

The Common Council of the City of Knox met in regular session at the Knox City Hall at 7:00 PM CST on Tuesday January 14, 2014 with the following members present: Mayor, Rick Chambers; Clerk-Treasurer, Jeff Houston; Councilmembers, Don Kring, Greg Matt, 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. Greg Matt made a motion seconded by Jeff Berg to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed with Four (4) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: PARK DISCUSSION - CHRIS MARSHAL

Chris Marshal of the Park Board came before the Council to discuss funding options for the park department. At the last meeting Park Board President Ray Stephenson had proposed charging a flat fee for the use of the concession stand instead of charging a percentage of the gross and also charging for baseball members. Chris also suggesting raising the price of park shelter rentals.

Mayor Chambers had consulted with the City Attorney and he feels fees can be raised by the Park Board with a resolution and then the council passing an ordinance.

City Attorney Matsey stated we also need to do something with the park hours to prohibit access in all the parks after hours. Mr. Marshall said they need to add on to a present building as they need more room.

Councilmember Ron Parker arrived at this point.

Mr. Marshall noted that the department spent \$2,000.00 for equipment to care for the playing fields and that many of the lights need replacing.

Clerk-Treasurer Houston explained the different funds that are available for the park. Mayor Chambers and the City attorney will attend the next Park Board meeting on January 23 at 6:00 PM.

RE: ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT FOR 2014

Mayor Chambers opened the floor for nominations for Council President. Greg Matt nominated Don Kring. Ron Parker seconded the nomination. No other nominations were made. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: APPOINTMENTS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS FOR 2014

Mayor Chambers made the following appointments for 2014:

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| CITY ATTORNEY | DAVID MATSEY |
| STREET SUPERINTENDENT | JEFF BORG |
| WATER SUPERINTENDENT | TODD GARDNER |
| WASTEWATER SUPERINTENDENT | KELLY CLEMONS |
| PARK SUPERINTENDENT | GEORGE BYERS |
| PLANNING COMMISSION ADMINISTRATOR | BRUCE WILLIAMS |
| POLICE CHIEF | CLINT NOREM |
| FIRE CHIEF | KEN PFOST |
| ANIMAL CONTROL | APPOINTMENT TO BE MADE LATER |
| ORDINANCE OFFICER | VACANT |
| STARKE COUNTY ALCOHOL BEVERAGE BOARD | WILLIAM E GUSTAFSON |
| KIRP-C | MAYOR CHAMBERS |
| STARKE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION | MAYOR CHAMBERS AND GREG MATT |
| STARKE COUNTY VISITORS ASSOCIATION | MAYOR CHAMBERS |
| STARKE COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT | MAYOR CHAMBERS, AND DONALD KRING |
| KNOX PLANNING COMMISSION | BRENT VANNORMAN, STEVE DODGE, MIKE SKINNER, TINA NOREM |

RE: VOLUNTEER FIREMAN'S COMPENSATION

City Attorney Dave Matsey explained the case of Volunteer Fireman Wayne Noah. Mr. Noah was hurt investigating an arson fire. The City only carried the minimum workers comp. insurance at the time of \$400.00 per week. The City has since increased the income protection to \$1,000.00 per week. Mr. Matsey spoke to Charlie Pride at the State Board of Accounts and was told the only way the City could compensate Mr. Noah above what the insurance paid was as a settlement offer to threatened litigation. Councilman Kring voiced concern about setting a precedent if the City offered to compensate Mr. Noah. Mayor Chambers said Mr. Noah is looking to recoup \$2,003.20 that he claims he lost based on a 40 hour week. City Attorney Matsey said that the Mayor needs to ascertain whether Mr. Noah is going to pursue this before the City can make him an offer.

RE: FIRE CONTRACT FOR CENTER AND JACKSON TOWNSHIP

Clerk-Treasurer Houston presented the contracts for fire protection for Center and Jackson Township. Center Township's Contract will stay the same as last year, but due to typographical errors the contract will be presented at the next Council meeting. The Jackson Township Trustee requested that a set amount of \$5,000.00 per year be substituted for the \$650.00 per fire call to facilitate easier budgeting. Clerk-Treasurer Houston said this was also alright with the Fire Department. The money goes into the general fund to offset the general cost of

