

1 **STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, COUNTY OF MARSHALL, CITY OF**
2 **MOUNDSVILLE, NOVEMBER 7, 2017**

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

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

8
9 Invocation was given by Councilman Allen Hendershot.

10
11 Acting City Clerk Ankrom called the roll and the following Councilpersons were in
12 attendance: DeWitt, Haynes, Hendershot, Hunt, Remke, Vice Mayor Wood, and Mayor
13 Saunders. Also present: City Manager Hess, Police Chief Mitchell, Firefighter Brandon,
14 Public Works Director Stocklask, Building Inspector Richmond, CPA Goddard, and
15 Attorney Thomas White. Absent was City Clerk Hewitt (vacation).

16
17 **MINUTES:**

18 **Regular Council Meeting of October 17, 2017**

19 Councilwoman Dewitt made a motion to accept as presented the October 17, 2017
20 Regular Meeting minutes, which was seconded by Councilman Haynes and carried
21 unanimously.

22
23 **GENERAL PUBLIC HEARING:**

24 **Gus Suwaid, District Engineer for the West Virginia Department of Highways**
25 briefed Council on the Route 2 widening project and bridge rehab, which will now move
26 forward after approval of the recent road bond levy. Route 2 construction, from the
27 Plaza to WalMart, will begin in December 2017 and will be a two-year project. Mr.
28 Suwaid confirmed that one lane each for north and south-bound traffic will remain open
29 during construction; and neither bridge will be completely closed to traffic. He is
30 uncertain at this time whether work will continue 24 hours per day or just during certain
31 time periods.

32
33 Bridge repair “looks favorable” to begin once a design estimate is complete and it is
34 determined which bridge will be repaired first. There is some disagreement about which
35 of the three bridges is in worse condition; and it was mentioned that Parris Run needs
36 some rehab. Mr. Suwaid will look into whether Parris Run could be included with
37 additional funding provided by the levy. The WVDOH will hire a consultant, and the
38 City will be required to pay 20% of the cost.

39
40 Councilwoman Dewitt mentioned the need for turn arrows at the 12th Street traffic light.

1 Previous traffic impact studies did not indicate an urgent need in this area; but that could
2 change, should the Dilles Bottom plant construction come to fruition.

3
4 **Della Deskins of 318 Olive Avenue**, on behalf of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post
5 #437 Auxiliary, asked for volunteer judges for the Patriots Pen essay contest. Judging
6 needs to be done at the VFW Post Home by November 13, 2017. This year's theme is
7 "America's Gift to My Generation." Mayor Saunders, Vice Mayor Wood, and possibly
8 Councilman Remke may be available November 9, 2017 around 6:00 PM. Councilman
9 Hendershot made a motion to receive and file the letter and essay contest information.
10 Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hunt and carried unanimously. Mrs. Deskins
11 informed that refreshments will be available at the VFW Post Home after the Veterans'
12 Day Ceremony on Saturday.

13
14 **Nelson Hooker of 421 Clinton Avenue** is not happy that water pumping out of Tony
15 Wood's basement is allowed to continue. Mr. Hooker has contacted the Environmental
16 Protection Agency and the Department of Environmental Protection. Superintendent
17 Bonar from the Waste Water Treatment Plant does not appear to be concerned about the
18 discolored discharge possibly containing excessive iron. It was clarified that City
19 Ordinances require sump pumps be drained at the curb, even though this can cause icing
20 in the winter. Mr. Hooker requested a tow sticker be put on the green truck behind his
21 house so that it can be removed. Mr. Hooker also mentioned that leaves are gathering
22 over the storm drains; Director Stocklask will look into this matter.

23
24 **Dennis Hall of 23 Oak Avenue** would like to see more Police patrol on Oak Avenue,
25 especially during events at Grand Vue Park, to deter speeders. Mr. Hall also mentioned
26 that the blinking light at the end of the street is not working. Director Stocklask will try
27 to get this repaired.

