for February 11, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

Alderman Brown asked for an update on the vac truck that was purchased. Director Brockhahn said that he has been training his guys on the use of the truck by cleaning and the main sewer line on Oak Street. This has allowed much more capacity and they found two storm sewer taps in the sanitary sewer. Fixing those cross connections will decrease the amount of surface water that is treated at the wastewater treatment plant.

There is an AT&T manhole right by Hank's Bowl that is raised too high. It has been barricaded and AT&T has been notified.

Chief Joellenbeck reported 2 crashes during this storm. One person stated they didn't know when their car was hit, and the other was an IDOT truck that happened outside of town.

CONSENT AGENDA

Alderman Brown made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Second Alderman Rakers. All yes, motion carried. The consent agenda included a motion to approve minutes of the December 23, 2024 Regular Council Meeting, a motion to approve bills for the month of December 2024, a motion to approve payrolls for the month of December 2024, and a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of November 2024.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Weh reported that the experts predicted Ameren would win in the initial round of arguments related to the Aviston/Sursee power line, and they did. The CURED organization has filed an appeal. Last time Ameren tried to put in a high power line the courts shut it down on appeal. Ameren has made some significant offers to some of the property owners. The CURED group is encouraging the landowners to not sign anything yet. The mayor will reach out to Mark Litteken for another update in 30 – 45 days.

NEW BUSINESS

Bids for the trash hauling were opened last week and included in tonight's packet. There was some general discussion, but for the most part no aldermen had any questions. The bidders were told that a bid award date was set for March 10, 2025. This would give ample time to coordinate billing and delivery of new totes if we were to change our hauling contractor. Rhonda from Republic Services was on hand to answer any specific question on their service or their bid. She clarified some questions the Clerk Buzzard had on the bid. Mayor Weh asked the aldermen to get their questions to clerk Buzzard by January 22 so she can get answers. A committee meeting may be set to review in detail all bids.

CLOSED SESSION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Brown made a motion to adjourn. Second Alderman Deien. All yes, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:34 pm.

Karen Buzzard, City Clerk