

1 **STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, COUNTY OF MARSHALL, CITY OF MOUNDSVILLE,**
2 **JANUARY 3, 2017**

3
4 The Council of the City of Moundsville met in regular session in the Council Chambers on
5 January 3, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

6
7 Meeting was called to order by Mayor Eugene Saunders.

8
9 Invocation by Councilperson Allen Hendershot.

10
11 Mayor Saunders called the roll and the following councilpersons were in attendance: DeWitt,
12 Haynes, Hendershot, Hunt, Wood, and Mayor Saunders. Also present: City Manager Deanna J.
13 Hess, Fire Chief Clarke, Police Chief Mitchell, Street Employee Allman, Building Inspector
14 Richmond, CPA Kathryn Goddard, Attorney Thomas White, and City Clerk Hewitt. Absent:
15 Street Commissioner Stocklask.

16
17 **Regular Council Meeting of December 20, 2016.**

18
19 Councilperson Haynes moved to accept and approve the minutes of the regular council meeting
20 of December 20, 2016, seconded by Councilperson Hendershot with amendments.

21
22 Councilperson DeWitt made correction on page 2 line 29, "36%" should read, "30.6%".
23 Councilperson Hendershot made correction on page 7 lines 31 & 33, "Policy", should read,
24 "Traffic".

25
26 Mayor Saunders called for a vote on the amendments of the December 20, 2016 minutes. Hunt
27 & Remke abstaining since they were not present at the meeting. Motion carried.

28
29 **PUBLIC HEARING:**

30
31 **A Public Hearing Concerning the Proposed Water Rate Increase in the City of**
32 **Moundsville.**

33
34 * Della Deskin, 318 Olive Avenue, welcomed the new council members Judy Hunt and Phil
35 Remke. She opposed the rate increase and suggested contacting individuals to help with writing
36 grants and provided some information.

37
38 Councilperson Hendershot moved to receive and file the information, seconded by
39 Councilperson Remke. Motion carried unanimously.

40
41 * Amy Toler, 27 Fostoria Avenue, opposed the rate increase saying the increase will effect the
42 senior citizens and others on a fixed income.

1 * Beth Matheny, 709 Washington Avenue, opposed the water rate increase and suggested some
2 ideas to raise money so the city doesn't have to impose a water rate increase.
3

4 * Carl Boso, 305 10th Street, opposed the water rate increase saying people on fixed incomes
5 can't afford the increase.
6

7 * Cynthia Gunto, 2202 Kanawha Street, opposed the rate increase and asked why the city
8 proposing a 22% increase instead of a lower percentage? She asked that they reconsider the
9 percentage.
10

11 * Mike Eskridge, 1302 Eighth Street, opposed the rate increase saying citizens can not afford a
12 22% increase.
13

14 * David Seum, 112 Elm Avenue, asked why things weren't taken care of years ago when the
15 plant was built.
16

17 * James Stultz, 1216 Sixth Street, Member of the Moundsville Water Board, understands that
18 most Moundsville residents are on a fixed income. But explains the proposed increase is a much
19 needed increase for the following reasons: The state recently mandated, through legislation, that
20 cities have to set aside 12.5% reserve for future operation for maintenance and repair work,
1 which was not done in the passed. The other mandate is meeting our debt ratio to pay off bonds.
22 Also, a new well is needed and lastly, the nano filtration system is at the end of its life
23 expectancy and needs replaced.
24

25 * James Kelsh, Bowles Rice LLP and Bond Counsel for the Moundsville Water Board, reiterated
26 information spoken by Mr. Stultz on the state mandates of 12.5% cash reserve, debt ratio to pay
27 off bonds, installation of a new well and nano filtration system replacement. He understands that
28 citizens feel the 22% increase is high but cities prefer not hitting their customers every year with
29 a 3 or 4 percent increase to cover expenses.
30

31 * Josie Burch, 208 11th Street, said the City of Moundsville provides the best water in the area
32 but feels the citizens need time to budget for the increase.
33

34 Councilperson Haynes made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilperson
35 Remke. Motion carried unanimously.
36

37 Mayor Saunders said he was going to move forward on the agenda and ask council to vote on
38 the water rate ordinance at this time.
39

40 **Discussion and Approval of an Ordinance Pertaining to Proposed Water Rate Increase.**
41 **(Second Reading)**
42
43

1 Attorney White read the following ordinance by title only to be passed by council on second and
2 final reading:

3
4 **AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING AND FIXING RATES, CHARGES, AND FEES FOR**
5 **SERVICE TO CUSTOMERS OF THE WATER SYSTEM OF THE CITY OF**
6 **MOUNDSVILLE WEST VIRGINIA (SECOND READING)**
7

8 Councilperson Haynes made a motion to approve the proposed water rate increase ordinance,
9 seconded by Councilperson Hendershot.

