

CITY OF AMBOY
COUNCIL MEETING
October 21, 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 September 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 Hoy. 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 Schamberger 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 a few fall weddings are coming up for the building.

DEPOT MUSEUM-Alderman Shaw reported that Duralast has checked the roof and all looks good however the caps are now deteriorating and are in need of repairs. The Depot will seek out someone to make the repairs.

E.S.D.A- Alderman Dewey reported the El Vista siren is repaired and working now. ESDA will be in charge of the Halloween Parade on October 27th at 3pm.

PARK-Alderman Schamberger – The park board has gotten some bids regarding shelter roof repairs and the park will be closing for the winter on November 1st.

LIBRARY-Alderman Weidman reported the board met on Oct 8th and the library will be hosting treats and activities on October 31st from 5:30 -7:00pm.

FINANCE COMMITTEE-Alderman Hoy reported that the finance committee met and will discuss items in new business tonight.

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE- No Report.

POLICE COMMISSION- No Report.

MAINT. DEPT /STREETS-Alderman Schamberger has received many good comments regarding the new asphalt streets.

WATER/SEWER DEPT-Alderman Shaw would like to thank the maintenance and water dept. crews that repaired the broken water main on Gilson.

CONCERNS FROM THE AUDIENCE- Hank Gerdes spoke on behalf of the Car Show Committee. This year the car show gave donations to many groups totaling \$27,750.00. The Park Batting Cage \$2,500, Baptist Church Food Pantry \$1500, St. Pats Food Panty \$1500, Amboy Depot Museum \$12,000, Halloween Parade \$250, Library \$1,000, Jr. High School Baseball Diamond \$2,000, Fireworks Committee \$1,000, AYSO Soccer \$2,000, Teen Turf \$1,000, Amboy Fire Dept. \$500, Sublette Fire Dept. \$500, Harmon Fire Dept. \$1000, Area Smoke House \$500, Prairie Repose Cemetery \$500. The committee is looking forward to the next few years and the big 25th celebration.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS-

DISCUSS WATER BILLING POLICY-Alderman Hoy has discussed her concerns of the unbilled meters during the finance committee meetings. However the Aldermen feel that the city should not be retroactive on billings. She would like everyone to know the amounts that have not been billed to the citizens. It is not fair to the others in the community that have paid the extra \$14.00 since the ordinance was passed. Alderman Hoy would like the council to approve the clerk to generate unbilled meters from January 2012 until July 2013 for the homes not billed the \$14.00 increase. Alderman Schamberger is against billing the customers that were not billed. Alderman Hoy questioned the aldermen if they felt it was fair for everyone to have to pay longer than originally discussed. Alderman Hoy wants to know if she should continue reviewing water accounts unbilled during 2012 -2013. Motion to bill all missed water meters from Jan 2012 until July 2013 made by Alderman Hoy. No second motion was made.

APPROVE THE ORDINANCE VACATING GILSON STREET FOR TEEN TURF- Teen Turf requested Gilson Street to be vacated so a garage can be placed on the vacated street. Attorney Matt Keegan explained the ordinance he prepared and a purchase price needs to be decided by the council before the vote is taken. All members must be in favor voting yes and Teen Turf must file the paperwork with the county for it to be recorded. Alderman Hoy questioned if an appraisal was needed for the purchase amount. Attorney Matt Keegan explained since the street is being vacated the city council sets that price compared to selling a lot or property then that must be sold per appraisal price. Since Alderman Stuckemeyer is absent Mayor Nauman must also vote. Mayor Nauman asked the Aldermen to discuss a purchase price for the ordinance approval. Alderman Dewey

explained that by looking at the property it is pretty much just a ditch and not much use to anyone. Mayor Nauman explained that the survey cost Teen Turf \$800.00. Pete Rood explained the Gilson street vacation is needed to set the garage according to the right away guidelines. Alderman Schamberger explained that the survey cost and filing charges will exceed the cost of the property. Alderman Hoy just wants to make sure that we are not creating problems for the future when property is vacated within the city. Alderman Shaw feels that \$200.00 is a fair cost to sell the property. Alderman Weidman also agrees that price is reasonable due to where the property is located. Alderman Dewey also approves selling the property for that price since it is of no use to the city. Motion to Approve the Ordinance Vacating Gilson Street for \$200.00 to Teen Turf made by Aldermen Schamberger and Dewey. All Approved. Carried 6-0.

