

The Common Council of the City of Knox met in regular session Tuesday November 12, 2019 in the Knox City Hall at 7:00 PM CST with the following members present: Mayor, Dennis Estok; Clerk-Treasurer, Jeff Houston; Councilmembers, William Gustafson, Ron Parker, Jeff Berg, Bertha Blue, Don Kring and City Attorney, Autumn Ferch.

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. Bertha Blue made a motion seconded by Ron Parker to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: COUNCIL APPOINTMENT TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Mayor Estok explained that the Council needed to nominate a member for the Economic Development Commission. They only meet as needed and all the former members have termed out. The Commission needs to meet in regard to bonds about to be issued by a new local company.

Ron Parker made a motion to nominate William Gustafson for the position. No other nominations were made. Jeff Berg made a motion to accept the nomination of William Gustafson. Bertha Blue seconded the motion. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

Clerk-Treasurer Jeff Houston distributed copies of the Cities and Towns Retention Schedule and County/Local General Retention Schedules to the Councilmembers. He told the Council that in accordance with IC5-15-6-1 through 12 and the retention schedules, his department has completed a destruction of records. The Clerk-Treasurer's Department shredded 2655 LBS of records at a cost of \$318.60, which was considerably less than previous events where the contractor was paid by the hour.

The City has been awarded the IPEP Grant and the Clerk-Treasurer's office will do a press release about it later.

The City Attorney and Cheryl in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office prepared the deeds and sales disclosure forms for five of the blighted properties that were sold. This saved the City about \$800.00.

RE: MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Dennis Estok said we will be bidding out the owner-occupied rehab housing contracts on the first five houses. The bids will be opened on December 2nd at 1:00 PM at City Hall. There will be a pre-bid meeting on November 26 at 10:00 AM. The bid packets are available in the Mayor's Office by November 14th. Three other homes are just about ready to be bid. The City is still working on two more due to complications resulting from the homes being in a flood plain.

The City employee health insurance which is United Healthcare is going up about 11.71%. As a result, the City is switching to Anthem Blue Cross. The City will save about \$70,000.00 a year and the employees will receive better coverage.

December 7th is the Peppermint parade. All Councilmembers are encouraged to help. Applications for units are due by November 27th. The lineup is 3:00 PM with the parade starting at 3:30 PM.

RE: COUNCIL ITEMS

Councilwoman Bertha Blue asked if the City was still going to pick up leaves. The Mayor said leaves would be picked up until there is permanent snow cover and they can't pick up anymore.

RE: CITIZEN COMMENTS

Citizen Jacqui Ryan asked for clarification about who appoints members to the Economic Development Commission. The Mayor said he appoints a total of five. The City Council nominates one candidate and the County Council nominates one.

Miss Ryan said the Mayor, Clerk-Treasurer and Councilman Berg recently traveled to Indianapolis to make a presentation for the Stellar Community designation. The Constellation of Starke presentation is available on the Facebook page.

RE: VOUCHERS AND ALLOWANCES

The following properly filed vouchers (see Voucher Docket, Voucher #28083 - #28164 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