

The Common Council of the City of Knox met in regular session Tuesday January 22, 2019 in the Knox City Hall at 7:00 PM CST with the following members present: Mayor, Dennis Estok; Clerk-Treasurer, Jeff Houston; Councilmembers, Don Kring, William Gustafson, Bertha Blue, Jeff Berg and newly appointed City Attorney Autumn Ferch. Councilmember, Ron Parker was absent.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

Mayor Dennis Estok opened the meeting and announced the appointment of City Attorney, Autumn Ferch.

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 Jeff Berg to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed with Four (4) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

Clerk-Treasurer Jeff Houston passed out copies of the report of the tax abatements that were granted for the current year. He explained that the report listed each business that received an abatement, whether it was personal property or real property, the term of the abatement and the amount. A total of \$4,093,770.00 was assessed in 2018 payable 2019. The general fund 1.1655% of that or about \$47,700.00.

RE: MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Estok announced the following items or projects.

The City has been awarded a \$700,000.00 grant through OCRA for a \$1,900,000.00 project at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. There is a \$612,000.00 match taken from various accounts. The City is setting up a meeting with JPR, Umbaugh and KIRPC.

The Mayor said the new message board has started spotlighting local businesses. The first one was Anytime Golf. The same business will be spotlighted on the City Web Site.

The redevelopment project building at 10 S Main will be done soon. It will be used for pop-up stores, perhaps more than one at a time. Applications for prospective tenants will be available in the Mayor's office or on the City Web Site by mid-February.

Projects for 2019 include a grant from the DNR for restroom, shelter and paving of the parking lot at Sandy Acres Park. There will be a 50% match that will amount to as much as \$85,000.00 that the City would have to come up with.

Another project is the widening of the entrance to Wythogan park. This needs to be done this year because Bridge Street would be submitted for the Community Crossings Grant. The wall could not be included.

The City needs to hire an engineer to design the parking on the property we acquired from Gateway. There needs to be lighting in the parking lot and sidewalk leading to the concession stand.

Mayor Estok presented a concept drawing for a street scape using Traffic Control Specialists.

The Mayor said he is working with Umbaugh and the County to extend the TIF district on Main Street to 200 South and to enlarge the Industrial Park TIF.

RE: VOUCHERS AND ALLOWANCES

The following properly filed vouchers (see Voucher Docket, Voucher #26707 - #26726 and #26774 - #26835 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