

The Common Council of the City of Knox met in regular session Tuesday November 13, 2018 in the Knox City Hall at 7:00 PM CST with the following members present: Mayor, Dennis Estok; Clerk-Treasurer, Jeff Houston; Councilmembers, Ron Parker, Bertha Blue, Jeff Berg, William Gustafson and City Attorney, Leslie Baker. Councilmember Don Kring was absent.

RE: AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA

Jeff Berg made a motion, seconded by Bertha Blue to add Resolution #975 Authorizing Application Submission and Local Match Commitment and Resolution #976 Wastewater System Improvements to be Financed by Bonds to the agenda. Motion passed with Four (4) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES 10/23/18

Minutes of the previous meeting were mailed to the Councilmembers prior to the meeting for their review. Jeff Berg made a motion, seconded by William Gustafson to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed with Four (4) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: PUBLIC HEARING: CDBG WASTEWATER/DRINKING WATER PROJECT

Mayor, Dennis Estok opened the public hearing for the CDBG Wastewater/Drinking Water Project. Grant Administrator Emily Albaugh explained the basics of the project and grant process. She said the CDBG Director decided that the City of Knox is eligible for an additional \$100,000.00 on the grant. So, the grant total would be \$700,000.00. The project would include improvements to the headworks and to the pre-treatment system. The total cost of the project is \$1,972,770.00. The local match will be \$1,272,770.00 from a bond and cash on hand. Final application will be submitted November 30th. Awards will be announced sometime in mid-January. Mayor Estok closed the public hearing.

RE: RESOLUTION #975 AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION AND LOCAL MATCH COMMITMENT

Copies of Resolution #975 were distributed to the Councilmembers prior to the meeting for their review. Jeff Berg made a motion, seconded by Bertha Blue to approve Resolution #975 Authorizing Application Submission and Local Match Commitment. Motion passed with Four (4) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: RESOLUTION #976 – REGARDING WASTEWATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS TO BE FINANCED BY BONDS

Copies of Resolution #976 were distributed to the Councilmembers prior to the meeting for their review. Ron Parker made a motion seconded by Jeff Berg to approve Resolution #976 Regarding Wastewater System Improvements to be Financed by Bonds. Motion passed with Four (4) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: ORDINANCE #1170 – SALARY ORDINANCE FOR 2019

Mayor Estok presented the 2019 Salary Ordinance. It basically calls for an across the board increase of 3%. Seasonal park employees will receive three summer holidays. Clerk-Treasurer Houston explained that the new salary ordinance would now agree with the new employee handbook. Police holiday pay would now be compensated differently, with more pay for working the holiday. Unused sick days would no longer be paid when an employee leaves City employment. Jeff Berg made a motion, seconded by Bertha Blue to approve Ordinance #1178 on first reading. Motion passed with Four (4) ayes and No (0) nays.

Bertha Blue made a motion to suspend the rules and have a second and final vote on Ordinance #1170. Ron Parker seconded the motion. Motion passed with Four (4) ayes and No (0) nays.

Bertha Blue made a motion to approve Ordinance #1170 – Salary Ordinance 2019 on second and final reading. Jeff Berg seconded the motion. Motion passed with Four (4) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

Clerk-Treasurer, Jeff Houston reported that the Waste Management clause that charges a sur charge on the diesel fuel has kicked in and the amount charged to homeowners is a little lower than the amount we pay to Waste Management. The total right now is a little less than \$150.00 a month. The City's cost is set to go up again next August. The shortage is being made up with EDIT funds.

The City received the bills for the Water and Wastewater utility audits. They will be paid from the utilities. They were about \$3,700.00 per utility. The bill for the other finances of the City is about \$8,000.00 and will be deducted from the December tax distribution.

RE: MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Dennis Estok passed out copies of the Community Crossing grant award and related materials with a list of the streets that were or are to be paved or repaired. The City was awarded \$346,138.07 for the grant. The City's match is \$115,379.36 which includes 2018's regular paving projects, so that reduces the City's match amount to about \$40,000.00. 444 Communities applied for the grant this year and only 283 were awarded. Neuter Scooter is coming back Tuesday November 20th. Residents will have to go on their website to register at www.neuterscooter.com.

The Peppermint Parade is being planned. Float entry applications are due by November 20th. The parade is December 1st and good weather is expected.

The Mayor passed out proposed rules for the new message board.

RE: COUNCIL ITEMS

Councilwoman, Bertha Blue said the street department is doing a great job picking up leaves. She also asked how the internal controls training is coming along. Clerk-Treasurer Houston said all employees have completed their training except some police officers. Councilwoman Blue asked about whether the fire departments charge for assistance in cases such as recently happened when several different departments helped with a fire on Roosevelt Road. The Mayor said he does not believe departments charge each other for assistance.

Councilman Jeff Berg asked if the water line on Pearl street was still on the list to be replaced. The Mayor said yes, but not at the present time.

Councilman William Gustafson inquired about handicapped parking at the Nancy J. Dembowski Community Center. He said a constituent had approached him about the number of spaces available. The Clerk-Treasurer said there are a few spaces in the alley and a

few on the East side of the building. He noted that the building was inspected a few years ago since it is used as a polling place. At that time, it was determined to be compliant with necessary requirements.

Mayor Estok said he would investigate the situation to see if more spots are needed.

RE: CITIZENS COMMENTS

Resident John Fletcher asked if seasonal workers would receive a 3% raise also. The Mayor told him yes.

Jacqui Ryan asked if the City has a Christmas tree yet. The Mayor said No. She also asked if the City if getting a new City Attorney since City Attorney Baker was recently elected County Prosecutor. Attorney Baker said she will finish out the year. The Mayor said he would appoint a new attorney the beginning of next year.

RE: VOUCHERS AND ALLOWANCES

The following properly filed vouchers (see Voucher Docket, Voucher #26374 - #26482 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.

Dennis Estok, Mayor

Attest: _____
Jeffery J. Houston, Clerk-Treasurer