

The Common Council of the City of Knox met in regular session at the Knox City Hall at 7:00 PM CST on Tuesday, June 24, 2014 with the following members present: Mayor, Rick Chambers; Clerk-Treasurer, Jeff Houston; Councilmembers, Don Kring, Ron Parker, Jeff Berg, Linda Berndt and City Attorney, Dave Matsey. Councilmember, Greg Matt was absent.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the previous meeting were mailed to the Councilmembers prior to the meeting for their review. Mayor Chambers asked that the amount of an offer to sell 406 Giles Court to the City under the heading "Acquisition of Property" be changed from \$3,500.00 to \$6,500.00.

Linda Berndt made a motion, seconded by Don Kring to approve the minutes with that correction. Motion passed with Four (4) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: CITIZENS COMMENTS

Citizen Elizabeth Bratt came before the board to raise concerns about a property across the street from her that she would like cleaned up. Mayor Chambers said he has been notifying property owners of tall grass that needs to be cut and will continue to do so. The City is also seeking a grant to buy vacant property to clean it up. Mrs. Bratt said the property across from her has a partially torn down greenhouse. The Mayor said he will talk to the homeowner and see what their time line is.

RE: ORDINANCE #1148 - REMOVAL OF WEEDS AND RANK VEGETATION - 1ST READING

Mayor Chambers said the state has passed new laws that make it easier to get property owners to remove tall grass and rank vegetation. As a result, the local ordinance needs to be updated. The Mayor presented Ordinance #1148 for the council's consideration. After a short discussion of possible changes, Ron Parker made a motion, seconded by Don Kring to approve Ordinance #1148 on first reading by title only. Motion passed with Four (4) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: 2015 SALARY ORDINANCE #1147-1ST READING

Clerk-Treasurer Jeff Houston presented the 2015 Salary Ordinance #1147 to the council. He stated that it calls for a 3% raise and the reasons for requesting it.

Councilman Don Kring stated that a 3% across the board raise would cost the city quite a bit, especially for employees making over \$40,000.00 a year. Mayor Chambers asked that the Clerk-Treasurer see what the total cost of the raise would be to the City and suggested that perhaps a flat raise of, for instance \$500.00 a year would be appropriate. The council indicated that further discussion will take place during a later reading of the ordinance. Don Kring made a motion seconded by Ron Parker to approve Ordinance #1147 on first reading by title only. Motion passed with Four (4) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: TRANSFER OF FUNDS - RESOLUTION #905

Clerk-Treasurer presented the following Transfer of Funds.

RESOLUTION #905
TRANSFER OF FUNDS

WHEREAS; The Clerk-Treasurer has advised the Common Council transfer of funds is now required in the General Fund for the payment of vouchers.

BE IT RESOLVED; by the Common Council of the City of Knox that the Clerk-Treasurer is hereby allowed and directed to make the following transfer of funds.

GENERAL FUND:

Mayor's Office	\$ 150.00 from 101002332-Postage, Travel
	\$ 150.00 to 101002336-Dues, Roundtable
Police Department	\$10,000.00 from 101005118-Patrolman
	\$ 5,000.00 to 101005119-P/T Patrolman
	\$ 5,000.00 to 101005120-Overtime
Plan Commission	\$ 610.00 from 101008332-Postage, Travel
	\$ 500.00 to 101008333-Pub Legal Notice
	\$ 110.00 to 101008444-Computer Software

Rick Chambers, Mayor

Attest:

Jeffery J. Houston, Clerk-Treasurer

Linda Berndt made a motion, seconded by Jeff Berg to approve Resolution #905. Motion passed with Four (4) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

Clerk-Treasurer Houston reminded the council to notify him if they wanted to attend the IACT conference in Fort Wayne, September 9 - 11.

He reported that the new water quality report will be included in this month's utility bill. He encouraged the council to read the report. He noted that it is required by law to be sent out each year.

RE: CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

City Attorney Dave Matsey said he will be attending the Municipal Attorneys conference on June 26 and 27. He has been looking into regulations for food vendors at the Farmers Market.

RE: MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Chambers said the City will need volunteers to man the gates for the fireworks this year.

Water Superintendent Todd Gardner is hosting a training program at the Community Center tonight and another in two weeks with the Alliance for Rural Water.

The Mayor has been working on an ordinance to regulate semi truck traffic in the city.

The Mayor noted that gators are not allowed on city streets and are specifically forbidden by the Golf Cart Ordinance, however the county is allowing it now.

The Mayor will look into how other Municipalities are handling it.

The Water Department has been working to try to make sure we don't have so many water lines freeze next winter. One of these projects is replacing a line under Washington Street at Bower. The road will be closed while work is being done, but he hopes it can be completed in one day.

Mayor Chambers provided a report on the money received at the fundraiser for this years fireworks.

Expenses

Rob's Staff	\$100.00
Presales	\$1,432.00
At Door	\$ 230.00
Less Expense	\$ (100.00)
Total Profit	\$1,562.00

We have raised \$1,976 from donations from the letters and request from the Mayor's Office and we have \$225.00 so far from the vendors (which should be about half so far) for a total of \$3,763.00 for this years event so far.

The moose called and advised that they are putting on a fish fry Friday June 27, 2014 for a fund raiser for the fire works and will be making a donation.

RE: COUNCIL ITEMS

Councilman Jeff Berg is to set up a meeting with Jim Shilling for transfer of the title for the Gateway property.

Councilman Berg has been approached about purchasing a property in Parkview that is a little less than an acre located behind the former Shannon's Auto property. They want \$700.00 for the property. The Mayor asked the Councilman to contact the owner and report back with their bottom price.

RE: VOUCHERS AND ALLOWANCES

The following properly filed vouchers (see Voucher Docket, Voucher #18560 - #18632) were presented and approved.

There being no further business to come before the council at this time the meeting up motion was duly adjourned.

Rick Chambers, Mayor

Attest: _____
Jeffery J. Houston, Clerk-Treasurer