

Lockesburg City Council Meeting

Tuesday Aug 8. 2023

Lockesburg City Council met in regular session Tuesday, August 8, 2023 in the Council Room at City Hall. The media was notified of the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 followed with prayer by Mayor Danny Ruth and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Those in attendance were Mayor Danny Ruth, Recorder Treasurer Becky Jegstrup, Council members Chuck Martin, Mark Schroer, Joe Stephens, Levi Browning, and William Roberts. Council member Claudine Tompkins was absent. Also in attendance were City Attorney Erin Hunter, City Clerk JoAnna Giusti, Asst City Clerk Sydney Hill, Fire Chief and Wastewater Manager Matt Webb, Utilities Supervisor Justin Ruth and Park Commissioner Sheila Ruth.

Guests in attendance were Robert Kern with Little River Tree Farm and Heath Ruth.

A motion was made by Martin and seconded by Schroer to approve the minutes from the July 2023 meeting with a correction to be made on the make of the gun for the Fire Dept raffle. Motion passed 4/0/0.

Mr. Kern addressed the Council in regards to trees to replace Mr. Friday's trees. He has 2 ft saplings at \$7.50 each Grade 3 loblolly pine. He also said he could get a crew together to plant the but would need to know by the middle of September. Webb is also trying to get in contact with Weyerhaeuser and the Forestry Commission so a decision was not made tonight.

Heath Ruth addressed the Council in regards to the Basketball Court to set up a Haunted Maze for Halloween. The maze would be set up for the 2 weekends prior to Halloween and hours would be 7-11 pm. After a brief discussion a motion was made by Stephens and seconded by Schroer to allow the maze to be constructed but signs would have to be put up to state the City was not responsible for any injuries. Motion passed 3/2/0.

A motion was made by Browning and seconded by Roberts to rehire Erin Hunter as City Attorney at the \$500/month salary and the money to come from Tax Fund. Motion passed 5/0/0.

The Council discussed a Clean up letter and new Clean Up Ordinance with Hunter. She is going to draft an Ordinance amending the old Ordinance from 2013 and a letter and have ready for the September meeting.

Hunter also suggested we get a copy of the property lines and easements on the Friday property from the Abstract Office to verify all the lines. She is going to contact them.

A motion was made by Browning and seconded by Stephens to approve the July Budget and Financial Reports. Motion passed 5/0/0.

Fire Chief Webb informed the Council Tyler Fant was retiring from the Fire Dept. Caleb Coulter is transferring from Mineral Springs Fire Dept with all training and certification required. Mineral Springs Fire Chief contacted Webb concerning Coulter's turnouts. He offered to sell them to us for \$1010. They are still good for 4 more years. A motion was made by Browning and seconded by Roberts to approve the purchase with money to come from Fire Dept Special Account. Motion passed 5/0/0.

Webb also addressed the Council concerning the Tanker truck. It was taken on a mutual aid fire in Green's Chapel and was enroute back to station when the engine blew up. It is currently in the shop in Ashdown awaiting an estimate for the cost to fix it. It is a very vital part of the Fire Dept since the tank is so large so Webb was requesting help with the cost when he gets the estimate which should be in a week or so. No decision was made at this time.

As Wastewater Manager, Webb addressed the Council concerning a collapsed manhole at Ridge Rd and 371. He got an estimate from Tyler Johnson for \$6500 to replace and move the manhole away from the right of way. A motion was made by Martin and seconded by Schroer to approve the bid with the money to come from Sewer Back Up Savings. Motion passed 5/0/0.

Park Commissioner Sheila Ruth and Sydney Hill addressed the Council about a Grant they were applying for to purchase Playground equipment and do some improvements to the Basketball Court at the Park. The grant is 100% grant.

A motion was made by Martin and seconded by Schroer to approve Resolution 2023-7, a resolution amending the Resolution from last month on the SCBA Grant. We could only apply for \$15,000 so the units had to be cut from 8 to 4. Motion passed 5/0/0.

After a brief discussion a motion was made by Roberts and seconded by Martin to allow Sydney Hill to attend ACCRTA Institute on September. Motion passed 5/0/0.

A motion was made by Stephens and seconded by Schroer to approve Building permit 2023-6 for Ronnie Sherman at 132 S Spring St to do an enclosure and add on a new carport. Motion passed 5/0/0.

A motion was made by Browning and seconded by Roberts to approve Building permit 2023-7 for Zebbie Launius at 3430 S Camelia to enclose the back porch area if an existing building. Motion passed 5/0/0.

A motion was made by Browning and seconded by Roberts to approve the bills for July. Motion passed 5/0/0.

A motion was made by Roberts and seconded by Martin to adjourn. Motion passed 5/0/0 and the meeting was adjourned at 8:23.

Mayor Danny Ruth _____

Recorder Treasurer Becky Jegstrup _____