10
11 Mayor Saunders called for a voice vote. City Clerk announced the following tally. 5 yeas, 2
12 nays. DeWitt and Wood voting nay. Motion carried.

13
14 **GENERAL PUBLIC HEARING:**
15

16 **Erika Danahy, Artist - Chairperson of the Wheeling Arts & Cultural Commission -**
17 **Concerning City of Moundsville Parking Meters.**
18

19 Ms. Danahy said the Wheeling Arts & Cultural Commission was created by Wheeling City
20 Council. Some of the art projects the commission has done was creating art that was moveable
21 as the city grew, the art was moved to other parts of the city, they have created a pocket park,
22 which was later moved and created murals on the sides of some of the buildings and at Heritage
23 Park. They have also started a program that allows musicians to play on the sidewalks and be
24 paid by passerbys. She then spoke on the Center Market Meter Mural project. The commission
25 paid each artist \$25.00 for their art materials. These projects have been a great success and
26 tourist attraction for the city.
27

28 Councilperson Wood suggested continuing to speak with Ms. Danahy and ask City Manager to
29 look into organizing a committee for Moundsville.
30

31 Councilperson DeWitt suggested Moundsville organizing an Arts Festival at the Riverfront Park.
32

33 * Carl Boso, 305 10th Street, again complained about the towing services in Moundsville not
34 having a city business license and paying B&O Tax. And also the snow removal vehicles not
35 having business license.
36

37 Mayor Saunders asked City Manager Hess and Police Chief Mitchell to look into this matter.
38

39 * David Seum, 112 Elm Avenue, said he would help with the Arts Festival or any other projects
40 in the city.
41

42 **OLD BUSINESS:**
J

1 **Other Items to be Discussed by Council.**

2
3 * Councilperson DeWitt said citizen are unsure about taking recyclables to the Street Department
4 property because there are signs that say "No Trespassing". We need to make the are more
5 welcoming if we are going to tell citizen to take their recyclables there.
6

7 * Councilperson DeWitt suggested using some of the 1% sales tax toward infrastructure of the
8 water and sewer lines.
9

10 * Vice Mayor Wood asked for an update on delinquent fees and municipal court. Manager Hess
11 said the revenue collector is prepared to have letters served on individuals for delinquent fees.
12 She will inform council if there would be any court proceedings.
13

14 * Vice Mayor Wood asked City Manager Hess and CPA Goddard a B&O projection for the
15 month of January to give council an idea of where the city is.
16

17 * Councilperson Haynes thanked council for approving the water rate increase that is desperately
18 needed.
19

20 * Councilperson Remke suggested allocate lines items for usage of the 1% sales tax.
21

22 * Councilperson Hunt wants council to make sure the projections are right on target. See what is
23 actually generated from the 1% sales tax then make a determination on where to allocate those
24 funds.
25

26 * Councilperson Hendershot said even though the 1% sales tax is general fund money council
27 will, through the budget process, decide how it is to be expended.
28

29 * Councilperson Hendershot commented on Mr. Boso's complaint concerning Tow Services
30 operating in the City of Moundsville. He asked Manager Hess to check with AAA to see if they
31 are dispatching these towing services to calls in the city. This is simply a tax issue.
32

33 **NEW BUSINESS:**

34
35 **Discussion and Approval of a Zone Change at 1332 & 1334 First Street from "C-N"**
36 **Neighborhood Commercial District to "C-H" Highway Commercial and Integrated**
37 **Commercial Center District. (First Reading) (Moundsville Volunteer Fire Department)**
38

39 Attorney White read the following ordinance by title only to be passed by council on first
40 reading:
41

42 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MOUNDSVILLE, WEST VIRGINIA, PROVIDING**
43 **TO CHANGE A CERTAIN DESIGNATED AREA ON FIRST STREET IN THE CITY**

1 **OF MOUNDSVILLE FROM A NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL ZONE TO A**
2 **HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL AND INTEGRATED COMMERCIAL CENTERS ZONE.**
3 **(FIRST READING)**
4

5 Councilperson Wood made a motion to accept and approve the zone change ordinance, seconded
6 by Councilperson DeWitt.
7

8 Mayor Saunders called for a voice vote. City Clerk announced the following tally. 7 yeas.
9 Motion carried unanimously.
10

11 **Other Items to be Discussed by Council.**
12

13 * Councilperson Hunt thanked the citizens who voted for her in the First Ward and promises to
14 be dedicated in actions that are in the best interest of the City of Moundsville.
15

