

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTEAGLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**March 25, 2008**

**PRESENT:** Charles Rollins  
Dean Lay  
Marvin Brannan  
Bud Knott  
Lex Orr

**This meeting of the Monteagle City Council was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Charles Rollins.**

**Following the prayer and Pledge of Allegiance led by the Boy Scouts, the Minutes of the meetings of February 26, March 3, March 10, and March 17, 2008, were approved on a motion by Lex Orr which was seconded by Dean Lay and passed 5/0 with a correction to show that Vice Mayor Dean Lay chaired the meeting.**

#### **REPORTS**

**1. POLICE DEPARTMENT – Copy attached**

**Ald. Lay asked about the litigation tax collections and Chief McNeece stated that most of the people who come to city court are given public service. No litigation tax is collected unless a fine is paid. Ald. Knott asked if we were losing an officer and was told that Tim Prater was leaving to work elsewhere.**

**2. FIRE DEPARTMENT – Copy attached**

**Michael Gautier asked the council to approve applying for a grant which would require the city to match 5%. He said it would be used to purchase equipment and a new rescue truck. The mayor asked if this would help our ISO rating. Michael said our rating is due mostly to the utility part of our system. Ald. Orr made a motion to approve applying for the grant. Ald. Brannan seconded the motion and it passed 5/0.**

**3. PLANNING COMMISSION – Copy attached**

**4. MAYOR – The mayor reported that Grundy County has presented him with a \$2000.00 check for the fire department.**

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- 5. ALDERMEN – Ald. Brannan asked about extending the lift of the moratorium on water connections. Ald. Lay made a motion to extend our current policy on water taps until April 29, 2008. Ald. Brannan seconded the motion and it carried 5/0. Ald. Lay asked about the Occupancy Tax on tax exempt organizations. The city attorney said that our current ordinance does not provide for eliminating the tax for these organizations. He suggested that we write a letter to each place that rents rooms and let them know that we are no longer allowing this exemption. Ald. Orr made a motion that the city collect Occupancy Tax on all rentals of 90 days or less and using any additional money for tourism. Ald. Lay seconded the motion which passed 5/0. Ald. Lay asked about the work on the water line by Cooley’s Rift. The mayor reported that we should soon have an easement on this and the work will resume when we have it. Ald. Orr said that at our meeting on March 10<sup>th</sup> Bill Johnson of Arcadis was to get back with us about the work on Trussell Creek. Mr. Boynton said he has met with Mr. Johnson since then but has not received a response yet.**
  
- 6. CITY RECORDER – We have received a contract from Johnson, Murphey, & Wright for our 2008 audit. The council has asked that we get some other prices.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. DIZZY DEAN BASEBALL – Fred Ladd said they have two groups this year with one team of each group - 7-8 year olds, and 9-10 year olds. Ald. Lay made a motion to issue a check in the amount of \$4000.00 to the Monteagle Dizzy Dean baseball league and charge it to grants for parks and recreation. Ald. Brannan seconded the motion which carried 5/0. There also is some equipment they need at the ballpark totaling about \$4500.00.**
  
- 2. RAISE FOR DISPATCHER – There was a request from the Police Chief for a dollar an hour raise for dispatcher Wanda McDaniel. He said she was doing the work that Jan Price used to do. Mayor Rollins said he had given her the raise and put it on the agenda for this meeting. There was a discussion on the fact that this would bring her up to almost the same amount that police**

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**officers are making and the budget this year was done in such a way as to keep officers pay further above that of dispatchers. Ald. Knott made a motion to raise Wanda McDaniel's pay by \$1.00 per hour. The motion died for lack of a second.**

- 4. CODE OF ETHICS – It was noted that this was passed, but a copy needs to be sent to the State.**
- 5. DE-ANNEXATION – The council was given information from the mayor about de-annexing certain areas and asked them to study it.**

**PUBLIC UTILITY BOARD MEETING**

- 1. NATURAL GAS – The council was given items to study concerning the gas system.**
- 2. WATER RATES – Ald. Lay made a motion to reduce the last water rate increase of \$5.60 per thousand by \$2.80 per thousand with the April billing. Ald. Knott seconded the motion which passed unanimously on roll call vote.**
- 3. CONTRACT FOR JIM BOYNTON – Tabled for one more month**

**CITIZENS HEARING**

**Joe Pritchett said he had a problem with his water bill. He will get with the office to check on it.**

**Lynn Stubblefield asked about the problem with some of our fire hydrants and the mayor noted that it is a problem with pressure.**

**David Meeks said he lives on a gravel road and it needs more gravel and Kim Rose**

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**said there is a large hole in the road by her house that needs to be patched. The mayor said he would have Carl look at both of these.**

**There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:56 pm.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

  
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**Joy Sturtevant, City Recorder**