

CITY OF AMBOY
COUNCIL MEETING
January 20, 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 December regular city council meeting were presented and approved after a motion was made and seconded by Aldermen Weidman 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 Hoy and Schamberger. 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 and seconded by Aldermen Hoy and Stuckemeyer. 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 more bookings for 2014.

DEPOT MUSEUM-Alderman Shaw reported that the members have put large thermometers in the windows and for everyone to keep an eye on them so the museum does not loose heat.

E.S.D.A- Alderman Dewey –No Report.

PARK-Alderman Schamberger-No Report.

LIBRARY-Alderman Weidman reported the board met for their meeting and has purchased 10 new computers for the library. This is all possible with donations from the Depot Days Car Show and memorial donations.

FINANCE COMMITTEE-Alderman Hoy reported the finance committee met and reviewed the lease /refinance, discussed comm. bldg. rental (Grace Fellowship Church),

reviewed garbage rates, discussed Dollar General, discuss water tower repairs and discussed the park trust.

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE- No Report.

POLICE COMMISSION- No Report.

MAINT. DEPT /STREETS-Alderman Schamberger reported the city crew is busy plowing snow and salting.

WATER/SEWER DEPT-Alderman Shaw wanted to thank the guys for fixing another water main break. Alderman Stuckemeyer reported that the water tower painting and repairs have been discussed. So far 6 water main breaks have been repaired and the guys do a wonderful job.

CONCERNS FROM THE AUDIENCE-Darlene Hinkle from ACO wanted to invite everyone to the blood drive on Jan. 28th. Everyone is welcome to give at the community building from 12-6pm. Diane Carbonari from ISV Realty is concerned that the downtown businesses are struggling and with the recent closing of the hardware store and others that are empty. Vivid Tan has been on the market for 2 years and is still looking for a buyer. She wanted to know if the council had any ideas on how to better the downtown and new business to draw downtown. Alderman Hoy explained that she and Dennis Weidman have been contacted from Dollar General, however not much information is available at this time. Diane is concerned with spring approaching that any new business wanting to come should come before summer. Mayor Nauman explained that he has no information on the hardware store and it may take a while before it sells. Alderman Hoy also has looked at many of the buildings downtown and also would like to see more stores open to draw people downtown and keep business and money in Amboy. Diane is also concerned that the grocery store is very empty and struggling to stay open. Sue Englund would like to thank the city guys for all their time snowplowing.

INTRODUCTION –JOHN SIMONTON-LEE COUNTY SHERIFF- John wanted to introduce himself to the members of the city council as he is running for Lee County Sheriff and the election will be held on March 18th. He will stay for the meeting and if anyone would like more information about the election he will be available after the meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS-

DICUSS VETERANS PARK PROPERTY DONATION-Mayor Nauman explained that the members do not have the paperwork ready for this process and would like it tabled until next month. Motion to table made by Aldermen Hoy and Stuckemeyer. All Approved.

NEW BUSINESS-

APPROVE ANNUAL GARBAGE RATE INCREASE .10 PER CONTRACT- The garbage rate increase for 2014 is .10 for a new rate of \$13.02. We still have one of the lower rates for garbage in the area. Motion to approve the new rate \$13.02 made by Aldermen Dewey and Weidman. All Approved.

DISCUSS LEASE REFINANCE –Mayor Nauman discussed that Bernardi Securities has contacted the city to refinance the lease and will be in contact with the city. He has given a rate quote of 2.50% or 3% for a new rate and possibility to also include the water tower repairs into the new loan. Hank Gerdes questioned what the opt out cost will be to the city. Mayor Nauman explained that this an early review of options and nothing more than for information at this time until the city knows more. Attorney Matt Keegan will review the current lease and fees. Also he will review items from Bernard Securities for the city. He advised the council that there will be additional costs for bond attorneys and Bernardi Securities fees. The council will be looking into additional information for the next meeting.

Building Inspectors Report-No Report.

Animal Report- See Report.

ATTORNEY CONCERNS-Nothing.

COUNCIL CONCERNS-

Alderman Stuckemeyer-The guys have done a tremendous job plowing snow.

Alderman Schamberger-Also great job to the city crew on clearing the streets in town.

Alderman Hoy-Would like to see the committees for the city be more informational and keep the council informed on what they are doing or plan on doing before they make the decisions. However this is how it has been done in the past but the council needs to be more in control of these committees. Everyone does a great job however all spending and decisions still need to be done with council approval.

Alderman Dewey-Really appreciates what the city crew does for the community when it snows. The streets look great and are in good condition.

Alderman Weidman-Nothing.

Alderman Shaw- Nothing.

MAYOR CONCERNS-We have received more paperwork for the grant for the maintenance shop and should have more information soon. Also Mike Richetta is here with information on the handrails. Per Mike contract deadline is Jan 27th however weather will be a factor and not sure if they will be installed in such cold weather. Alderman Schamberger questioned the steps if they need an extension and Mike explained they would ask Chamlin for the extension and the council would have to approve it. Mayor Nauman announced to be careful on the ice and try not to fall. The city is using more salt than normal to keep the streets safe.

With no further business to come before the council the meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.
There were 17 people present in the audience.

Submitted by

Melissa Eisenberg, RMC
City Clerk-City of Amboy