

Minutes: City Council Meeting
February 13, 2020
6:00 PM

The Elkton City Council met in regular session on Thursday, February 13, 2020 at 6:00 PM with Council Member Michael Case presiding due to the absence of Mayor Arthur Green, who was attending various meetings in Frankfort.

City Council members present: Michael Case; Danny Laster; Frank McReynolds; George Orr; and, David Powell. Absent: Doug Gibson.

Others present: Laura Brock, City Clerk/Treasurer; Daniel Smith, Assistant Fire Chief; Jen Harris, President, Todd County Chamber of Commerce; Tommy Turner, CPA, Thurman Campbell Group; Phares and Melanie Martin; and, Doug Meadows.

Council member Case called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Danny Laster gave invocation.

After reviewing the January 9, 2020 regular council meeting minutes, Powell motioned to approve, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously.

After reviewing the January 13, 2020 special council meeting minutes, Orr motioned to approve, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously.

After reviewing the February 4, 2020 special council meeting minutes, Powell motioned to approve, seconded by McReynolds, and carried unanimously.

Case called for approval of the bills payable and financial reports and any comments from Clerk Brock. Brock reported that a check was received from the courts after the sale of Refine Tile property for delinquent payroll taxes due from Refine Tile for calendar years 2017 and 2018 totaling about \$116,000 and a check for delinquent property taxes for the year 2017 and 2018 totaling about \$2,800. After some discussion, Orr motioned to approve the bills payable and financial reports, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously.

Case called for public comments.

- Phares Martin stated he owns property on Highway 68 where he operates Silver Creek Construction. Several years ago, he was required to annex into the city limits when he built the business and requested water service from the city. However, since then the water line and service has been transferred to the Todd County Water District. Both he and Melanie stated they would like to be de-annexed from the city limits because they are planning an addition to the building and do not want to have to submit plans and plats to the city. Case stated it was his recommendation the council should discuss this topic with legal counsel present and all agreed. A special meeting will be set to discuss this as soon as possible.
- Daniel Smith stated he needs to leave soon to present a training session for the fire department, therefore he presented a proposal to submit two FEMA Assistance to Firefighter grants, which are paid for through 95% federal grant. One project would be a small purchase project to purchase air packs and the other project is for the purchase of a new fire truck to replace two old trucks. After discussion, Orr motioned to approve application for both projects, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously. Smith also reported the fire department will soon be making equipment purchases using the state and county fire aid funds.
- Smith reported as Emergency Services Director that FEMA Mitigation funds are now available due to a recent disaster declaration in neighboring Montgomery County, Tennessee. Clerk Brock stated the city was contacted by the state to resubmit a full application for those mitigation funds to

purchase about seven properties that were severely damaged in the 2016 and other recent flood events. The application was originally submitted in 2016 but has not been funded yet and can be resubmitted each time a declaration is made. Resolution 2020-03, "DESIGNATION OF APPLICANT'S AGENT" authorizes the Mayor to submit the application. Orr motioned to approve Resolution 2020-03, seconded by Powell, and carried unanimously. Smith left the meeting.

Jen Harris, President, Todd County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, updated the council on the many activities the Chamber has completed in the last year and some plans for the future. A new Chamber website was recently launched and every event in the county, including city events, will be listed. Some future events include "lunch and learn" sessions and quarterly breakfasts. With many of these events, they hope to bring more people into Elkton to support our local businesses. Clerk Brock stated the city has received a request to renew the membership in the Chamber, which has been at the \$1,000 level. Jen stated the membership levels and benefits have recently changed, therefore it was the consensus to discuss membership levels at the next meeting. Ms. Harris thanked everyone and left the meeting.

Tommy Turner, CPA, Thurman Campbell Group thanked the council for their continued working relationship and presented the FYE June 30, 2019 audit report. Mr. Turner stated the financial statements were given an unmodified opinion, the best possible outcome of an audit. Turner reviewed a Summary of Financial Information showing a negative change in net position in both Governmental Activities and Businesses Activities. However, Turner explained that new rules relating to noncash items such as retirement expenses often times cause a positive cash flow, which both Government and Business Activities had for the year, to look like a loss on the books. After the presentation, everyone thanked Mr. Turner and he left the meeting.

Case reported that two ordinances regarding water and sewer rates were listed on the agenda, however he would like to propose tabling the ordinances. Case was not able to attend the last meeting where the utility rate study was presented and he feels the issue should be studied further rather than accepting a flat increase across the board. All the council members agreed. Case motioned to table first reading of the ordinances, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously. Brock handed out the most recent water loss report, which shows water loss has gone from about 22% to about 36% just in the last 7 months and also stated there were other issues that need to be reviewed. Meadows asked about water leaks and Orr stated Kentucky Rural Water has been in the city recently looking for water main leaks.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Clerk Brock presented a report from Citation Officer Megan Willenborg that shows the number of opened and closed code enforcement cases since the last council meeting.

Brock passed out a letter from Pennyryle Allied Community Services requesting funding this year or future consideration for projects for the community. Brock will bring this back up during budget discussions for next year.

CITY COUNCIL CONCERNS

Laster reported several complaints about a fox roaming around in the city limits. Other council members had received similar calls. Orr stated he knew that Animal Control Officer John Service was aware and on the lookout for the animal.

Orr motioned to adjourn, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:59 pm.

Arthur Green, Mayor

Laura M. Brock, City Clerk/Treasurer