

CITY OF AMBOY  
COUNCIL MEETING  
September 16, 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-Absent

Dennis Weidman

WARD 3: Daryl Stuckemeyer

Dave Shaw

MINUTE'S APPROVED-The minutes from the August regular city council meeting were presented and approved after a motion was made and seconded by Aldermen Dewey and Weidman. 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 Weidman. 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 Weidman 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 the building is busy and looking into reducing the amount of alcohol kept in stock before winter.

DEPOT MUSEUM-Alderman Shaw reported the next meeting will be held on September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

E.S.D.A- Alderman Dewey reported that everything went well during Depot Days. They are having First Aid and CPR training and have a final agreement with the fire dept. if nobody is available. The El Vista siren is still not working but the parts are ordered.

PARK-Alderman Schamberger - (Email) Mayor Nauman read the report stating that some of the picnic tables have been returned since the last meeting. The Miller Shelter may be changed by request and name change would be Miller/Morgan Shelter.

LIBRARY-Alderman Weidman reported the board met on August 10<sup>th</sup>.

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 (email) Thank you to Dean & Mandy Powers for reporting the street light out in their subdivision. Also the MFT Streets will be paved within the next few weeks.

WATER/SEWER DEPT-Alderman Stuckemeyer reported he met with Bill Shaw, Dale Simpson, Al Stenzel and Carriage House regarding the space for the generator. Also a new water main on Hawley will be discussed under new business.

CONCERNS FROM THE AUDIENCE- Darlene Hinkle spoke in regards to the water billing and when she was in office. The city took over the water billing in 1991 and began billing homes within the city. At the time there were several empty homes and homes with meters not working. Every month readings and meters were fixed to correct the problem however most of the infrastructure was old so if someone was leaving for the winter the city allowed the resident to turn off water inside their homes and did not have to pay to have their water shutoff or services. They also were not billed during this time. Different circumstances were allowed as empty homes, nursing home absences, foreclosure, sprinkler systems and snowbirds. If you are outraged because of the \$14.00 not being charged what about the million gallon tank that was built that we are paying for. The engineering firm from that time is no longer our engineering firm and they wanted our money when we were not allowed time to apply for a grant. I apologize for not following the ordinance for the way it was written and thank you for hearing my side of the story. Hank Gerdes spoke in regards to the billing and the meters that have not been billed. Each of us that have paid our bills we have paid \$248.00 since 2012. If Deanne Hoy had not have seen the problem it would still be going on and thank you to here for all her hard work. Downtown the engineering on the sidewalk is a nightmare. If you go to Franklin Grove they did a nice job fixing theirs and less money. Because Deanne has brought up this issue on the hiring of Mr. Koch and has gotten only grief and lost business over her concerns for the city. Randy Singleton would like everyone to bring someone to the meeting that may have more suggestions for the city.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS-**

DISCUSS WATER BILLING POLICY-Alderman Hoy is still working on the bills. By the ordinance the city clerk had no right to not bill homeowners. Going thru the water bills there are some homes that have only paid it twice since 2012. The Thrift Store did not get billed for three months and those have been paid. There is no way we can go back to 2005 however if billing is done correctly there would have been more revenue in the system. I would like the council to go back to 2012 and bill those not billed for the debt service fees.

**NEW BUSINESS-**

**APPROVE ORDINANCE SELLING 2006 EXPEDITION** –Alderman Stuckemeyer explained that he and Alderman Hoy have discussed a purchase price of \$4000-\$5000 based on books values and miles on the vehicle. During the finance meeting it was discussed to sell the vehicle to Ashton Police Dept. because of their need for another police vehicle. Motion to Approve the Ordinance Authorizing the Sale of Police Expedition made by Aldermen Hoy and Stuckemeyer. All Approved.

**APPROVE THE ORDINANCE ZONING REQUEST FOR SEIER FROM R-1 TO C-2-** The Plan Commission met and has a recommendation to approve the zoning from R-1 to C-2. Motion to Approve the Ordinance made by Aldermen Weidman and Hoy. All Approved.

**APPROVE MAINT. CODE OF APPEALS BOARD-** The building inspector requires an appeals board that meets when someone in town asks for an appeal per the Property Maint. Code guidelines. The appeals board members will be Bill Burke, Dan Long and Daryl Stuckemeyer. Motion to Approve the Appeals Board Members made by Aldermen Hoy and Weidman. All Approved. (Stuckemeyer Abstained.)

**APPROVE RESOLUTION HIRING JOHN PIERCE FOR PART-TIME CROSSING GUARD-**Motion to Approve made by Aldermen Dewey and Stuckemeyer. All Approved.

**APPROVE RESOLUTION HIRING JULIE DEARMITT FOR PART-TIME COMMUNITY BUILDING MANAGER.-**Motion to Approve made by Aldermen Hoy and Dewey. All Approved.

**APPROVE BIDS FOR TREE REMOVAL-BRADS TREE SERVICE-** Listing of trees to be removed as follows N. Metcalf, East Ave, Prospect, Washington, and Stumps at City Park. Do it Best bid \$ 2,300.00, Brads Tree Service \$2,125.00. Motion to Approve Brads Tree Service Bid for \$2,125.00 made by Aldermen Weidman and Stuckemeyer. All Approved.

**APPROVE HAWLEY STREET WATER MAIN-** Alderman Stuckemeyer explained that there are 5 homes on W. Hawley that all currently have wells. Within the last 2 years one well went bad and the city hooked a line up for them. Now another home that is a foreclosure is now needing city water services and considering there are three more homes that will probably need city water in the future. The city can either push a line in the ground which would cost \$2,520.00. If the city starts from East Avenue that line will cost \$3,150.00. Front footage fees would only be \$918.00. If the city would put in a water main for all homes the cost would be \$5,432.00 and the city crew would install the water pipe. Basically the EPA will give their permit and the line would be installed before winter. The other way would only be a temporary fix and waste of city money. The home cannot be sold until it has city water as it will not pass inspection. Motion to Approve Hawley Water Main 6 inch Line Installation (\$5,432.00) made by Aldermen Stuckemeyer and Shaw. All Approved.

Building Inspectors Report-See Report. Eric McLaughlin sent out letters to residents regarding violations on their property.

Animal Report- See Report.

ATTORNEY CONCERNS-Nothing.

COUNCIL CONCERNS-

Alderman Stuckemeyer-Nothing.

Alderman Hoy-Nothing.

Alderman Dewey-Nothing.

Alderman Weidman- Thank you to everyone on the community effort for Depot Days it was another great year.

Alderman Shaw-Thank you for all the volunteers and Car Show committee on Depot Days. Also Casey's is almost ready to open and watch out for more traffic.

Alderman Schamberger (email)-October 13<sup>th</sup> there will be a Free Pancake breakfast at the Community Building from 8am-12pm. Sponsored by John Schamberger(Alderman), Wes Morrissey (Lee County Board), Casey Considine(Lee County Board), and Dennis McCoy (Township Supervisor).

MAYOR CONCERNS-Depot Days was a great success with lots of people and a huge raffle. George Roach has begun the city audit. The MFT Blacktopping will be done in the next few weeks. The Hawley/Mason sidewalk ramps will need redone per IDOT. The city maintenance department is busy getting ditches cleaned and stuff ready for winter.

With no further business to come before the council the meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m. There were 21 people present in the audience.

Submitted by

Melissa Eisenberg, RMC  
City Clerk-City of Amboy