28
29 **OLD BUSINESS:**

30 **Other Items to be Discussed by Council**

31 * Vice Mayor Wood asked for November 14 Committee Meetings to begin at 4:30 so
32 Craig White can discuss his proposal for the City Parks & Recreation Department. Mr.
33 White informed Vice Mayor Wood that he has garnered approval from the County Parks
34 & Recreation Board; it was suggested to include the County Board in negotiations.
35 Attorney White does not have enough information to draft a contract, since that
36 information was not given to Manager Hess when she met with Craig White. Mr. White
37 seems to prefer dealing with City Council.

38
39 Attorney White explained that, if a contract is signed with Craig White's "Management
40 Team," an ordinance may be required to give this "Team" authority to manage City

1 Recreation employees. Questions were also raised about a possible conflict for Craig
2 White to be “employed” by both the City of Moundsville and the Marshall County
3 Commission. However, it was pointed out that Mr. White's desire seems to be bringing
4 all County and municipal recreation areas together, to improve all of the facilities and
5 make them financially self-sustaining.
6
7 Councilwoman Hunt suggested hearing Craig White's plan at next week's Committee
8 meeting, consider all of the legalities involved, then make a final decision on how to
9 move forward.
10
11 Manager Hess has interviewed for the Recreation Director position and has narrowed
12 down the candidates; and she has not shared individual information with anyone outside
13 of her office.
14
15 * Councilman Remke asked for a final answer on whether Councilman Hendershot can
16 vote on issues relating to the Knights of Pythias building, since he is a member of the
17 Knights. Attorney White confirmed there is not enough of a vested interest to deny
18 Councilman Hendershot's vote on such matters.
19
20 * Councilman Remke stated that the RV Park Rules & Regulations look good! Attorney
21 White is working on the lease, which should be entered into with each occupant. A
22 monthly fee of \$650.00 per spot was already approved by the Finance Committee.
23
24 * Councilman Remke asked about status of the Sports Complex. Vice Mayor Wood
25 informed that Mr. Tucker is ready to move, once the WV Development Office has
26 offered guidance on whether East End is a feasible location.
27
28 * Councilman Remke asked how the new water meters are working out. Councilman
29 Haynes commented that it is hard to gauge at this point; only Cherokee Hills and some
30 areas out 4th Street have the updated electronic meters.
31
32 * Councilman Remke asked for status on the agreement with the Marshall County Board
33 of Education, for use of Four Seasons Pool. Manager Hess signed the three-year
34 agreement, with a \$2,000.00 increase in years two and three. However, the Board of
35 Education President may desire to renegotiate the cost. Inspector Richmond confirmed
36 that the chemicals are back in balance, and the tube blockage was removed.
37
38 * Councilwoman Hunt met with Vice Mayor Wood and Councilman Hendershot to
39 work on an Action Plan, which they hope to have completed in two to three weeks. The
40 next meeting will be November 9, 2017 at 3:00 PM.

1 * Councilwoman Hunt asked about the list of City-owned property, which Manager
2 Hess will have ready for the Committee meeting.

3

4 * Councilman Hendershot made a motion to have Amy Karrasch, of Wheelhouse
5 Creative, attend the Finance Committee on November 14, 2017. Motion was seconded
6 by Councilman Remke and carried unanimously.

7

8 * Vice Mayor Wood asked for clarification on the agreement with the Board of
9 Education. Even though the BOE mentioned “renegotiating” the annual cost for use of
10 Four Seasons Pool, once the agreement has been signed, it can be enforced by the City
11 Manager.

12

13 **NEW BUSINESS:**

14 **Other Items to be Discussed by Council**

15 * Councilwoman Hunt thanked the Historic Landmarks Commission for the new signs;
16 and Manager Hess and Director Stocklask for getting them installed. They are beautiful
17 and classy!

18

19 * Councilman Remke made a motion to discuss at the Traffic Committee the issues on
20 Oak Avenue. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Dewitt and carried unanimously.

21

22 * Councilman Remke made a motion to discuss, at the Traffic Committee, installing
23 permit parking signs on 7th Street and Tomlinson Avenue, around Central Elementary
24 School. Motion was seconded by Councilman Haynes and carried unanimously.

25

26 * Councilman Remke asked for more security around the railroad tracks, now that there
27 will be more traffic due to the RV Park. Fencing has been installed around the RV Park;
28 and Manager Hess will make contact about installing crossing gates.

