

TOWN OF STAR CITY
Council Meeting
March 27th, 2018
7:00 P.M.

Mayor Herman Reid led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance, calling the Star City Council to order.

ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Herman Reid
Recorder Bob Williams (absent)
Treasurer Lea Hassler
Attorney Paul Cranston (absent)
Councilor Emma Luzader
Councilor Cindy Ulrich
Public Works – Phillip Davis

Councilor Sharon Doyle
Councilor Dominick Claudio
Councilor Todd Gregg
Attorney Ryan Umina
Chief of Police -Tom Varndell
Code Official – Lanie Martisko

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to approve minutes from March 13th meeting as prepared by Recorder Bob Williams.

1. Councilor Luzader
 2. Councilor Claudio
- Motion carried

TREASURER'S REPORT:

BILLS TO BE PAID

Treasurer Lea Hassler presented the bills to be paid in the amount of \$25,740.61

Motion to pay the bills as presented:

1. Councilor Claudio
 2. Councilor Ulrich
- Motion carried

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Financial report is updated for numbers ending February 28th, 2018

Motion to approve treasurers monthly report:

1. Councilor Claudio
2. Councilor Doyle

Motion carried

SPECIAL SPEAKERS:

Blair Taylor –WVMPOB –Spoke in regards to existing Policeman's pension and relief fund. The existing pension fund contributes \$55,524.00 annually which increase 7% every year regardless of amount of officers. He has already spoken to Chief Varndell and Treasurer Hassler about closing the existing pension system and enter the new WV municipal Police officers and Firefighters retirement systems. All officers in our existing system currently will stay on existing plan but any new officers will be enrolled in the new program moving forward. The current methodology which was determined by the city in 1991 is no longer a viable amount to sustain a pension plan.

New hires will pay 8.5% into new system and the city will match that amount to Consolidated Public Retirement board in Charleston. For every year they earn 2.6% which maxes out at 67% compared to current system to 3% for first 20 years, 2% for the next 2 and 1% for the final 5 years which equals a 75% system.

What the city is paying on 107% methodology is a higher dollar figure than putting new hires into new plan.

Susan Riddle -Morgantown CVB- read a letter from tourism commissioner declaring support for the Star City Kayak Launch project and that they are looking into further support, financial and otherwise.

Mary Wimmer- Morgantown Paddlers Star City Boat dock and Kayak Launch funding. Waiting to hear from Clif bar about \$7,000 grant. In February she applied for the Club Fostered Stewardship grant from American Canoe association LL Bean in the amount of \$1000.00. Also submitted a \$2500 grant to Mylan on March 27th.

Step 1 design phase is almost complete. Introduced Vaika Haas as the architectural landscape professor at WVU who showed various designs that students have created.

Mary Wimmer expressed her wish to have a public event at Terra Café (tentatively April 11) where the 5 designs will on display. Visitors will be given the option to fill out a survey in person, online or from a survey printed in the Dominion Post along with a major feature on the project. The best features analyzed from all surveys will then be made into a hybrid design for final approval.

CITIZENS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee- Met at town hall Monday March 6th at 6 pm. Those present were Mayor Reid, Chief Varndell, Public Works director Philip Davis, Treasurer Lea Hassler, Finance Clerk Nikita Embree, Councilor Cindy Ulrich and Councilor Emma Luzader. They continued the review of revenue and expenditures to prepare for the 2018 budget in the amount of \$1.9 million which will be submitted for approval at the council meeting March 27th 2018. Committee meeting minutes are attached.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORTS

Treasurer Hassler: none

Chief Varndell :

- Introduced Officer RJ Martin as our newest officer.
- Also stated temporary Officer Haddox would be testing to become full time. Officer Haddox was a key member in eliminating a drug house and a traffic stop which netted a massive amount of drugs.
- Since February Star City police have handled 549 calls.
- Councilor Doyle requested that Chief Varndell provide monthly police report specific to tickets issued.

Lanie Martisko:

- \$126.83 revenue from permits** for the month of March
- Collected \$2700 in rental registration.
- She will start all rental inspections in April.
- 2 new businesses opened in March.
- Explained that ICC code trumps city code and this will allow people to have home businesses provided they comply with certain restrictions. Councilor Luzader asked Lanie to check with Attorney Paul Cranston to make sure this is the case.

Phillip Davis:

Thanked Lanie for doing a great job and following through with his requests on a timely manner. Crews still working on drywall in city hall basement.

- The paving bid Legal Advertisement for North Main and Broadway was submitted to the Dominion Post for publishing. The pre-bid meeting will be held April 9th and bids are due April 23rd.

ATTORNEY'S COMMENTS: -Stated to Lanie that when addressing the rental code on structures with 3 or more units the WV state fire code applies and that she should get landlords to contact state Fire Marshall in such instances.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mulch for tugboat depot: Phillip Davis got 3 quotes for rubber mulch to replace current wood mulch which would last much longer.

Motion to purchase rubber mulch for tugboat depot based off estimate of \$6700 provided by Phillip Davis.

1. Councilor Doyle
2. Councilor Claudio

Motion carried

Spring Cleanup

Motion to hold spring clean up the week of May 14th

1. Councilor Luzader
2. Councilor Ulrich

Motion Carried

Resolution to close current Pension Plan

Motion to approve resolution for the Town of Star City to become a participation employer of the WV Municipal Police Officers Retirement system.

1. Councilor Doyle
2. Councilor Claudio

Motion Carried

2019 levy/estimate budget

Motion to accept budget as proposed for fiscal year July 1st 2018 to June 30th 2019.

1. Councilor Claudio
2. Councilor Gregg

Motion Carried

Councilor Luzader pointed out to council that this estimate includes raises for staff and asked Lea how she went about forming raises. Lea stated that she worked with Phillip Davis and calculated the yearly salary and took the 3% and added matching for FICA. It

ended up being \$10,230.00 for public works and then another \$5,000.00 for city hall.

Councilor Luzader pointed out to council the fact that the Municipal Court Judge salary remained the same in the new budget even though we are no longer paying an attorney to perform the duties.

Schedule special meeting April 17th Approval and laying of the levy

Motion to schedule the approval and laying of the Levy on April 17th.

1. Councilor Luzader
2. Councilor Claudio

Motion carried

2004 Ford Dumptruck and 2006 police cruiser sealed bids

Crown Victoria police car \$500.00 from Dominick Claudio and \$1177.27 from Harold Burkey Jr.

Ford Dump truck \$4500.00 form Dominick Claudio and \$2678.00 from Al Dabeno.

* Phillip Davis refused the bid on the dump truck.

Motion to accept high bid for Crown Victoria from Harold Burkey for \$1127.27

1. Councilor Luzader
2. Councilor Doyle

Motion carried

Motion to reject both bids for Ford Dumptruck

1. Councilor Doyle
2. Councilor Gregg

Motion carried

Motion to adjourn made at 8:06

1. Councilor Gregg
2. Councilor Ulrich

Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,



Herman Reid, Mayor

Treasurer Lea Hassler, on behalf of absent

recorder.