

Mt. Pulaski City Council Meeting  
City Hall  
Tuesday, November 22, 2022  
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: Joe Butler, Brad Davis, Kate Davis, and Randy Hagenbuch. Those absent: Dan Smock and Tim Emrick. Also present were Officer Brady Thomas, Matt Presswood, and Dee Howard.

Mayor Bobell then led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Recognition of Guests:** Sandy Bowles and Michelle Hagenbuch.

**Approval of Consent Agenda:** Motion by Brad Davis, second by Joe Butler, to approve Consent Agenda Items Claims, Accounts, and October Minutes. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Joe Butler, Brad Davis, Kate Davis, and Randy Hagenbuch. No nay. Motion carried

**Public Comments:** None

**Reports by Officers:**

- **Police Chief Tony West:** Officer West was under the weather, so Brady Thomas gave a report for him. Brady said the generators have been removed from W. Cooke St. A journal was found by a staff member on top of the lockers at the grade school. The student was no longer enrolled at the time it was found. After some investigating it was determined that there was no immediate threat to the staff or school. The lost vehicle was found on Clearlake in a wooded area. No fingerprints were left, but a mask was recovered and taken as evidence.
- **Director of Public Works Matt Presswood:** Matt reports the leaf collection is ahead of schedule and will end on December 5<sup>th</sup>. Having the new truck helped but Mother Nature also helped. The tree list has been whittled down. Sixteen trees and been cut down and sixty-five have been trimmed. Matt said the cost to hire the work done would have cost between \$40-50,000.00. He has been asked several times to come up with a 5-year plan on alleys, streets, etc. Matt stated he will have one at the December meeting for council to review. Joe Butler asked if he could justify buying a lift. Mayor Bobell said they need somewhere to store it before purchasing one. Matt said the cost of a used one would be in the range of \$50-65,000 with 1,000 hours on it. The council has asked him to come up with a 5-year plan on what he wants to do with alleys, streets, etc. Matt will have something for the council at the December meeting. Mayor Bobell thanked Matt for all the hard work getting the tree work done, he hopes they can keep up with it now.

- **City Treasurer:** Dee gave the treasure report. She also talked about consolidating the water/sewer funds. After some discussion council decided to close out the water/sewer account and dispense the money to General Fund and the Illinois Fund.

Motion by Joe Butler, second by Randy Hagenbuch, to approve Consolidation of Accounts closing water/sewer accounts and money to be dispersed accordingly. \$61,150.00 to General Fund and \$479,470.22 to Illinois Fund. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Joe Butler, Brad Davis, Kate Davis, and Randy Hagenbuch. No nay. Motion carried.

**New Business:** Jesse Claudio was present to speak on Rise Broadband. They are an internet provider that uses fiber. All or most is run underground with everything being potholed or ground level. They pay 100%, if any damage is done to private or public property they take care of it. Rise are in the process of installing their fiber in Maroa. The projected finish time was July but there has been some hiccups with getting work crews, so they hope to be done in December. Jesse said they will have their own crew before starting any other projects in February or March. Mayor Bobell asked what they would do uptown, run it overhead or bore into the concrete. Jesse said they would look at alleys. Fiber is the newest thing out there. It is capable of symmetrical speed and if something comes along that is better, they can run it right along their lines. The cost starts out at \$60/month with speeds up to 100Mbps with unlimited data. If a router is wanted there will be a charge for it. Rise Broadband is not a franchise so other companies can come in. Mayor Bobell would like to see something in writing for the lawyer to look over.

Dee has been working on the Appropriations for 2022-23. In reviewing it she has found some things that did not look right so she redid it. Matt Presswood would like to look at streets/alleys before being finalized. Mayor would like to get this out to council before the December meeting to look over.

**Old Business:** None

**Other Business:** Matt Presswood said Denise was inquiring about the City Christmas Party. It will be held December 22, 2022 at noon in the back room of the Brickyard.

Mayor would like Paula to give the alderman a history of bonuses.

Council approved to give Mayor Bobell power to sign a contract with Stone River Group. The cheapest price is through AEP Energy who we currently have for our supplier for the city. The Stone River Group is working on something for residential.

**Public Comments – Non-Agenda:** None

**Executive Session:**

Motion by Kate Davis, second by Randy Hagenbuch, to enter Executive Session for discussion of Personnel Pay Raises – 30 minutes. Voice Vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Joe Butler, second by Brad Davis, to exit Executive Session. Voice vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Brad Davis, second by Joe Butler, to approve Employee raises as discussed. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Joe Butler, Brad Davis, Kate Davis, and Randy Hagenbuch. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Randy Hagenbuch, second by Joe Butler, to adjourn. Voice vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

Anna Beckers – City Clerk