



JULY 7, 2015

CITY HALL

6:00 P.M.

I) Call To Order, Roll Call, Invocation, Pledge Of Allegiance

Mayor Anthony Howard called the meeting to order. Let the record show that Mayor Howard, Councilman Al Hutchins, Councilman Charles Middleton, and Councilman Andy Smith were all present. City Attorney Tommy Coleman and City Clerk, Melinda Crook, were also present. Note that one Council seat is open. Pastor Williams gave the invocation. Mayor Howard led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance

II) Minutes

A motion was made by Councilman Hutchins and seconded by Councilman Middleton to approve the June 2nd and June 9th minutes. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present.

III) Citizens And Delegations

Tabitha Davis - Not present

IV) Administrative Committee Reports

Conditional Use, Dialysis Clinic, 11135 Columbia St [between Mike's Pharmacy & Dr. Adams] - The Building Official, Kenneth Jones, informed the Council that the Dialysis Clinic would be located on Columbia Hwy next to Mike's Pharmacy. He stated that the Planning Commission had approved the conditional use. A motion was made by Councilman Hutchins and seconded by Councilman Smith to approve the conditional use for the Dialysis Clinic. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present.

Alcohol License, Brian Eafford, Club 229, 1091North Church - The Building Official, Kenneth Jones, stated that everything was good with Mr. Eafford's application and background check. He informed the Council that the location would be at the old Club 92 on Church St., which was Mr. Cawthorn's. Councilman Middleton questioned if the only alcohol licenses Mr. Eafford requested were beer and brown bag to which Mr. Jones stated that this was correct. Mr. Jones informed the Council that Mr. Eafford has already put in application for a State Fire Marshall check of the location. A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Smith to approve the alcohol license for Mr. Brian Eafford. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present.

V) City Attorney's Report

First Reading of General Election Ordinance - The City Attorney went over the Ordinance with the Mayor and Council. He stated that in the Ordinance was when the election would be held, the qualifying dates and the cost for each position up for election. There was a first reading of the General Election Ordinance.

The City Attorney informed the Council that he had e-mailed an Ordinance, to be reviewed, regarding zoning of Commercial and Industrial buildings in residential areas. He then stated there would need to be a hearing before coming before the Mayor and Council.

The City Attorney informed the Council that he had also e-mailed an Ordinance, to be reviewed, regarding solar energy. He stated that there will be cost cuts for installation of solar panels. He stated that the Ordinance deals with regulations that would need to be put in place along with dealing with solar fields. He stated that it also allows for inspections to be done.

VI) City Clerk's Report

The City Clerk presented the Mayor and Council with financial reports. She then informed the Council that the City finished the month of June with \$450,019.39 in the bank, which was a decrease from May in the amount of \$42,284.74. She then informed the Council that these funds are continuing to be held for the metering project. She then gave the Mayor and Council an update of the cash-on-hand. She stated that the balance in the savings account at First State Bank was

\$555,735.69, the balance in the utility sinking fund at Commercial State was \$516,988.86, and that the balance in the DOT reimbursement account at Commercial State was \$109,318.92. She stated that the total at Commercial was \$626,307.78 and that the overall total cash-on-hand was \$1,182,043.47. She then informed the Council that the bond payment of \$446,510.00 was due to be paid on July 31st which would bring the cash-on-hand total down to \$735,533.47. The Clerk then informed the Council that the audit was complete and had been submitted by June 30th and that the auditors would be presenting the audit at the August meeting.

VII) New Items Proposed By Mayor And City Council

The Mayor updated the Council on several projects. The Mayor informed the Council about the closure of the inert pit. He reminded the Council that the deadline is mid-August for completion. He then informed them that upon meeting with the engineering and inspecting the area it was felt that the date for completion would be met but if not that we would contact EPD will in advance and ask for an extension. He also informed the Council that we have been receiving help from the County.

The Mayor informed the Council that the two areas on Southside Dr. that had settled have not been taken care of as of yet but that Blankenship and Oxford are working on coordinating their schedules to correct these areas.

The Mayor informed the Council that the CDBG project was under budget around \$90,000 and that some additional work is going to be done in the target area regarding replacement of clay sewer line.

