

The Common Council of the City of Knox met in regular session at the Knox City Hall at 7:00 PM CST with the following members present: Mayor, Rick Chambers; Clerk-Treasurer, Jeff Houston; Councilmembers, Linda Berndt, Jeff Berg, Ron Parker, Greg Matt, Don Kring and City Attorney, Dave Matsey. 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 to approve the minutes as presented with a typographical correction. Greg Matt seconded the motion. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: CITIZENS COMMENTS

Local volunteer Mary Bendt gave an update on the Woodstarke Event that will be held Saturday September 13 in the Wythogan park. There will be family friendly music continuously along with healthy snacks and drinks. Other activities include art in the park, a corn hole tournament, dance and exercise classes, a one mile walk and a parade.

RE: MATCH FOR BLIGHT ELIMINATION GRANT

Mayor Chambers said the City is applying for a \$180,000.00 grant for a house demolition grant with Anne Mannix. It will require an \$18,000.00 grant match.

The Mayor and Planning Commission have met with Mrs. Mannix several times to screen the houses to be purchased. There is a check list of things that need to be done including lead testing.

Jeff Berg made a motion to commit up to a maximum of \$18,000.00 from EDIT Funds for a 10% match to apply for the demolition grant. Don Kring seconded the motion. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: REQUEST FOR COMMUNITY CENTER USE BY AREA CHURCHES

Mayor Chambers presented a proposal from Deborah McIntire. She would like the City to donate the Community Center one day a week every week for area churches to prepare and serve a free meal for those in need.

the Councilmembers and City Attorney, while sympathetic to the cause voiced concerns about the costs associated with it such as liability, broken or damaged furniture fixtures, carpets etc. as well as water, gas and electric use. It was noted that the Community Center does not break even and non-profit groups usually pay a discount of 50% when using the center for any purpose.

Mayor Chambers said he will check with Mrs. McIntire and see if she knows how many people would be coming and have more discussion with her and bring it back later.

RE: TRANSFER OF FUNDS - RESOLUTION #907

Clerk-Treasurer Houston presented the following resolution to the Council.

RESOLUTION #907
TRANSFER OF FUNDS

WHEREAS; The Clerk-Treasurer has advised the Common Council transfer of funds is now required in the General, Park, CEDIT, KCCOM, Water Operating 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:

City Judge	27.70	from	101004444-Equipment
	27.70	to	101004332-Telephone
Police Department	5,000.00	from	101005118-Patrolman
	2,000.00	to	101005124-Special Clothing
	3,000.00	to	101005119-Special Patrolman
	1,500.00	from	101013340-Repairs, Maintenance
	1,500.00	to	101013335-Utilities

PARK AND RECREATION FUND:

Park Department	2,527.33	from	216010447-Equipment
	2,000.00	to	216010301-Contractual
	527.33	to	216010113-Recreational Director

NANCY J. DEMBOWSKI COMMUNITY CENTER:
KCCOM

	300.00	from	237001336-Repair Bld, Equipment
	300.00	to	237001337-Maintenance

CEDIT FUND:
CEDIT

	9,962.01	from	330001332-Computer, Radio
	9,962.01	to	330001337-Community Center

WATER OPERATING:
WO

	20,000.00	from	601001337-Equipment
	20,000.00	to	601001229-Supplies

FUND TO FUND:
Cedit

	23,123.05	from	330001337-Community Center
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KCCOM	23,123.05	to	237001 KCCOM
Cedit	1,000.00	from	330001335-Girl Scout Cabin
GSC	1,000.00	to	236021-GSC

Rick Chambers, Mayor

Attest: _____
Jeffery J. Houston, Clerk-Treasurer

Greg Matt made a motion, seconded by Ron Parker to approve Resolution #907 Transfer of Funds. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

Clerk-Treasurer Houston reported that the budget hearing that was originally scheduled for August 26th has been re-scheduled for September 9th due to an error in publication.

The City received a check for \$684.00 from the insurance company as a rebate for vehicles and equipment that has been sold or disposed of. This money will be deposited into the general fund.

The City is about ready to close out the grant for the demolition of the buildings at 2-4 North Main. The Clerk-Treasurers office is waiting for a check for \$3,734.00 from Starke County Economic Development Foundation.

RE: MAYORS REPORT

The Clerk-Treasurer and Mayor met with John Julian and Jason Semler with regards the TIF district. The City is looking at using the money, but the plan can not be found. An amended plan will be drawn up with the help of Umbaugh. Their pay will come out of TIF money. Priorities will be set on how the City wants to use those funds.

Also discussed with Umbaugh was the re-bonding of the water bonds. We currently owe on two bonds. We would pay those off and re-bond. Over the life of the new bond we could save about \$10,000.00 to \$12,000.00 a year. This would be after about \$50,000.00 to \$60,000.00 in re-finance costs. We would also get an updated water rate study done included in the process. The Mayor will contact Umbaugh and ask them to submit a proposal.

The Mayor has contacted the company representative about replacing the stop light at the corner of Main and Culver Road.

Posts have been installed around the new lift station to protect it from being hit.

The Fire Department will be conducting a further investigation of the fire at Standard Pallet this Friday.

There has been some trouble with garbage pick up on Pacific Avenue due to the construction project, but the Mayor of City workers have picked it up for those people that were missed.

The Sewer department is going to do a project on Fisher and Delamatyr. A contractor will be hired to assist them at a cost of \$3,000.00 to \$4,000.00.

The MVH Superintendent Attended the highway conference last week. Road salt will cost about \$3,600.00 more this year.

The City picnic will be Friday at 11:00 AM at the park. The Mayor will meet with the park department Thursday night about the vandalism issue.

RE: COUNCIL ITEMS

Don Kring asked what the road will look like at 300 East. Don also requested that since the "no left turn sign" at the school is not obeyed, then it should be taken down.

Nipsco has been notified of lights that are out in town.

Greg Matt said that he thought we need a new truck ordinance and the idea of working with GPS companies to route traffic to the roads we want them to use was a good idea.

Greg Matt also thanked the Fire Department for their work putting out the recent fire at Standard Pallet.

Linda Berndt noted that it was a dangerous fire that took over nine hours to completely extinguish.

RE: VOUCHERS AND ALLOWANCES

The following properly filed vouchers (see Voucher Docket, Voucher #18923 - #19010) were presented and approved.

Rick Chambers, Mayor

Attest: _____
Jeffery J. Houston, Clerk-Treasurer