

CITY OF AMBOY
COUNCIL MEETING
July 15, 2013

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-Absent
Dave Shaw

MINUTE'S APPROVED-The minutes from the June regular city council meeting were presented and approved after a motion was made and seconded 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 Weidman 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 Dewey and Weidman. 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 new microphones have arrived and will be set up for the next council meeting. Building is still busy with rentals.

DEPOT MUSEUM-Alderman Shaw reported the meeting was held on July 1st due to a storm. The museum will be replacing 10 windows and getting things ready for Depot Days.

E.S.D.A- Alderman Dewey reported they are getting things lined up for Depot Days. Mayor Nauman explained that the sirens are getting checked and two have been fixed.

PARK-Alderman Schamberger reported the park board will be fixing some tables and the cement is ready to be started around the new building.

LIBRARY-Alderman Weidman reported the monthly meeting has been changed and will be held on July 16th.

FINANCE COMMITTEE-Alderman Hoy reported that the committee met and those items will be discussed also at the council meeting.

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE- No Report.

POLICE COMMISSION- No Report.

MAINT. DEPT /STREETS-Alderman Schamberger reported the city is looking into resurfacing a few alleys and the third manhole on Jones Street was completed. The concrete will be cut and asphalt completed.

WATER/SEWER DEPT-Alderman Shaw reported the Jones Street manhole project is being completed and should be ready for Depot Days.

CONCERNS FROM THE AUDIENCE- Henry Gerdes spoke on behalf of the Car Show requesting a need for volunteers to park cars. Anyone available please let him know. Also questioning why the concerns from the audience are now before the agenda items and not after. Attorney Matt Keegan explained that the public still has the right to comment it just is designed for any questions that are not on the agenda.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS-

DISCUSS VACATING ALLEYS-MILTON/APPLETON/GILSON- Bernie Kessel has not had the survey completed yet for his property or Teen Turf.

NEW BUSINESS-

REVIEW/DISCUSS DOWNTOWN SIDEWALK-AMBOY FAMILY

RESTAURANT/AMBOY NEWS- The wall under the Amboy Family Restaurant has been blocked and completed. If the city would start the first third of the project the city would know what the cost would be when all work is done. Alderman Shaw wanted to know how long the first part would take to get everything put back together. Attorney Matt Keegan questioned if the city had a contract with the laborer. Alderman Hoy questioned how the project could be done for less than \$20,000 when the bid was \$94,000. Mike Richetta from Chamlin explained that by going with a different handrail the cost decreased from the project and with city workers also removing the sidewalk that cost has also been removed from the original bid. A company from Libertyville that does railings could save \$10,000 from the bid paperwork. Another \$10,000 savings from traffic control and from filling the void with chips instead of concrete saves another \$18,000 on cement. The railing will have to be bid out for the project. Motion to Approve the downtown city sidewalk first third made by Aldermen Shaw and Schamberger. All Approved.

DISCUSS WATER BILLING POLICY- Alderman Hoy discussed the water billing policy and that a resident did not receive a billing. When asked about the billing if a homeowner had no usage or very low usage that was not billed. Per our ordinance each household should receive a bill for \$10.18 plus \$14.00 if water service is on. When reviewing the accounts some have not been billed and may be because of rental people

moving during the month. When the \$14.00 was started in 2012 the city has lost around \$8,000 from non-billing. Our water department needs every bit of income that should be charged for water bills. Could each Alderman please explain how they will fix this issue? Alderman Schamberger agrees that if you have water service you should pay for the service. However if you have an empty property then you need to pay to have your water service disconnected. Alderman Dewey also agrees the city should follow the ordinance and bill each house with water turned on but does not agree on going back on homeowners that were not charged. Alderman Weidman explained that there were some practices done that did not match our ordinance. This probably started by being fair to people that were not using water. However the ordinance is clear and the \$14.00 has changed this way of need to pay the water lease. But I do not feel that it's fair to charge people when our practice was to not bill those people. Alderman Shaw is not in favor of going back to rebill those not billed. But now people need to be aware they will be charged monthly for water service even if not used. Nancy Kelly feels that people should be charged since everyone else is paying for the water lease. Henry Gerdes stated that each household should be billed for charges not billed. Attorney Matt Keegan explained the city ordinance is to bill each house with service for a minimum water rate and the debt service fee. The minimum billing can be started immediately for any home currently with water service turned on. Continued next meeting.

APPROVE 2013 APPROPRIATIONS-Auditor George Roach has updated the appropriations for 2013-2014 per what the city spent last fiscal year per the trial balance. This will be filed after approval at the Lee County Courthouse. Motion to Approve the 2013-2014 Appropriations Ordinance made by Aldermen Weidman and Hoy. All Approved.

APPROVE AMBOY FAMILY RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE- Steve Selmani has applied for a liquor license for beer and wine only on premises. Motion to approve the license made by Aldermen Hoy and Weidman. All Approved.

APPROVE MFT RESOLUTION FOR 2013 MFT BIDS FOR LOCUST/MONROE STREETS- Mike Richetta from Chamlin explained the paperwork for the MFT funds to be spent for 2013. The city is passing the resolution to take bids for Locust/Monroe Streets and two alleys for IDOT approval. Motion to Approve MFT Resolution made by Aldermen Hoy and Weidman. All Approved.

APPROVE MFT RESOLUTION FOR FUNDING FROM GENERAL FUND- Motion to Approve the MFT Resolution for funding made by Aldermen Weidman and Schamberger. All Approved.

APPROVE ORDINANCE REGARDING MEETING PROCEDURES- AMBOY CITY CODE, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE II, SECTION 2-72- Attorney Matt Keegan explained when moving the audience concerns to the top changes the ordinance procedures and needs to be filed as a change in the ordinance book. Alderman Hoy was concerned if the audience concerns were moved from the bottom then citizens would be unable to speak on meeting concerns. Attorney Matt Keegan explained that a citizen can speak during the

meeting and this just covers items not on the agenda. Motion to Approve the Ordinance of Meeting Procedures made by Aldermen Weidman and Dewey. All Approved.

Building Inspectors Report-See Report.

Animal Report- See Report.

ATTORNEY CONCERNS-

COUNCIL CONCERNS-

Alderman Schamberger-Thank you to Deanne Hoy for the great firework show downtown.

Alderman Hoy-Thank you to the firework committee and the Amboy Business owners that donate to make the show possible and to Noble Pyro for the great fireworks. Without Steve Noble Amboy would not be able to afford a great show. Also questioning on how far back the aldermen would like to go to recoup the water billing.

Alderman Dewey- Nothing.

Alderman Weidman- Nothing.

Alderman Shaw- Nothing.

MAYOR CONCERNS- Big Thanks to the fireworks committee for the great fireworks show. There was a huge crowd downtown for the night. Depot Days is coming up with lots of volunteers and entertainment. The box culvert on Short Street will be installed this month. The sidewalks downtown will be removed and the American Automotive building has been demolished.

With no further business to come before the council the meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m. There were 14 people present in the audience.

Submitted by

Melissa Eisenberg, RMC
City Clerk-City of Amboy