

CITY OF AMBOY
COUNCIL MEETING
June 15, 2015

Mayor Tom 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: Brett Dewey

Eric McLaughlin

WARD 2: John Schamberger

Dennis Weidman-Absent

WARD 3: Daryl Stuckemeyer

Dave Shaw

MINUTE'S APPROVED-The minutes from the May regular city council meeting were presented. Motion to approve the minutes by Aldermen Schamberger 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 Dewey 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 Stuckemeyer and Schamberger. 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 McLaughlin reported the new carpet is installed.

DEPOT MUSEUM-Alderman Shaw reported the depot wants to redo the ticket booth before Depot Days.

E.S.D.A-Alderman Dewey reported the ESDA has been busy with summer storms and keeping the sirens checked and ready to go. They would still like more volunteers for the group also.

PARK-Alderman Schamberger reported the statues are progressing well and the mowing season has been busy but is going well with the new equipment.

LIBRARY-Alderman Weidman –No Report.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING-Alderman Dewey reported the roof tiles at the library have been replaced and the city is getting the Rockyford property surveyed for final paperwork with Bill Shaw.

POLICE COMMISSION-Nothing.

MAINT/STREET DEPT-Alderman Schamberger reported the maintenance department is busy with summer projects and the new building project. Chamlin & Associates will hold a bid opening on June 29th at 10:00am for the Provost Street project at city hall.

WATER/SEWER DEPT-Alderman Stuckemeyer reported the new tower paint/repairs will begin soon.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE-No Report.

CONCERNS FROM THE AUDIENCE-Nothing.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

DISCUSS/APPROVE OFFICE BUILDING PLANS FOR NEW MAINTENANCE OFFICE BUILDING (202 W. Main Street)-Alderman Stuckemeyer explained that it has been slow going due to the weather.

NEW BUSINESS

UPDATE/DISCUSS DEPOT MUSEUM LEDGE REPAIRS- Mayor Nauman has been in contact with Jim from Chamlin & Associates regarding the problems with the ledge. After reviewing the previous work on the museum there was an acid wash done that may have not been cleaned properly and could be causing the cement to decay on the building. Chamlin will prepare a suggested plan of repair for the council to review.

DISCUSS THE TAX LEVY RELATED TO THE WATER/SEWER BOND-Attorney Matt Keegan explained that when the city did the bond for the water plant financing that bond was for an alternate revenue source and it is furthered secured by the taxes for real estate. An abatement can be done if the city has sufficient revenues and does not require revenue from the county real estate taxes. Due to an oversight the abatement paperwork did not get approved and the county levied the taxes. It was never the city's intention to levy the property taxes and the city has enough funds to cover the bond payments from the water/sewer account and this was an oversight. The city resident's tax rate has increased due to this at a rate of .74 percent. The city discovered this once the tax bills were mailed and has been in discussion with bond council. We are working with Ice Miller, Bernardi Securities and the county to find a plan to refund the overage to all tax paying residents. In discussion with the county we are trying to find the best remedy to refund the residents. The city will deposit the overage of taxes into a separate fund and then distribute the appropriate tax overage to each taxpayer. However the taxes must be paid first and then the county will supply the city with a listing for reimbursements after the taxes have been paid. This will take some time and patience but it will get fixed and everyone will get their refund. Alderman Dewey asked when the abatement should be filed each year. Attorney Matt Keegan advised that the city should pass the abatement each year in December along with the levy. This will be a process and it will take time so the city can get everyone paid as soon as possible.

DISCUSS/APPROVE BILL SHAW PROPERTY (ROCKYFORD PUMP STATION)- Mayor Nauman explained that the pump station is on Bill Shaw's property and he has requested to donate that property to the city. The city is getting a survey and the paperwork done for this property transfer.

DISCUSS PAYMENT LEE COUNTY ENTERPRISE ZONE-Mayor Nauman discussed the Sensient Technologies expansion and thanked John Thompson for his assistance and getting the tax abatements for this project. He would like the city to send a payment for the LCIDA dues to this committee. The LCIDA is a group that works on bringing business and jobs to Lee County along with tax abatements for new business in the area. More discussion next month.

DISCUSS/APPROVE BRIAN SCHEMMEL \$2,000.00 FOR CITY WOODCARVINGS- Brian Schemmel has been working on the carvings at the city park and to continue the city needs to approve another payment for his work to keep going. Motion to Approve \$2,000.00 for Brian Schemmel made by Aldermen Schamberger and Stuckemeyer. All Approved.

APPROVE THE RESIGNATION OF DEANNE HOY FROM THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE-Motion to Approve made by Aldermen Schamberger and Stuckemeyer. All Approved.

APPROVE THE CLERK TO ADVERTISE FOR POLICE CHIEF/POLICE OFFICER APPLICATIONS- Mayor Nauman advised that police chief Paul Smith will be retiring on Aug 30, 2015. Alderman Shaw questioned how many officers will be working and how many will be open spots. Motion to Approve the Clerk to Advertised for Police Chief/Police Officer position made by Aldermen Stuckemeyer and Schamberger. All Approved.

APPROVE THE CLERK TO ADVERTISE FOR THE WATER/SEWER DEPT-Mayor Nauman explained that Gary Dimmig is retiring and the city will need to take applications to fill his position. Motion to Advertise for Water/Sewer Dept. made by Aldermen Schamberger and Stuckemeyer. All Approved.

DISCUSS/APPROVE RENTAL SPACE-Alderman Dewey explained that ESDA has equipment that needs to be stored in a dry place. The rental space would be around \$55.00 per month. Attorney Matt Keegan advised the city to get a written lease before approval.

Building Inspector- Issued a new home permit and is still working on abandoned properties.

Animal Report-No Report.

ATTORNEY CONCERNS-Nothing.

COUNCIL CONCERNS-

Alderman Shaw-School is out and watch for the kids playing.

Alderman Dewey-Nothing.

Alderman McLaughlin-Nothing.

Alderman Schamberger-Nothing.

Alderman Stuckemeyer-Attended the Sensient ground breaking ceremony and it will be a huge asset for the city with many job opportunities. This is a big thing for Amboy and we are lucky to have them expanding here in our town.

MAYOR CONCERNS-Thanks to Bernardi Securities for attending the meeting and working thru this tax error it will get figured out and everyone will get their refunds due to them.

With no further business to come before the council the meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.
There were 18 people present in the audience.

Submitted by

Melissa Eisenberg, RMC
City Clerk-City of Amboy