The Mayor informed the Council that the Tantalus contracts had been signed and that project is moving forward. He then informed the Council that the Exceleron (pre-paid meters) contract had not been signed because of some back and forth on contractual items.

There was then some discussion regarding quotes for the deteriorating floor grating. The Clerk informed the Council that the lowest quote from Brewer Welding was in the amount of \$9,316.75. Adam Askew gave a little more explanation on the work that needs to be done. The Mayor asked that this item be placed on hold pending a more detailed comparison with the Blankenship quote.

The City Clerk then updated the Council on the mapping project. She informed the Council that the water lines and valves had been completed and that they were starting on the meters. She also informed the Council that it would be another 6wks before the new controller would be in for the water flow project.

Councilman Smith asked that the write-up previously sent in the billing be placed in the paper regarding what items the City does and does not pickup alongside the road. Councilman Hutchins further explained that even if citizens did have to take their own items there was not a charge at the landfill.

The Mayor stated that he wants to get something on the ground for the playground by September 1st. He informed the Council that upon checking into equipment some of it was not available for over 6mths.

The Mayor and Council gave another brief explanation of how the pre-paid meters would work. The explanation was mainly to re-inform the citizens that it would not be mandatory to have take a pre-paid meter. Councilman Hutchins stated that he wanted to make sure that this was stated because of talk that he had heard regarding these meters that was incorrect.

VIII)Public Comments

Ms. Lilly Herron came before the Council to discuss the house situation at 521 Liberty St. She stated that she started speaking with Mr. Kenneth Jones regarding repairs per City codes to this location. She stated that she just needed some place for her daughter and her grandchildren to live. She stated that she did not have the funds to additional work that Mr. Jones has told her needs to be done. She stated that she has gotten architects and survey, to which she doesn't know why because she owns everything around it. She says that she has spent this money when it could have gone toward repairs. She stated that she has to continue to pay money in taxes and she can't use it. She stated that the property is her and she doesn't owe anything on it, that she is needs some place for her daughter to stay. She stated that she had temp lights but cannot get water because of the need of repairs. The Mayor reminded Ms. Herron that he and Councilman Hutchins had been over to look at the property and that he sympathized with her regarding the situation with her daughter. He stated however, that the City does have rules and regulations that are followed for safety of the citizens of the City not just because we want to. He stated that the last thing the City would want to see happen was to let someone move in to an unsafe structure then a possible fire break out and lives get lost. He stated that when they came by and went through the property they place in the letter what they felt was a workable solution. He then stated that per discussions with Councilman Hutchins and Mr. Jones they returned what they felt to be the best options, which were to either start demolition or repair the wood structure. The Mayor then stated that the City cannot and is

not telling her to tear any portion of the structure down however the City can deem not to provide utilities to a structure that is fit to be occupied. He also stated that all he had done was provide an alternative at the least amount to her, which was to possible tear down the wood structure fix up the block structure. Ms Herron then stated that they had previously done some work and now more was needed. There was then more discussion between Ms. Herron and the Council.

Mr. Wright came before the Council to question why the City could not pick-up the limbs on Love St that he had cleaned up. He stated that he had cleaned up around the area that he had purchased and he had even helped some of the people around his property clean up some of their area. He stated that he had placed them along side of the road. The Mayor read an Ordinance to Mr. Wright that applied to this situation. The Mayor explained the Ordinance to Mr. Wright, stating that when it comes to land clearing it is up to the land owner to be responsible for removal. The Mayor stated that it would have to be the Council's decision if the City was going to pick up. Councilman Hutchins questioned why the limbs were drug to someone else's property. Mr. Wright explained why he had moved the limbs to the opposite side of the street. The Mayor asked the Council for a decision. Councilman Smith stated that if you do this for one you have to do for everyone. Councilman Hutchins questioned Mr. Wright as to whether he had a truck and trailer to haul the debris to which Mr. Wright stated that he had the truck but not a trailer. Councilman Hutchins questioned Mr. Wright about obtaining a burn permit and there was some discussion between them on this matter. The Council chose not to pick up the debris.

IX) Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Smith to adjourn the July 7th City Council meeting. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present.

Anthony Howard, Mayor