

The Common Council of the City of Knox met in regular session at the Knox City Hall on Tuesday August 13, 2013 at 7:00 PM CST with the following members present: Mayor, Rick Chambers; Clerk-Treasurer, Jeff Houston; Councilmembers, Greg Matt, Don Kring, Ron Parker, Jeff Berg, Linda Berndt 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. Greg Matt made a motion, seconded by Ron Parker to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: PEST CONTROL CONTRACT

Samantha Mattes with Mattes Exterminators came before the Board to dispute the reason for the City passing on their bid for pest control for the City. She offered to re-negotiate the contract. Mayor Chambers said the contract hasn't been awarded yet because he is still going over the bids with the City Attorney. Ms. Mattes presented an amended bid and asked the Mayor to look at it and give it special consideration as a local business.

RE: STARKE COUNTY YOUTH CLUB

Irene Szakonyi with the Starke County Youth Club came before the Board to introduce the organization to them. She gave a re-cap of what the organization had done to help the City and the County in the last year. This year they received a grant for one of their elementary school programs, but have been negatively impacted by sequestration. She asked that the City be open to partnering with the organization perhaps through the CDBG program. In addition to that, they are advertising for candidates for the Board of Directors and volunteers for their mentoring program.

RE: WATER DEPARTMENT/NEW JAIL NEEDS

Water needs for the new jail were discussed. Presently the City can supply a maximum of 500 gallons per minute. The jail will need 750 gallons per minute due to the fire suppression system. Several alternatives were discussed. Scott Carnegie from DLZ, Todd Gardner, Knox Water Superintendent and Kathy Norem representing the County all spoke. A final decision on a course of action will be taken at a special meeting on Tuesday August 20, 2013 at Knox City hall.

RE: LEASE AGREEMENT WITH NIPSCO

Mayor Chambers said he would like to sign an extension of the present lease with Nipsco for rent at the City Annex Building for \$200.00 a month at basically the same terms. Greg Matt made a motion, seconded by Ron Parker to authorize the Mayor to sign a one year lease with Nipsco. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: AMENDMENTS TO ORDINANCE #1102 AND #958

A general discussion took place concerning revised fees that were approved by the planning commission on July 2, 2013. Mayor Chambers and City Attorney Matsey suggested several definitions that need to be added and further explanation of the meaning of certain terms. The Mayor suggested that the City Attorney and Planning Commissioner get together and further work on the changes. Planning Commission member Mary Bendt asked that the entire planning commission be involved with whatever is decided.

Greg Matt made a motion, seconded by Linda Berndt to table the amendments. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: 2014 HOLIDAY DATES

Mayor Chambers presented the following schedule to the council:

CITY OF KNOX HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

January	1st Wednesday - New Year's Day
	20th Monday - Martin Luther King Day
February	17th Monday - Presidents Day
April	18th Friday - Good Friday
May	6th Tuesday - Election Day
	26th Monday - Memorial Day
July	4th Friday - 4th of July
September	1st Monday - labor Day
October	13th Monday - Columbus Day
November	4th Tuesday - Election Day
	11th Tuesday - Veteran's Day
	27th Thursday - Thanksgiving Day
	28th Friday - Thanksgiving Friday
December	25th Thursday - Christmas Day
	26th Friday - Day After Christmas
January 2015	1st Thursday - New Years Day

October 31st 2014 - Friday Trick or Treat Hours 5:30-7:00 PM

The Mayor said that the handbook also lists "election days and any additional days so deemed by ordinance". He noted that May 6 and November 4 are election days in 2014, but City Hall is no longer used as an election polling location. He asked the Council if they still wanted City

