

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
June 12, 2018  
6:00 pm.**

Mayor Randy Barrett called the regular meeting of the Winfield City Council to order on June 12, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at Winfield City Hall, 3426 Winfield Road, Winfield, WV.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Members Attending:** Randy Barrett, Mayor; Steve Hanna, Frank Bannister, Kevin Karnes and Joe Rumbaugh, members; Jackie Hunter, Recorder.

**Staff Present:** Gloria Chapman, City Clerk/Treasurer and John Hodges, Public Works Director.

**Absent:** Ryan Powers and Tim LaFon, City Counsel.

**Public and Guests:** None speaking.

**Approval of Minutes:** Hearing no objections or questions, Frank Bannister moved that the minutes of the May 8, 2018 Regular Meeting be approved. Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL:**

**Bills Paid.** Hearing no objections or questions, Kevin Karnes moved that the bills paid for the month of May 2018 in the amount of \$52,336.90 be approved. Motion carried.

**General Fund Financial Statements.** Hearing no objections or questions, Frank Bannister moved that the financial statement for the month of May 2018 be approved. Motion carried.

**Coal Severance Fund Financial Statement.** Hearing no objections or questions, the Coal Severance Statement for May 2018 was approved.

## **REPORTS, QUESTIONS & DISCUSSIONS**

### **Police and Municipal Staff Report:**

Chief Starcher updated the status of police activity for the last month.

The Chief mentioned that Officer Higginbotham would be attending the Police Academy this summer and that Officer Oiler would attend in January. He informed Council that Officer Coey had just graduated from a sex abuse seminar and that she had also become certified in child safety seat requirements.

Chief Starcher noted that the department has been going through a lot of training and that much of it has been free to the city. He mentioned the possibility of a \$100,000 grant to cover PRO costs.

The Chief reported that Captain Young has been chosen PRO Officer of the year and that Officer Coey is to attend PRO classes in Morgantown in preparation for her assignments at Winfield Elementary and Winfield Middle Schools. He said that an active shooter class has been conducted at Winfield Middle School.

Mayor Barrett stated that the city has received a half a million dollar grant for the first phase of a Street Scape for Rt. 817 and that the WV Dept. of Highways has awarded the engineering design to Randolph Engineering. He said the design portion of the project would be paid for by the state. The Mayor noted that he would be meeting with the Dept. of Highways tomorrow and he was going to ask that the project be moved to Main Street because of all the activity that occurs in that area. He felt that the widening of Rt. 817 wouldn't happen for some time and that any improvements on Rt. 817 might be destroyed when the widening occurred.

The Mayor stated the Sanitary Board voted to pay off \$175,000 of old sanitary loans in order to have more borrowing power for the new plant. He stated the funds have accumulated from the increased sewer rates and that this would be the first step in putting that money to use.

Mayor Barrett mentioned that city workers have finally been able to retrieve an MS-4 sample after a long rainy spell.

### **Police and Municipal Staff Report (cont'd)**

Mayor Barrett reported that the county is giving out Enhancement Grants and he is going to ask for \$10,000 to add playground equipment, fencing and a bench for the city park. He said they are still working on the shelter and basketball court for the park that was voted on last month.

The Mayor added that Poca Valley Bank has contributed \$7500 for a Putnam County Homecoming headliner that will be announced later next month.

Mayor Barrett informed Council that Winfield's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration was a success and well attended.

The Mayor stated that he was in touch with the WV Dept. of Natural Resources on the status of the boat ramp, but there was no update. He said everything was in place but the Purchase Order.

**Wastewater System/Treatment Plant Report:** John Hodges reported that the ammonia reading for May was 21.6 mg/L. He said that last year at this time, the reading was also 21.6 mg/L. He mentioned that all the city plant workers had recently attended training in Cross Lanes on pumps and panel boards and stated that it was very informative.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Annexation Discussion.** The Mayor said that it was anticipated that the next hearing would be sometime in September.

**City National Bank Audit.** The Mayor said Winfield is ready for the lawsuit, but the cities of St. Albans and Eleanor will also be participating to help defray costs and they are not ready at this time.

**Ord. 2018-2019-3 Text Amendment to Article 709.2 Signs.** Frank Bannister moved to table any action pending further legal consultation. Motion carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Resolution – PRO Grants.** Mayor Barrett reported that funds awarded from a PRO Grant last August have still not been paid out due to a new sanctuary city law; however, he asked for a resolution from Council to apply for the 2018-2019 grant in case the money started to flow. It would include \$10,000 for Captain Young and \$10,000 for Officer Coey and would be matched by the Putnam County Board of Education. Kevin Karnes moved that the Council resolve to authorize the mayor to pursue a PRO Grant for 2018-2019. Motion carried.

**Resolution for COPS Grant.** The Mayor explained that Chief Starcher and Laura Cox have been working on a two-year \$100,000 COPS Grant which would pay \$40,000; \$20,000 each to cover two Public Resource Officers. Both Senators Capito and Manchin have agreed to help push for the grant and monies obtained would help offset the questionable PRO Grants. Steve Hanna moved that the Council resolve to authorize the Mayor to pursue a COPS Grant. Motion carried.

**City Hall Open Late on Thursdays.** The Mayor informed Council that after keeping record of Thursday evening customers, the staff informed him that very few people took advantage of the hours from 4:00 to 7:00 on Thursdays. Frank Bannister moved that regular office hours at City Hall should be from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday thru Friday beginning the first of the fiscal year until further notice or until someone requests that the office be open from 8 am to 7 pm on Thursdays. Motion carried.

## **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Frank Bannister moved that the meeting be adjourned at 6:59 pm, until the next scheduled meeting. Motion carried.

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**Randy L Barrett, Mayor**

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**Jackie Hunter, Recorder**