

CITY OF AMBOY
COUNCIL MEETING
August 18, 2014

Mayor Nauman called the Regular meeting of the Amboy City Council to order and the council and audience stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

WARD 1: Deanne Hoy
Brett Dewey

WARD 2: John Schamberger
Dennis Weidman

WARD 3: Daryl Stuckemeyer
Dave Shaw

MINUTE'S APPROVED-The minutes from the July regular city council meeting were presented. Motion to Approve the minutes by Aldermen Hoy and Dewey. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT APPROVED- City Treasurer Nancy Neal submitted the financial report. Making a motion to approve the reports as presented was made and seconded by Aldermen Schamberger and Stuckemeyer. Carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS APPROVED- A list of outstanding bills, involving city accounts as prepared by the city clerk's office was submitted. Making a motion to approve the bills as presented was made by Aldermen Hoy and Dewey. Carried. *A copy of the financial report is kept on file at the city hall and is available upon request.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COMMUNITY BUILDING-Alderman Dewey reported the building is busy with weddings and other events.

DEPOT MUSEUM-Alderman Shaw wanted to thank the city for removing the dead bushes. Dan Etheridge, Mike Koppin and Ed Clayton have been painting things before Depot Days. The Depot is still looking for volunteers to help during Depot Days.

E.S.D.A- Alderman Dewey –Alderman Dewey reported that the police department, fire department and ESDA have come up with a policy for the sirens. The attorney will review the policy. It basically explains that if severe weather of 70mph winds the sirens will be used for warning. Also during severe weather.

PARK-Alderman Schamberger reported the park board met last week. The park has lost some trees due to age and storms. The board is looking into replacing some of the trees. The mower maintenance account has been closed and the city was given \$3,000.00 toward the purchase of a new mower for spring 2015. Park Board president Gary Wilhelm is going to retire November 2016. He will have donated 25 years to the park board and will be hard to replace.

LIBRARY-Alderman Weidman reported the board met on August 12th. The library will be closed on Saturday during Depot Days. The new personnel are doing great.

FINANCE COMMITTEE-Nothing.

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE- No Report.

POLICE COMMISSION- No Report.

MAINT. DEPT /STREETS-Alderman Schamberger reported that the well has been capped at the new maintenance building site. Everyone is busy getting ready for Depot Days painting lines and cleaning up the downtown. Thank you to the city crew for all their work before the event.

WATER/SEWER DEPT-Alderman Stuckemeyer reported that the Division Street hydrant needs replaced with a new set of valves. The maintenance department cannot replace the valves so the city is seeking a company to do the replacement. Another pump at the sewer station failed and the cause was another disposable wipe.

CONCERNS FROM THE AUDIENCE-Sue England wanted to thank Melissa Eisenberg, Deanne Hoy, Nancy Kelly and Steve Noble for running the 4th of July committee for the last four years. They always raised the funds without using city funding. Since Tom has become the Mayor more and more business are closing. I am a volunteer with ESDA and a city employee and am being harassed by Mike Koch as he goes by the Thrift Store downtown and makes nasty comments and gestures that has been reported to the police department. Thank you to Paul Smith, Lisa Hart and Terry Lester for taking the many reports of this problem. It is embarrassing for me and the community as this goes on. Why did you change the police commission when you had an alderman that had a degree in criminal justice and replace them with another alderman that has no experience with police investigations? This town has a serious drug problem and bullying at the high school. This arguing is such small problems compared to the bigger issues going on in the community. Another issue is when the Shapiro family paid for the new roof on their shelter why is the Nauman family not paying for theirs? The city building inspector still has no siding on his rental property and why is this okay but not for others. The abortion sign on 52 that so many people have made comments on. Diane Carbonari also has a problem with the abortion sign on Rt. 52 is another bad thing for our community. Attorney Matt Keegan explained that the homeowner does not have to remove the sign. Mike Koch spoke regarding some issues between himself and Sue England with comments and gestures. I apologize for anything I said that may have offended you. Andrea Wheeler explained that during herself and Sue locking up after store hours Mike Koch drove by and used profanity. Deanne Hoy has been harassed by various people and this crap should not go on in a small community. So many people should be ashamed at their behavior. Alice McGraw wanted to thank Wayne and Deanne Hoy for all their involvement in the community. Wayne has volunteered so much time to the baseball and soccer programs. You are appreciated and we are sorry you are leaving Amboy. Deanne