16 * Councilperson Remke presented and read a proposal as a course of action he feels is needed for
17 the Four Seasons Pool. The proposal he drafted with figures obtained by CPA Goddard shows
18 the revenues, expenditures and yearly profit & loss. Mr. Remke ask council to vote on closing
19 the pool immediately.
20

1 Councilperson Remke moved to discuss this proposal at the Finance Committee meeting,
22 seconded by Councilperson Hendershot. Motion carried unanimously.
23

24 * Vice Mayor Wood, in response to Mr. Remke's draft, said that council asked Manager Hess to
25 form a committee to evaluate the whole Parks & Recreation facilities, finance and budget then
26 bring a plan back to council.
27

28 * Vice Mayor Wood found an ad in the Echo submitted by the City of Cameron for Police
29 Officers. The ad explains that individuals being hired must stay employed with the city for at
30 least two years or reimburse the city for any expense incurred during their employment. Mr.
31 Wood was informed the City of Moundsville also follows this criteria.
32

33 * Councilperson DeWitt mentioned at an earlier meeting the possibility of having to closing the
34 pool because of some problems that have since been fixed.

35 * Councilperson DeWitt hoped that council takes into consideration when preparing the 2017-
36 2018 General Fund Budget the gap in finances due to decreasing the B&O tax.
37

38 * Councilperson Hunt said council has to remember that citizen's tax dollars they are paying and
39 she believe in quality of life for the citizens. As much as council can give back to them in
40 services (the pool) council should absorb those costs in the budget. She told Manager Hess that
41 PPG provides Benwood's pool with a portion of chemicals.
42

43 **MANAGER ITEMS:**

1 * Manager Hess welcomed new Councilpersons Judy Hunt and Phil Remke as well as re-elected
2 Councilperson David Haynes and Mayor Eugene Saunders.

3
4 * Manager Hess commented on the prayer given by Councilperson Hendershot rings true.
5 Everyone needs to work together and work as a team.

6
7 * Manager Hess made comment on the cost of the repair to the dectron unit at the pool. The unit
8 had to be repaired two times because people were turning up the heat which cause the dectron to
9 melt and malfunction.

10
11 * Manager Hess will provide council with a plan. She will be attending the Parks & Recreation
12 Board meeting asking for some insight from the board.

13
14 * Manager Hess asked council members who wish to participate in the Community Day
15 Celebration on August 26 please let her know. She encouraged all of council to participate.

16
17 * Manager Hess reiterated on the Legislatures Breakfast on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 at 7:30
18 a.m. at Grand Vue Park Banquet Hall. Please let Manager know if council plans to attend.

19
20 * Manager Hess thanked all her employees for the jobs they do.

21
22 * And Manager Hess asked council members to please come to her about any problems or
23 questions.

24
25 **MAYOR ITEMS:**

26
27 * Mayor Saunders made welcome to Councilpersons Judy Hunt and Phil Remke. And returning
28 Councilperson Haynes. He hopes to have a good year.

29
30 * Mayor Saunders reported trash at a house on 6th Street and illegal vehicle parked in the rear of a
31 6th Street residence.

32
33 * Mayor Saunders appointed council members to new sub committees for 2017.

34
35 **COMMITTEE ITEMS:**

36 **Discussion of Recommendations by the Finance Committee.**

37
38 Finance meeting will be scheduled for Tuesday, January 10, 2017.

39
40 **Discussion of Recommendations by the Policy Committee.**

41
42 Policy meeting will follow the finance meeting.

1 **Discussion of Recommendations by the Traffic Committee.**

2
3 Traffic meeting will follow the policy meeting.

4
5 **COUNCIL ITEMS:**

6
7 * **DeWitt** - Said one of council's goals is to promote the Riverfront Park where the Community
8 Day event was a success. She suggested planning a Festival of Arts at the Riverfront Park.

9
10 * **Wood** - Welcome to new council members Judy Hunt and Phil Remke.

11
12 * **Haynes** - Welcome Judy Hunt and Phil Remke on the election to council.

13
14 * **Hendershot** - Thanked Mayor Saunders and Councilperson Haynes for the interest in serving
15 another term on council. And Judy Hunt and Phil Remke on their new election to council.

16
17 * **Hunt** - Congratulations to re-appoints of Mayor Saunders and Councilperson Haynes. And
18 looks forward to working with council members and serving the citizens.

19
20 * **Remke** - Congratulation to all who ran for council and is excited for what the future is going to
21 bring.

22
23 Councilperson Remke made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilperson Hendershot.
24 Motion carried unanimously.

25
26 Meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

27
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33 _____
Sondra J. Hewitt, City Clerk

Eugene Saunders, Sr., Mayor