

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
November 14, 2017
6:00 p.m.**

Mayor Randy Barrett called the regular monthly meeting of the Winfield City Council to order on November 14, 2017 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, Tim Lafon, City Counsel and John Hodges, Public Works Director.

Public and Guests

Approval of Minutes. Hearing no objections or questions, Ryan Powers moved that the minutes of the October 10, 2017 Meeting be approved. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL:

Bills Paid. Hearing no objections or questions, Ryan Powers moved that the bills paid for the month of October 2017 in the amount of 54,345.63 be approved. Motion carried.

General Fund Financial Statements. Hearing no objections or questions, Ryan Powers moved that the financial statement for the month of October 2017 be approved. Motion carried.

Coal Severance Fund Financial Statement. Hearing no objections or questions, Ryan Powers moved that the Coal Severance Statement for October 2017 be approved. Motion carried.

REPORTS, QUESTIONS & DISCUSSIONS

Police and Municipal Staff Report: Police Chief, Eddie Starcher reported that everything was running smoothly and he was very proud of the police department. He stated that there were three DUI situations and two of those were drug related. The Chief said that a gun incident at Winfield Middle School was handled well.

REPORTS, QUESTIONS & DISCUSSIONS (CONT'D).

Jackie Hunter reported that a member of the staff of Winfield Middle School said that Winfield should be proud of its police force because of how the recent gun incident was handled.

Mayor Barrett stated that if two police cars were seen on duty at the same time, it would be because one was arriving early and one leaving late as officers logged in four hours of overtime paid for by grants.

The Mayor announced that the Putnam County Chamber of Commerce would be holding a Breakfast before Business at the Municipal Building. The breakfast would start about 7:30 and last until 9:30. He asked any Council member who could to make an appearance.

The Mayor noted that he had spoken to Senator Mitch Carmichael and some local businesses about having a resolution read in the Senate Chambers on February 21 to commemorate Winfield's 150 birthday.

Mayor Barrett stated that the city switched from Frontier Communications to a cable company and there is a dispute between Frontier and the city concerning a contract, which the Mayor says the city never signed. Tim LaFon said there would probably be a lawsuit, but that the city was in a good position.

Mayor Barrett reported that Phase III of Courtyard Estates has been approved.

The Mayor said that there was a class action lawsuit that many cities were joining that concerned the large influx of opioids that drug companies had been sending into West Virginia. Tim Lafon noted that Winfield should be receiving a letter concerning the lawsuit shortly.

The Mayor said that he had filed the forms to West Virginia American Water for the City of Winfield and the Sanitary Board to receive recompense for the aggravation of being without water due to the water contamination some months back.

Mayor Barrett also reported that The Thrasher Group had sent a representative down from Bridgeport to further explain the MS-4 program and the city's obligations and that he was now more aware of what responsibilities were entailed and what areas were

REPORTS, QUESTIONS & DISCUSSIONS (CONT'D).

affected. He noted that even though some steps have been taken to comply, the city will still have to have to take samples of runoff water by April to prove that we are not polluting the river. He added that the city has \$ 9,000.00 left from the previous storm water project that could be directed to the MS-4 program, since it can only be used toward storm water efforts.

Wastewater System/Treatment Plant Report: John Hodges reported that the ammonia reading for November was 27.5 mg/L. He said that last year at this time, the reading was 18.6 mg/L and last month's reading was 14.5.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Annexation Discussion Tim LaFon reported the Judge was going to look over the briefs as there was no transcript, and possibly go forth with the list of facts checked off by the Commissioners.

City National Bank Audit: Tim Lafon stated he had nothing to report, but he felt it would be taken to Circuit Court.

Ordinance 2017-2018-3 Amend Article 105.01 (b) Election Term from Two to Four Years. Joe Rumbaugh moved to approve Ordinance 2017-2018-3 to amend Article 105.01 (b) Election Term from two to four years. Motion carried.

Sale of Cemetery Lots – Bruce Brick. Council had previously approved the purchase of the Mr. Brick's lots back to the city. Gloria Chapman explained that Mr. Brick said the lots were \$400.00 each when he purchased them, so Council approved the \$ 800.00. But when she checked the cemetery records, she found that he actually paid \$ 700.00 each for the lots. Therefore, Frank Bannister moved to approve the adjustment made in the minutes to show the original cost of the lots, and pay Mr. Brick the \$600.00 difference. Motion carried.

Amend Article 741 B&O Tax to Allow Newly Annexed Businesses a One-year Exemption from the Tax. Ryan Powers moved to allow newly annexed sales and retail businesses a one year exemption from the tax. Frank Bannister was opposed. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance 2017-2018-4 2017 Replacement Pages. Joe Rumbaugh moved to approve replacement pages for Ordinance 2017-2018-4 2017 Replacement pages. Motion carried.

Adopt the Use of a Vacant Property Registration Form and Ordinance. Following the City of Nitro's Vacant Property Registration Form example, Frank Bannister moved to adopt the use of a vacant property registration form and ordinance. Motion carried.

Amend Article 5 General Offenses: Add Drug & Gang Houses. Frank Bannister moved to hold first reading to amend Article 5 General Offenses to add drug & gang houses following the example of the City of Martinsburg, but revising to the language to read, "The property is used for 3 such offenses or incidents within any 24 month period." Motion carried.

Christian Heritage Week. Frank Bannister moved to approve the Mayor's Proclamation that November 19-25, 2017 be proclaimed as Christian Heritage Week. Motion carried.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Ryan Powers questioned if residents of Winfield could request a different waste collector other than the one servicing their home. Mayor Barrett explained that Waste Management was the franchised waste collector for our area.

Police Chief Starcher mentioned that the department was given a \$ 4,500 grant to use toward distracted driving, and because of Officer Luke Mullins' alertness in catching over 60 fake inspection stickers in the last 6-8 months, the city was awarded two tint detectors worth \$500.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Frank Bannister moved that the meeting be adjourned at 7:07 p.m., until the next scheduled meeting. Motion carried.

Randy L Barrett, Mayor

Jackie Hunter, Recorder