

The Common Council of the City of Knox met in regular session at the Knox City Hall at 7:00 PM CST on Tuesday, November, 26, 2013 with the following members present: Mayor, Rick Chambers; Clerk-Treasurer, Jeff Houston; Councilmembers, Greg Matt, Don Kring, Jeff Berg, Linda Berndt and City Attorney Dave Matsey. Councilmember, Ron Parker 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. Jeff Berg made a motion seconded by Greg Matt to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passed with Four (4) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: INJURED FIREMAN'S BENEFITS

Mayor Chambers said the Clerk-Treasurer has been working with the insurance company to see how much it would cost to increase the amount of weekly benefits to injured firemen. Right now our policy only pays \$300.00 a week maximum.

Clerk-Treasurer Houston quoted prices from the carrier for increasing the amounts to \$600.00, \$800.00 or \$1,000.00 a week.

The Mayor said the City should take a survey of the firemen to see what the average firemen makes per week. Clerk-Treasurer Houston noted that with regular workers comp you have to be off 21 days before they go back and pick up lost wages from the 14th day. They also pay at only 66% of lost wages. Light duty is also utilized to avoid claims when possible. Mr. Noah is presently paid up until November 15th.

Mayor Chambers said that the handbook perhaps should state what benefits an injured fireman would receive so they know when they join the department.

The premium is due January 27th. The council will take up the discussion on increasing benefits at a later date.

RE: CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

Clerk-Treasurer Houston reported that the water line easement for the jail project has been signed and recorded at the recorders office at the court house.

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, residents who normally have their trash picked up on Thursday, will be picked up on Friday instead.

The Indiana Association of Cities and Towns is making copies of the Indiana Municipal Officials Handbook available to City Officials for \$10.00 a piece or \$25.00 for three. Several Councilmembers noted that they would like a copy. Houston said he would order three.

The City presently has an "employee dishonesty" bond with Westfield Company for \$50,000.00 of coverage that covers all the City's employees except the Clerk-Treasurer, City Judge and Clerk-Treasurer's Chief Deputy. These three employees are under separate bonds. Clerk-Treasurer Houston is presently getting quotes from our regular carrier (Hylant) to increase the coverage to probably \$100,000.00 effective in December. The coverage could even be cheaper since it would be through our regular carrier.

RE: MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Chambers said that Milo Enterprises has not started on the water line extension yet. He will start on Tuesday of next week. There will start on Tuesday of next week. There will be a two day boil order for the 10 homes on Evelyn Drive.

A number of problems have cropped up on the lift station project. They are not sure if the problem is an electrical problem with the pump or if the problem stems from the forced main being corroded. The pump should work at 150 gpn and it is only pumping at 116 gpn. If the problem is not with the pump, the line could need cleaning, resulting in a cost of about \$10,000.00 to replace 203 feet of line.

RE: COUNCIL ITEMS

Councilmember Jeff Berg asked when and where the tree lighting ceremony would take place.

Mayor Chambers said it would be Sunday December 1st at 5:00 PM at the pocket park and community center.

A general discussion took place concerning the decorations at the gateway entrance to the City.

Councilmember Linda Berndt asked how the Park Superintendent was doing and the Mayor said he was improving and at home now. The Mayor also noted some work that was done at the park including parking lot stone work. Some swings were installed for handicapped children also.

RE: VOUCHERS AND ALLOWANCES

The following properly filed vouchers (see Voucher Docket Book, Voucher #17634 - #17697 inclusive) were presented and approved.

There being no further business to come before the council the meeting upon motion was duly adjourned.

Rick Chambers, Mayor

Attest: _____