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City Council Meeting

April 16, 2024

Mayor Haddix called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, April 16, 2024, in Council Chambers at the Municipal Building, 2340 Kingmont Road, Pleasant Valley, WV.

In Attendance: Emily Haddix, Gary Timms, Erin Henderson, Mike Walls, Chip Phillips, Matt Heston, Kim Korcsmaros, John Miller

Absent: Chuck Ledsome, John Funkhouser

Public in attendance: Doug Brenneman, George Boyles (BOE), Cathie DeVito, Jerry Pinson (VVFD), Debbie Hockenberry (Beekeepers Association, MCBA), Dana Gray (MCBA), Judy Brooks, East Fairmont High School Softball team representatives: Tiffany, Christy, Heather, Rae, and Addison.

Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Haddix lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of pervious minutes: Mike Walls moved that the minutes from the previous meeting be accepted pending one correction. The amount of money per veteran in the Honor Flight funding request needed to be changed from $35.00 to $350.00. Chip Phillips seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of financial reports: The financial report was reviewed by the City Council. There were no corrections or revisions. Matt Heston moved to accept the financial report; Erin Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Report from Valley Volunteer Fire Department:

VVFD responded to seventy-seven calls in the surrounding area during the month of March. There were 41 motor vehicle accidents and fire calls. They responded to 36 EMS calls. MVAs occurred on Riverside Drive with one injury; one on I-79 at mile marker 136 with no injury; one on I-79 at mile marker 134 with one injury; I-79 at exit 136 off ramp with one injury; and a structure fire at 1602 Tulip Lane.

Code Enforcement Officer report: John Miller reported that the playground had been cleaned and new mulch spread. He will be in contact with the PTO of Pleasant Valley Elementary to provide them with bulk mulch. The PTO

Funding requests:

Erin Henderson moved that the Marion County Beekeepers funding request for $500.00 to support their 2025 conference be approved. Chip Phillips seconded the motion. Mayor Haddix called for discussion; there was none. Motion carried unanimously.

Gary Timms moved that the Honor Flight funding request for $1700.00 be approved. Matt Heston seconded the motion. Mayor Haddix called for discussion; there was none. Motion carried unanimously.

Mike Walls moved that the East Fairmont High School softball team funding request for $1800.00 be approved. Chip Phillips seconded the motion. Mayor Haddix called discussion; there was none. Motion carried unanimously.

City Council approved the renewal of $540.00 per year with the Rotary Club for placement of flags.

Business Review:

City Park Update

The estimates for fencing around the basketball court from American Fence were presented by Chip Phillips. Fencing 8 feet tall galvanized would be $13,500.00; black vinyl coated fencing $15862.00; fencing 10 feet tall galvanized would be $17,400.00; black vinyl coated fencing would be $18,353.00. Chip Phillips moved that funding for the fencing be approved not to exceed $22,000.00. Mike Walls seconded the motion. Mayor Haddix called for discussion; there was none. Motion carried unanimously.

Erin Henderson suggested the need for a city manager to oversee projects such as the fencing for the City Park or elevate the Mayor’s position to more hours. Erin suggested that, even though the City Park is very nice now, it came about in a piecemeal fashion. Gary Timms suggested that an engineer on retainer for the City would be able to handle most of the needed functions for projects. He stated that the legally required hiring posting was given to the City Attorney but had not been acted on. Gary will work with CEC to post an engineering ad.

There was a general discussion about the need to hire an Administrative Office Assistant. Mayor Haddix will post the position this week on Indeed and the Pleasant Valley Community and City of Pleasant Valley Facebook pages.

Marion County Beekeepers Association collected soil samples and sent them to the WVU Extension Office as part of planning for a pollinator garden at the City Park. Mayor Haddix and representatives of the Beekeepers Association will review possible sites after the fencing is installed and the soil report is back.

Streets and Sidewalks Update

Chip Phillips reported that the City is filling potholes as they are able. John Miller reported he was contacted by residents on Angel Lane and Parkside Drive. Both streets have collapsed drains but both are private roads.

Security Proposal

Mayor Haddix reported that an email with security system requirements would be sent to the three interested vendors. Proposals will be reviewed at the next Council meeting.

Roundtable Council Member Updates

Matt Heston – no report

Erin Henderson – no report

Mike Walls – no report

Chip Phillips – is working with Attorney Garcia on the road issues.

Gary Timms – no report

Citizen concerns:

Brian Stewart addressed the Council on his campaign for Magistrate of Marion County in the 2024 election.

George Boyles, Marion County Board of Education member, and Cathie DeVito addressed the Council regarding the upcoming school bond levy. They addressed the concerns that have been raised in opposition to the levy.

Adjournment

Erin Henderson moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mike Walls seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.