

The Common Council of the City of Knox met in regular session at the Knox City Hall at 7:00 PM CST on Tuesday, December 10, 2013 with the following members present. Mayor, Rick Chambers; Clerk-Treasurer, Jeff Houston; Councilmembers, Greg Matt, Don Kring, Jeff Berg and City Attorney, Dave Matsey; Councilmembers, Linda Berndt was absent and Councilmember, Ron Parker arrived after the approval of minutes.

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 accept the minutes as presented with one typographical correction.

Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: FIREMAN INSURANCE BENEFITS

Mayor Chambers passed out a letter from volunteer fireman, Wayne Noah that explained what he collected from the insurance and what he would have made had he been working.

Atten: Mayor Rick Chambers,

Here is the detailed information that you asked for.

I (Wayne Noah) will be going back to work this week on December 4, 2013. I have been off a total of 7 full weeks. I work a standard 45 hours a week at MPI at \$21.44 per hour which equals \$1151.84 weekly gross income.

Provident (Fire Dept. Insurance) has paid \$1000 for first week and \$300 for 4 weeks after a still owe \$600 for the last 2 weeks for a total of \$2200.00.

Guardian, a separate short term disability policy I had personally taken out with MPI did decide to pay some on the claim after Provident paid their share. Guardian has issued a check for \$1200 which is \$200 per week for 6 weeks with the first week being a no pay grace period.

At this point I have received \$3400.00 with another \$600 to come from Provident.

My total gross income for the 7 weeks would have been \$8062.88.

My Lost income is \$4062.88 at this point.

I did not include income for my second job on the county EMS Service due to I only work one shift a week and was able to work a few shifts the last week or so as I recovered.

Sincerely,

Wayne Noah

Mayor Chambers said he doesn't know what the City could do for him. He has just spoken to the City Attorney about the issue. City Attorney Matsey said he will check with the State Board of Accounts as to what is the responsibility of the City and what the City could legally do as well as what precedent any action might set.

RE: INCREASE IN FIREMEN DISABILITY BENEFITS

Mayor Chambers said he had asked Fire Chief Pfof to find out what the average pay received by City firefighters per week is to determine whether to increase the amount of disability benefit coverage the City provides. Pfof reported that the average income is around \$920 a week.

For \$300.00 per week of disability benefits which is what the City carries now is \$3,822 per year. The premium is due January 27, 2014. Clerk-Treasurer Houston reported the following premiums on a 3 year installment:

- \$600 disability benefit - \$4,607 (\$785 cost more per year)
- \$800 disability benefit - \$5,082 (\$1,260 cost more per year)
- \$1000 disability benefit - \$5,538 (\$1,716 cost more per year)

Don Kring made a motion seconded by Greg Matt to increase the income protection benefit to \$1,000 per week. Motion passed with Four (4) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Kenny Pfof handed out the following recap of their activity for 2013.

RUN BREAKDOWN FROM 12/1/2012 TO 11/30/2013

<u>Calls by Type</u>	
Aircraft Crashes	1
Brush/Grass/Woods Fires	7
Medical	56
Mutual Aid	19
Other	35
Structure Fires	16
Vehicle Crashes	43

Vehicle Fires	8
Total	185

Calls by Location

Knox 114	
Center Township	62
Jackson Township	9
Total	185

Chief Pfost noted that about a third of his departments calls were for medical assistance while this is not necessarily a bad thing, it is inconvenient for the fire department because they receive no reimbursement, but must pay \$10 to each fire fighter that responds to the call.

Pfost explained that medical response calls are usually to help lift a patient or provide immediate care until an ambulance can arrive.

City Attorney Matsey said he could look through contracts with townships to see whether or not they could charge a fee. Mayor Chambers said if this continues to be an issue, it could be addressed in the future.

