

The Common Council of the City of Knox met in regular session Tuesday August 28, 2018 in the Knox City Hall at 7:00 PM CST with the following members present: Mayor, Dennis Estok; Clerk-Treasurer, Jeff Houston; Councilmembers, Bertha Blue, Ron Parker, Don Kring, Jeff Berg and City Attorney, Leslie Baker.

RE: AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA

Ron Parker made a motion, seconded by Don Kring to add to the agenda "Acceptance of real property into the City of Knox by gift from the Starke County Historical Society and Gateway Incorporated". Motion passed with Four (4) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the previous meeting were mailed to the Councilmembers prior to the meeting for their review. Don Kring made a motion, seconded by Ron Parker to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passed with Four (4) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: ACCEPTANCE OF REAL PROPERTY FROM HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND GATEWAY INC.

Mayor Estok said the Historical Society and Gateway Incorporated has gifted to the City of Knox the real property which is the Gateway Depot and land to the City. The Depot was in the name of the Historical Society. The land both on the East side of Highway 35 and on the West side include the parking lots, wall, lights etc. The West side is very important to the City to complete the planned park improvements including additional parking, lights etc. He noted that it has been a very long time since the City began negotiating to obtain the properties. The City hired an attorney to prove the City owned the old railroad bed right of way that the Depot is on. The attorney had experience in railroad right of way issues. The City's insurance broker also told the City that it would be very problematic if there was any liability claims due to the City insuring property that was not in its name.

The Mayor said he hopes that Gateway Corporation would become a Gateway Committee to act as an advisory group for the Gateway. Don Kring made a motion, seconded by Jeff Berg to accept both gifts of real property to the City. Motion passed with Four (4) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: CLERK-TREASURERS'S REPORT

Clerk-Treasurer Houston said he has been working on the 2019 Budget. He has also been finishing up an audit with the State Board of Accounts. The Clerk-Treasurers office is having employees sign for the new changes in the employee handbook.

RE: MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Estok reported that the City did not receive the Wastewater Treatment Grant. There will be a round two awarded some time in the middle of January. He said the City will re-apply once more but will have to start the process from the beginning.

The Mayor and Clerk-Treasurer will meet with John Julian from Umbaugh to explore options and meet with Gerry White from OCRA to see how to strengthen our application.

The Mayor asked the press present to put out the word that he had instructed the police to begin ticketing people driving too fast in the area of the school's campus. He noted that even school busses were going faster than the posted speed limit. Two of the streets he noticed that were bad were Clabaugh and Main Streets. He has already spoken to the transportation department at the schools.

The Pilot Program building at 10 S Main will be completed in about a month. The Mayor has already received inquiries from possible tenants.

RE: COUNCIL ITEMS

Councilmember, Don Kring noted that more pavement is needed on the East side of the railroad tracks on Williams Street. The Mayor said he will have the street superintendent see if the City can do anything to help the situation.

RE: VOUCHERS AND ALLOWANCES

The following properly filed vouchers (see Voucher Docket, Voucher #26059 - #26108 inclusive) were presented and approved.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time the meeting upon motion was duly adjourned.

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Dennis Estok, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jeffery J. Houston, Clerk-Treasurer