DISCUSS/APPROVE SIDEWALK HAND RAILING CONTRACT TERMINATION- Mike Richetta from Chamlin and Associates explained Jensen Rail is still 10 days out until the railings are ready. Jensen Rail has already failed to meet the current contract and is in default. Mayor Nauman knows he has already promised three different dates and is still not ready. Does the city council want to wait or re-bid the project? Alderman Hoy would like the project rebid for the whole project instead of pieces. At the finance meeting Alderman Weidman and Hoy wanted to do the whole project at that time. Mayor Nauman explained that Jensen Rail was cheaper at the time and not many bids were received. Alderman Dewey asked if the whole project was rebid would there be more interested in bidding the project? Mike Richetta is also frustrated with the process and would like to see more interested in getting the work for the city. Alderman Schamberger asked what time frame would be for the bidding process and installation. Mike Richetta answered that it could be up to 6 weeks before any railing were installed by the new bidder. The first phase of railing by the Amboy News bid proposal from Jensen Rail was \$2,358.00 and the other part by the restaurant bid proposal of railing is \$9,900.00. Alderman Weidman thinks the whole project needs to be rebid since the contractor has not made the date of installation. Attorney Matt Keegan wanted to know what the contract had for specifications on failure to perform work. Mike Richetta read the agreement to the attorney. Motion to rebid the whole sidewalk project made by Aldermen Weidman and Hoy. Voting Yes-Dewey, Weidman, Shaw, Hoy. No-Schamberger. Passed 4-1. Mike Richetta explained the new contract will include penalties but the contract bid may increase. A new bid package will be put together for the project.

NEW BUSINESS-

APPROVE 2012-2013 AUDIT-GEORGE ROACH- George Roach has finished the 2012-2013 Audit and reviewed some of the changes for the year. The park trust fiduciary funds have changed for the trust. The income that is produced from interest is used to pay for repairs and porta pots for the park. Since rates have been low the trust is not producing as much revenue for park expenses. The next item is the general fund has increased revenue since last audit because the royalties are now used for improvements instead of payments. The operational income of the water/sewer fund has also increased due to billings and fees on the water billing. Capital improvements are done on the system and the water/sewer fund is much healthier and sustaining itself and costs. The State is making more payments and getting caught up which shows more revenue from

these payments. The community building again is in the negative for the cost of running the building and the revenues collected from rentals and bar income still are short compared to expenses. City accounts are gaining and are stabilizing their cash flow to help sustain the accounts used to run city expenses and improvements. The IEPA loan for the sewer ponds still has several years until it is paid. The current financial structure is now carrying the water and sewer expenses very well. George will prepare the reports for the state filing. Motion to approve the 2012-2013 Audit made by Aldermen Hoy and Weidman. All Approved.

DISCUSS THE COMMUNITY BUILDING RENTAL FOR THE BASEBALL

DRAWDOWN- Mayor Nauman explained that the baseball program is going to hold a drawdown for new dugouts at the Jr. High field. They will be hosting a drawdown on Feb 1st and are asking the city council members to waive the rental fee for the drawdown. Alderman Shaw thought if we do this for the baseball program then we have to do it for all groups that rent the building. Alderman Schamberger asked if they needed to provide insurance with the building rental. Alderman Hoy is not against helping the programs but the city must treat everyone the same and also the city needs the revenue for the building. Mayor Nauman asked for a motion to waive the rental fee. No motion was made.

UPDATE ON WATER TOWER REPAIRS-WILLETT & HOFFMAN-Matt Hansen from Willett and Hoffman reviewed a recent inspection by Liquid Engineering. The tower was built in 1991 and is in good shape structurally it's mainly corrosion that has become a problem where the tower is not filled above the water line. There are some rusting areas on the exterior that need repainted. The interior part of the bowl area that is wet needs completely sandblasted and painted. Then the interior dry area and exterior parts would be ground out and repainted. The total cost for repairs is estimated at \$174,000.00 this would include all painting cost, temporary pressure tank for cycling of pumps and also disinfecting the tank before filled. Total project cost with engineering is \$211,000.00. The project could be funded with an IEPA loan or grant opportunity. However a grant may be too late to have paperwork completed for the process. The project start date would be in 2015 and the IEPA loan paperwork and bidding process would be the earliest the project could be started.

Building Inspectors Report-See Report.

Animal Report- See Report.

ATTORNEY CONCERNS-Nothing.

COUNCIL CONCERNS-

Alderman Shaw-Nothing.

Alderman Weidman- Thank you to the Car Show committee for the library donation so the computers can be updated for public use.

Alderman Dewey-Thank you to the Car Show for everything they do for the community.

Alderman Hoy- Thanks to the Car Show donation for the fireworks in 2014. Also here we are trying to fund a project for the water tower and how are we going to pay for these repairs when we have unbilled accounts.

Alderman Schamberger-Thank you to Teen Turf for attending the city council meeting and what a large event the car show committee has created and how they raise that much money and help everyone in the community.

MAYOR CONCERNS-Free yard waste pickup on Thursday Oct 24th. The MFT blacktopping is finished and was a huge improvement to the city streets and alleys. However since the closing of Ag View the city will see a decrease in MFT funds that are used for those projects. Even with Casey's and Shell still operating the city will see the funds decrease since we have one less station with diesel fuel. The railings downtown are a huge disappointment and hopefully we can get a vendor to bid and finish the project. The American Legion would like the city to take over Veterans Park. This would take care of the taxes and give opportunity for a building to be built. Trick or Treating will be on Oct 27th from 4-6pm.

With no further business to come before the council the meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m. There were 25 people present in the audience.

Submitted by

Melissa Eisenberg, RMC
City Clerk-City of Amboy