

Mt. Pulaski City Council Meeting
City Hall
Tuesday, January 9, 2024
6:30 P.M.

The City Council Meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M., Mayor Bobell presided. Roll call was taken. Those present: John Aylesworth, Joe Butler, Brad Davis, Randy Hagenbuch, and Sean McCormick. Absent was Kate Davis. Also, present were Chief, Tony West, Matt Presswood, and Dee Howard

Mayor Bobell then led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recognition of Guests: Sandy Bobell, Jay Byrne, Tracy Pulliam, Amanda Scattergood, John Stewart, Sarah Thompson, Aaron Wilham, Erin Wyss, and Rick Volle

Approval of Consent Agenda: Motion by Randy Hagenbuch, second by Sean McCormick, to approve the Consent Agenda Items: Claims and Accounts. Roll call vote. Answering aye: John Aylesworth, Joe Butler, Brad Davis, Randy Hagenbuch, and Sean McCormick. No nay. Motion carried.

Public Comments: None

Reports by Officers

- **Police Chief Tony West:** Officer West reported there have been a few accidents, but nothing big. There has been a dog running around the past few months. The owner does not want it contained. Noah Riedle has started at the academy and will be finished the end of April. The Impala bids will be opened at the next meeting. Brad asked if Noah will be signing a contract. Jordan stated he will help Mayor Bobell get one typed up. It will be a two-year contract. The cost of the full-time academy is \$7,500.

- **Director of Public Works:** Matt reported they got the leaf vacuum back and $\frac{3}{4}$ way through the town it broke down again. The property of 104 S. Washington is ready for demolition. Bidding will be put out soon.

- **Treasurers Report:** Dee gave the treasurers report.

New Business: Anayh Herrera Hernandez, owner of the Mt. Pulaski Café, is asking for a Class A Liquor License. Mayor Bobell explained that right now there are no licenses available so the council would have to amend the ordinance for another one. Anay brought a translator with her. She is trying everything to keep the café open and feels this would help. Anay explained she had very little experience when she started and with workers calling off it is hard to keep afloat. John is concerned if they approve another license, and the business closes then that license is out there.

Mayor said they could change it back. Randy is worried about another vacant building in town. Sean feels the restaurant is needed.

Motion by Joe Butler, second by Sean McCormick to approve Proposed Ordinance Change – Liquor License. Roll call vote. Answering aye: John Aylesworth, Joe Butler, Brad Davis, Randy Hagenbuch, and Sean McCormick. No nay. Motion carried.

Dee Howard asked for Market on the Hill be put on the agenda. She gave a Profit and Loss handout to all council members. The Market is owned by shareholders. Dee went on to tell how Amanda Scattergood is trying to promote the store by holding art activities there. She would like to see more advertising. The Market is asking for a \$25,000 donation from the city to help keep the market open. The Business District has given them \$13,000 in the past. Brad commented that keeping them afloat is not enough. Erin Wyss asked what the criteria were. Brad said something more physical, upgrading, not to just keep it running. Jordan would like to read the Business Plan. With some council members having shares in the co-op there could be voting conflicts. Sean thinks they need to support it and Brad agrees but has questions. He feels they could be opening the door for other businesses to ask for money. Rick Volle stated other businesses don't have shareholders. The Market offers resale for local people to sell their goods. He also stated some shareholders don't live in town but support it. After more discussion no decision was made. It will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Mayor Bobell opened bids for the Vinegar Hill demolition.

1st bid- All Industrial Group, L.L.C. - \$119,555.00

2nd bid- Byrne's Excavating - \$225,000.00

3rd bid- J.A. Shroyer Group, L.L.C. Demolition - \$128,500.00

Motion by Joe Butler, second by Sean McCormick, to accept Vinegar Hill Demolition Bid as submitted by All Industrial Group, L.L.C. \$119,555.00. Roll call vote. Answering aye: John Aylesworth, Joe Butler, Brad Davis, Randy Hagenbuch, and Sean McCormick. No nay. Motion carried.

Mayor Bobell opened bids for the Allis Chalmers Motor Grader.

1st bid – All Industrial Group, L.L.C. - \$150.00

2nd bid – John Stewart - \$325.00

Motion by John Aylesworth, second by Randy Hagenbuch, to accept Allis Chalmers Motor Grader Bid submitted by John Stewart for \$325.00. Roll call vote. Answering aye: John Aylesworth, Joe Butler, Brad Davis, Randy Hagenbuch, and Sean McCormick. No nay. Motion carried.

Other Business: Statement of Economic Interest forms need to be filled out as soon as possible.

David Pistorious- bonding options for Vine Street.

Public Comments: None

Executive Session:

Adjourn: Motion by John Aylesworth, second by Joe Butler to adjourn. Voice vote. All ayes.
Motion carried.

Anna Beckers- City Clerk