has been excellent for the city, she is prepared, and she knows the city ordinances. I hope the rest of the council will learn about the ordinances and keep the city running in an orderly fashion as Alderman Hoy has done during her time. Hank Gerdes reported that the car show pre-registration is up 30% and the 50/50 raffle has currently deposited \$20,000 more than last year at this time. Hank Gerdes read a letter from Darlene Hinkle whom could not attend the meeting. I am sorry I could not attend the meeting tonight and I wanted to thank Deanne Hoy for her service on the city council. It is a tough job and thank you very much. Deanne has donated too many groups the schools, food banks, and soccer, baseball, and football programs and has helped families in need of clothing from the Thrift Store. Thank you to Wayne Hoy for all his help in the schools and creating the soccer programs. Now in my own words I hope that whoever takes Deanne's place has 10% of the drive, honesty and ambition that she has. Some people may not like her but we need someone like to take over and do the job. It's a terrible situation that we have a family leaving because they are being harassed by people in our community. Again Dixon is gaining a great family and best of luck to Deanne, Wayne and their children. Thank you for everything you did for us and our community.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

DISCUSSION ON PARK STREET-TRAFFIC/PARKING/CLOSING-Alderman

Weidman took a look at the street and is familiar with the schools. The closing or one-way will not be a good solution. The problem seems to be the Main street traffic that is using Park Street and really there is no traffic flow or lines to direct traffic. So two things that could be done would be at the corner of Appleton and Main a flashing light to alert the drivers to be aware of children and traffic around the school area. The next thing would be traffic direction thru the triangle area and we need to paint the area for a lane to stop in and a lane to use behind the parked cars on Park Street. So the city will need to do some striping and use the light to control traffic times morning and afternoon. We will also need the police department to enforce the speed zones during school hours. Jeff Blake explained that the zone is only on school days when kids are present and it is not effective during events after school. So the city would need two signs explaining both speed zones. Alice McGraw also feels that people from out of town do not realize that it is a school zone and the flow of traffic by that triangle is very confusing if you don't live in town. Vote to be taken next month.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVE 2014 MFT STREET BIDS-Pavement Maintenance \$43,591.60 (Short Street/Short Street Bridge/City Park South Rd & Parking Area/Mason & Jones Alley/Blackstone & Jefferson Alley/Main Street/ Wasson Rd/Jones Street(by First Federal)-Mike Richetta reported that on August 4th the lowest bid was received from Pavement Maintenance. Motion to Approve the bid made by Aldermen Stuckemeyer and Schamberger. All Approved.

APPROVE & AUTHORIZE WILLETT HOFFMAN & ASSOCIATES TO ADVERTISE FOR WATER TOWER RESTORATION BIDS (Paint & Repairs to the Water Tower)- Attorney Matt Keegan explained that the city has to approve a contract by end of the year per the bond contract the city has money issued from for the water tower repairs. Motion to Authorize & Approve Willett Hoffman & Associates to Advertise for bids for the Water Tower Restoration made by Aldermen Dewey and Weidman. All Approved.

APPROVE THE NEW MAINTENANCE BUILDING BIDS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE PROJECT. Alan Hulstedt from Willett & Hoffman explained that the bids were submitted on August 6th and there are five contracts to award. All low bidders have been interviewed and agree to the terms of the contracts. Alderman Hoy does have an issue with the first contract. Is Mr. Koch still a city employee and can he bid on this project? Mayor Nauman explained that Mike Koch has not been paid for any work since last summer. Attorney Matt Keegan explained that he was a part-time employee and when that job is complete he is no longer an employee. Alderman Hoy has an issue giving Mr. Koch a contract when he treats an alderman and others so poorly in the city and verbally abuses everyone. Diane Carbonari has an issue with the sidewalk in front of the Amboy Family Restaurant that Mr. Koch poured and it would not pass code. Alderman Hoy feels that if we approve him for contract #1 that it sets precedence in the city and how employees behave. Alderman Dewey asked him how it works since he was the only bidder for contract #1. Alan Hulstedt explained that it can be thrown out and rebid. Attorney Matt Keegan questioned if these were bid as separate contracts and they were per the engineer.

APPROVE CONTRACT #1-Koch Construction-Concrete \$36,800.00- Motion to Approve Koch Construction Contract #1 made by Aldermen Stuckemeyer and Schamberger. Voting No-Shaw, Weidman, Dewey and Hoy. Yes-Schamberger and Stuckemeyer. Motion Denied 4-2.

APPROVE CONTRACT #2-Ross Jr. Construction-Building \$157,400.00-Motion to Approve Ross Jr. Construction Contract #2 made by Aldermen Hoy and Schamberger. All Approved.

APPROVE CONTRACT #3-Grasser's -Plumbing \$50,995.00-Motion to Approve Grasser's Plumbing Contract #3 made by Aldermen Hoy and Weidman. Voting Yes Stuckemeyer, Hoy, Dewey and Weidman. Voting No-Schamberger and Shaw. Passed 4-2. All Approved.

