

CITY OF AMBOY  
COUNCIL MEETING  
Sept 21, 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

WARD 3: Daryl Stuckemeyer

Dave Shaw

MINUTE'S APPROVED-The minutes from the August regular city council meeting were presented. Motion to approve the minutes by Aldermen Weidman and Stuckemeyer. 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 Schamberger. Carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS APPROVED- A list of outstanding bills, involving city accounts as prepared by the city clerk's office was submitted. Additional bills for Universal Asphalt \$100, 563.00 for MFT Provost Project. Making a motion to approve the bills as presented was made by Aldermen Stuckemeyer 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 McLaughlin reported the roof has been painted.

DEPOT MUSEUM-Alderman Shaw reported that Depot Days was a huge success. A big thank you to all the volunteers that helped all weekend with the museum and the event.

E.S.D.A-Alderman Dewey reported ESDA is still looking for new members.

PARK-Alderman Schamberger thanked the park board and many volunteers that keep the city park looking good all summer and for their many hours of dedication.

LIBRARY-Alderman Weidman reported the library board met on Sept 8<sup>th</sup> and is looking for a new board member.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING-Alderman Dewey reported the aldermen met to discuss the roof on the community building, personnel needs and the budget.

POLICE COMMISSION-Alderman Stuckemeyer-No Report.

MAINT/STREET DEPT-Alderman Schamberger reported one of the city dump trucks needs some bodywork done and he will get some bids before the next meeting.

WATER/SEWER DEPT-Alderman Stuckemeyer reported that himself, Dale Simpson and Al Stenzel are reviewing water/sewer applications and will be doing interviews.

CONCERNS FROM THE AUDIENCE-Randy Singleton questioned the Ash trees and the treatment bid from True Green. He had heard from others that the treatment doesn't work and it could be a waste of money. Jeff Blake has been a cop for years in Amboy and he deserves to be the police chief. Hank Gerdes gave the report on Depot Days with 817 cars being registered for the car show. The 50/50 gave away \$149,333.00 and we will have to find more room for setup in 2016. Now the police department situation and the ordinance created for a police chief that would not live within the city limits is craziness as a situation happened last week and Officer Blake responded off duty and the individual would only speak with Officer Blake. That would not have been the case with a new chief not residing within the city limits. He is a great asset to our community and he deserves to be the next chief of police. Frank Mekeel was in favor of East Main getting new blacktop and hopes the council will approve that project. Also two new homes are being built and probably should have had variances because they are too close to the property lines and the city needs to be aware that the building inspector is not following the code book. Also hopes the city council hires the new chief from within the current police department staff. Dan Koch wanted to give his support for Officer Jeff Blake. He is a leader in the community and a huge supporter and asset to the city. What message are you sending to the other employees and departments within the city if the city council is not willing to give their own personnel a chance at the promotion. Karen Bodmer was appalled that the city council would not give a local police officer a chance at being police chief. He has many years of dedication to Amboy and deserves the promotion. Mike Koppien was upset that officer Blake was not given a fair chance to prove himself for the position. He is a good cop and he should be the next chief.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

DISCUSS/APPROVE OFFICE BUILDING PLANS FOR NEW MAINTENANCE OFFICE BUILDING (202 W. Main Street)-Alderman Stuckemeyer reported the site is ready for the building to be started and the supply list will be approved.

DISCUSS/APPROVE BILL SHAW PROPERTY AGREEMENT-Attorney Matt Keegan has been in contact with Mr. Shaw's attorney and he is seeking an appraisal for his property before the paperwork is signed with the city.

DISCUSS/APPROVE CITY ASH TREE PROGRAM-TrueGreen stopped by city hall and has given the city an estimate for the treatment of the ash trees in Amboy. All trees have been marked and it's up to the city council to decide if they want to spend the money. Aldermen Dewey thought spring was a better time to treat the trees versus fall.

Motion to Table the Ash Tree Program made by Aldermen Schamberger and Dewey. All Approved.