29

30 * Councilman Remke asked about the 1% Sales Tax, which Manager Hess will mention
31 later.

32

33 * Councilwoman Dewitt asked about moving the “Welcome to Moundsville” sign from
34 the Jefferson Avenue Extension. Director Stocklask will have the sign moved after
35 Thanksgiving, but he is not optimistic about keeping it intact; he will salvage as much as
36 he can. Discussion was held on installing a sign at Riverfront Park, facing the river.
37 Director Stocklask would like to have his staff model one similar to the Department of
38 Highways office sign on DOT Drive.

39

40 * Vice Mayor Wood received a letter from Chamber of Commerce Director Scott

1 Reager, asking for a monetary donation for the Annual Christmas Parade. The City
2 already provides in-kind donations, from the Police and Street Departments, with all of
3 the preparation and post-parade work.

4

5 **MANAGER ITEMS:**

6 • Manager Hess informed that approximately \$268,000.00 was received on October
7 18, 2017 from the 1% Sales Tax. Councilwoman Dewitt asked CPA Goddard to
8 compare the difference in Business & Occupation Tax receipts for those categories
9 that were decreased. Council will discuss earmarking the Sales Tax funds for special
10 projects.

11

12 • Manager Hess attended the bridge construction meeting, which was very informative.

13

14 • Manager Hess has asked the Department of Highways to look at improving the turn
15 arrows at 1st Street and Jefferson Avenue.

16

17 • Manager Hess was asked about an estimate on the Business & Occupation Taxes that
18 will be paid on the road construction. The revenue would be 2% of the project cost.

19

20 • Manager Hess explained one of the City Building Inspectors is certified, and the
21 other Inspector is working on his certification.

22

23 • Manager Hess mentioned a Quarter Auction to be held November 18, 2017 at 11:00
24 am, sponsored by the Friends of Moundsville Parks & Recreation.

25

26 • Manager Hess reminded Council of the Business After Hours Tree Light Up Night
27 scheduled for November 9, 2017 from 5:00 to 8:00 PM. WVU and Reynolds
28 Memorial Hospital are hosting the event.

29

30 • Manager Hess noted that a ribbon cutting will be held at First Settlement Physical
31 Therapy, 1216 Lafayette Avenue, on November 15, 2017 at 11:00 am.

32

33 **MAYOR ITEMS:**

34 • Mayor Saunders thanked Superintendent Stocklask for a great job patching streets!

35

36 • Mayor Saunders asked about the water leak, which appears to be on private property,
37 near the Plaza above WalMart.

38

39 • Mayor Saunders advised there will be a Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting
40 on November 16, 2017 at 6:00 PM.

1 **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

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

3 The Finance Committee will meet November 14, 2017. Vice Mayor Wood will confirm
4 the time with Manager Hess tomorrow.

5
6 **Discussion of Recommendations by the Policy Committee.**

7 The Policy Committee will meet immediately following the Finance Committee.

8
9 **Discussion of Recommendations by the Traffic Committee.**

10 The Traffic Committee will meet immediately following the Policy Committee.

11
12 **COUNCIL ITEMS:**

13 * **DeWitt** – Nothing at this time.

14
15 * **Vice Mayor Wood** – Nothing at this time.

16
17 * **Haynes** – Nothing at this time.

18
19 * **Remke** – Commended Manager Hess and Director Stocklask for the excellent job
20 installing the Historical signs!

21 * Noticed the dog waste signs on Jefferson Avenue. There are also bags and containers
22 to dispose of pet waste.

23 * Commended Boy/Cub Scout Troops #82 and #78 for the great job they did on the
24 recent food drive!

25
26 * **Hunt** – Expressed appreciation to all Veterans and their families for their service and
27 sacrifices made every day.

28 * Confirmed the City of Benwood will have a flag dedication ceremony on November
29 11, 2017 at 11:00 am.

30
31 * **Hendershot** – Was pleased at the amount of Sales Tax collected and would like to see
32 some of that money put aside for Capital Improvements and the bridge replacement
33 projects.

34
35 Councilman Hendershot made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by
36 Councilman Remke. Meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM.

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40 _____
Karen L Ankrom, Acting City Clerk

Eugene Saunders, Mayor