APPROVE CONTRACT #4-Grasser's-Heating \$7,250.00-Motion to Approve Grasser's Heating Contract #4 made by Aldermen Hoy and Weidman. All Approved.

APPROVE CONTRACT #5-J.L Sloan-Electrical \$35,248.00-Motion to Approve J.L Sloan Electrical Contract #5 made by Aldermen Hoy and Dewey. Voting Yes-Weidman, Hoy, Schamberger, Stuckemeyer, Dewey. No-Shaw. Passed 5-1.

City Attorney Matt Keegan explained that the city will now have to have a special meeting to authorize Willett Hoffman to re-bid contract #1 and advertise for bids again for the city project. Special Meeting will be held on Monday August 25th at 4:00pm.

APPROVE STOP SIGN COMMERCIAL/MONROE STREET-Motion to Approve the Stop Sign made by Aldermen Weidman and Schamberger. All Approved.

APPROVE STOP SIGN JONES STREET/AMBOY FAMILY RESTAURANT-Motion to Approve the Stop Sign made by Aldermen Schamberger and Dewey. All Approved.

APPROVE CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT INVESTMENT OF AMBOY PARK BOARD TRUST FUNDS (5/3 Bank Certificate of Deposit in the amount of \$45,000.00; 5 year term; 2% annual interest)-Motion to Approve the Certificate of Deposit Investment made by Aldermen Schamberger and Dewey. All Approved.

DISCUSSION-AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 10-1-92. Ordinance Amending the Boundaries of the Lee County Enterprise Zone and Intergovernmental Agreement(Addition of 45 acres into the Enterprise Zone)-Attorney Matt Keegan explained that per John Thompson the Lee/Ogle Enterprise Zone will be adding 45 additional acres for a new business. The city is currently part of the intergovernmental agreement. Vote will be taken at the September Council Meeting.

Building Inspectors Report-See Report.
Animal Report- See Report.

ATTORNEY CONCERNS-Nothing.

COUNCIL CONCERNS-

Alderman Shaw-School is open so slow down and watch for children. Wishing everyone good luck on the raffle during Depot Days.

Alderman Weidman-Hope that it's a safe weekend for Depot Days.

Alderman Dewey-Have a fun Depot Days and enjoy the weekend.

Alderman Hoy-When I decided to run for alderman it was during a chamber dinner that the speech was the downtown is dead and get over it. The table was horrified at the comment and I decided that I must run for city council. I have seen people try so hard to make Amboy better however everyone works on their own and will not work together. When I was chamber president we had a get to know Amboy campaign and Shop Local ads. Since that idea I have had so many issues and negative comments regarding that business campaign. The council should be more involved with community events and local tourists as they bring a lot of revenue to our community. We have striped the streets as aldermen and worked together to make town better however the last year has been awful and a fight to make things right. By trying to do something good it comes back to haunt you and people saying not to use my business. My family has given everything to this community mind , body, soul and money and been treated so horrible that we finally decided to give up and move. Our children have been treated awful and we have people driving by our home harassing our family. During the frozen water incident the business

owner and the mayor were arguing and when I tried to calm the mayor down I was in turn struck by the mayor. How does that make me the problem of this town? I did run for mayor however I was not healthy at the time and Tom and I were friends before the election. I have asked the Mayor to resign every council meeting and wonder when the citizens will have enough. It hurts to have to give up and move because of the treatment to my husband and children and myself. When I was struck I asked each alderman to sit down and discuss the problem and nobody bothered to meet me. I want to thank Nancy Kelly wish you were still up here, Hank Gerdes almost always right and makes me laugh. Thanks to all of you that have been there for my family and effective tomorrow I resign as Ward 1 Alderman. My only regret is we didn't get all accomplished what we had planned and someone else will have to pick up the pieces.

Alderman Schamberger- Nothing.

Alderman Stuckemeyer-Nothing.

MAYOR CONCERNS-When this all started Deanne and I were close friends. She is the one that told me to run for mayor and when I did it all changed. However on several occasions I was there for their family. I once ran her son to a football game when he needed a ride. We invited them to a show in Chicago but then it all changed and nothing was right. I have never hit or struck a woman in my life. When the attorney called me I requested the State Police do the investigation. So we will let them do their investigation. Deanne I appreciate all your work on the city council and wish you luck. The Depot Museum work should be done tomorrow and cleaned up for the weekend. Good things are coming to town. The landfill tipping fees are increasing and some other good things are coming that can't be discussed yet.

With no further business to come before the council the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m. There were 22 people present in the audience.

Submitted by

Melissa Eisenberg, RMC
City Clerk-City of Amboy