DISCUSS/APPROVE NEW OFFICE BUILDING SUPPLY LIST-Alderman Stuckemeyer has created three bids for the building. The first bid is from R.P Lumber for \$7,309.00, Jones & Berry Lumber bid \$6,850.00 and Menards \$5,498.00. Motion to Approve the Bid from Jones & Berry for supplies made by Aldermen Weidman and Schamberger. Voting Yes-Dewey, McLaughlin, Schamberger, Stuckemeyer and Weidman. Abstain-Shaw. Motion Approved.

DISCUSS/APPROVE STREET BIDS CHAMLIN & ASSOCIATES WASHINGTON/EAST MAIN STREET- Mike Richetta from Chamlin & Associates reviewed the bids from the bid opening. The bids were a combination of asphalt mixtures provided by the engineers for each road surface. The low bid for the asphalt was \$108,903.54 from Civil Constructors. Alderman Stuckemeyer was concerned that the curb will be covered by asphalt and the rain will have no place to flow. Alderman Weidman wanted to make sure that this is the right decision. Mike Richetta backed the proposal and it is the right choice and will improve East Main Street. Motion to Approve Civil Constructors Bid for \$108,903.54 made by Alderman Weidman and Stuckemeyer. Voting Yes-McLaughlin, Schamberger, Stuckemeyer, Shaw and Weidman. No-Dewey. Motion Passed 5-1.

APPROVE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLYING FOR COMMUNITY FACILITY GRANT FOR PURCHASE OF POLICE SQUAD CARS-The city is seeking a USDA grant from the state for two new police vehicles. Per the state they have looked at the city funds and said the city has funding for the vehicles. This resolution states that those funds are budgeted for projects and expenses and not for police cars. Motion to Approve Resolution Authorizing Applying for Community Facility Grant for Purchase of Police Squad Cars made by Alderman Dewey and Stuckemeyer. All Approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION C1-APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES- Motion to Adjourn to Closed Session to Discuss C1- Appointment, Employment, Compensation of Employee made by Aldermen Weidman and Stuckemeyer. All Approved (7:58) pm. At 9:13 Motion to reconvene made by Aldermen Stuckemeyer and Schamberger. Answering present were Aldermen Shaw, Weidman, Dewey, McLaughlin, Schamberger and Stuckemeyer.

APPROVE HIRING OF POLICE SUPERINTENDENT-Mayor Nauman made a motion to appoint Jeffrey Blake Police Superintendent. Motion to Appoint Jeffrey Blake as Police Superintendent made by Aldermen Schamberger and Dewey. All Approved.

DISCUSS/APPROVE ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 42 (Appointment, powers, duties of Police Superintendent) Attorney Matt Keegan reviewed the ordinance and information. Aldermen Dewey suggested a ten mile radius for all police personnel. Mayor Nauman asked for a motion to accept the ordinance. Motion to

Approve Ordinance Amending City Code Chapter 42 made by Aldermen Weidman and Stuckemeyer. All Approved.

Building Inspector-Sensient is setting the panels for the walls on their expansion.

Animal Report-See Report.

ATTORNEY CONCERNS-Nothing.

COUNCIL CONCERNS-

Alderman Shaw-Nothing. .

Alderman Weidman-Enjoys hearing all the discussion and excitement during Depot Days. We have a great festival and lots of great volunteers.

Alderman Dewey-Nothing.

Alderman McLaughlin-Nothing.

Alderman Schamberger-On behalf of the Schamberger family thank you to everyone that sent cards, brought food, called and supported the family.

Alderman Stuckemeyer-The city has spoken with Sullivan's however it is a long process and nothing has been decided yet.

MAYOR CONCERNS-Thank you to Hank and all the volunteers to make Depot Days and the Car show a huge success. Congratulations to Jeff Blake as our new Police Chief and looking forward to him running the department. There has been some interest in several buildings in town so hopefully we can get some new business to open in town.

Submitted by

Melissa Eisenberg, RMC  
City Clerk-City of Amboy