RE: TRANSFER OF FUNDS RESOLUTION #898

RESOLUTION #898
TRANSFER OF FUNDS

WHEREAS; the Clerk-Treasurer has advised the Common Council a transfer of funds is now required in the General, Park, Knox Community Center and CREDIT 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:

Clerk-Treasurer	1,000.00 from 101001444-Computer
	1,000.00 to 101001332-Postage, Travel
Police Department	800.00 from 101005442-Office Equipment
	200.00 to 101005221-Office Supplies
	600.00 to 101005337-Repair Equipment
Fire Department	400.00 from 101006237-Medical Supplies
	400.00 to 101006221-Office Supplies
Board of Works	100.00 from 101007407-Building Addition
	546.10 from 101007333-Pub. Legal Notice
	485.67 from 101007150-City Attorney Other
	4,737.66 from 101007334-Insurance
	5,846.18 to 101007335-Electric
	23.25 to 101007406-Building

PARK AND RECREATION FUND:

Park	1,340.00 from 216010111-Superintendent
	1,340.00 to 216010112-Assistant Superintendent

CREDIT FUND:

Cedit	2,706.00 from 330001408-Building Demolition
	2,706.00 to 330001339-Grant Matches

FUND TO FUND:

Cedit	15,000.00 from CEDIT-330001408-Bld. Demolition
	15,000.00 to Knox Community Center Fund 237

Rick Chambers, Mayor

Attest:

Jeffery J. Houston, Clerk-Treasurer

Clerk-Treasurer Houston noted that this is the time of year we normally have to do some transfers of funds, in General, the City has done well staying within their budgets.

Greg Matt made a motion, seconded by Jeff Berg to approve Resolution #898.

Motion passed with Four (4) ayes and NO (0) nays.

RE: CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

Clerk-Treasurer Houston told the Council that we would have another transfer of funds before the end of the year and also an encumbrance of funds for the City contribution to employee insurance.

Houston reported that the fire contracts with Center Township and Jackson Township are running out and will be presented to the Council in January. They will both be two year contracts.

The City has received it's December distribution of taxes. He noted that the TIF district received approximately \$18,500 less this year than last year due to the drop of the assessed value in the district of \$300,000. This assessment was done in 2011, billed in 2012 payable in 2013, so it really reflects the situation of a couple of years ago. Hopefully the situation has improved since then. He also noted that the City could be adversely affected up to \$200,000 if the business personal property taxes are eliminated.

RE: CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

City Attorney Matsey reported that the IRS had requested additional information from Toll Brothers on their audit of their bond issue. Matsey said he is waiting for final approval of what Toll Brothers is offering as a resolution of the audit.

The City has been sued by Gina Albright, a former dispatcher at the Sheriff's Department for the County. The insurance company will represent the City in the suit and will work with Attorney Matsey to defend the City and the two officers involved.

RE: MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Chambers reported that the City Christmas party will be December 20th at 11:00 AM. The Council is invited.

December 16th the City will interview a company to compile a City Comprehensive Plan. One of the Company will be Green 3 Studio. The Mayor would like five people present, so he asked the councilmembers to try to attend.

Mediacom prices have increased.

The MVH department has ordered some new signs to comply with new high prismatic requirements.

The City is still working on the new lift station. A new pump with a different propeller has been installed and this brought up the flow from 116 gpm to 140 gpm. It should be 150.

About 500 feet of line has been installed for the water extension at Henry Drive. The superintendent, contractor and engineer will meet Wednesday to review the project.

The new squad car has arrived. Decals have been put on and the car has been upfitted.

Mayor Chambers attended the Mayors Institute in Indianapolis last week. He handed out a list of legislative initiatives that IACT would like to see passed in 2014. These include allowing municipalities authority to implement LOIT and other fees to off set tax losses and statewide authority to adopt food and beverage taxes. Protecting TIF districts and rental inspection programs were also on the agenda.

A short discussion took place concerning the possibility of charging insurance for water and sewer lines to residents and whether that is something the City would wan to do.

RE: VOUCHERS AND ALLOWANCES

The following properly filed vouchers (see Voucher Docket Book, Voucher #17698 - #17797 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:

Jeffery J. Houston, Clerk-Treasurer