

**City Of New Virginia  
Council Meeting Minutes  
August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

The Council met in regular session on Monday July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. for the July Council Meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Huston with Council Members Galivan, Nelson, Strange and Truman present. Zuercher absent.

Minutes from the July meeting and Treasurer's Report were approved.

**Old business discussed:** Everett Kephart repaired the sign leading into GAMP Park and advised the sign is structurally sound. The wooden letters need to be replaced.

Mayor Huston advised Brad Jacobs and Brett Douglas are interested in being involved with the Movie Committee. If anyone is interested in being a member of the Movie Committee, contact Mayor Huston, any Council Member or the City Clerk.

Phone calls have been made to some tree cutting services with no response back regarding trimming trees out of the street right of ways. The City Clerk was advised to contact Blakely Tree Service regarding this project.

The East Street storm sewer project was discussed. There has been citizen concerns that there needs to be a cover placed over the east end of the pipe at the intersection of East & Stansell Streets. Galivan inquired about concrete replacement on East Street and driveways at 806 and 808 East Street regarding the storm sewer project. Steve Savage will be contacted about the concrete replacement. Galivan also inquired about continuing the storm sewer pipe up to Stansell Street. Extending the pipe will be considered in the future but not at the current time.

Mayor Huston contacted InRoads about the planned street projects. There will be a patching crew and an asphalt crew with the work to be done this late summer or fall.

Irvin (Red) Taylor was present to discuss the possibility of closing an east/west alley on the south side of his property and Pine Street along the west side of his property. Taylor advised the portion of the alley that is adjacent to Brian Nelson would be split with Nelson getting the east half of the alley and he would get the west half of the alley. The portion of the alley that is adjacent to Richard Keller would be split with Keller getting the south half of the alley and Taylor would get the north half of the alley. The legal expenses incurred to officially close the alley would be divided between the property owners. Richard Keller and A.J. Breese will be contacted to see if they would like to officially close the south half of Pine Street between Elm Street & Knotts Street. If the street is officially closed, legal expenses incurred would be divided between the property owners.

A letter regarding mowing/trimming at the east welcome sign on Broadway Street was discussed. Mowing/trimming was included as part of the overall city mowing bid. Norville advised he will get the east welcome sign area cleaned up and sprayed.

**Water Utilities discussed:** After approximately six weeks, the large water leak was finally located and repaired. The leak was in the water main in the alley by the water tower. The leak was not surfacing and was finding its way into the sewer main. Mayor Huston advised the Council that City Clerk Brent Baughman spent a significant amount of time and effort above and beyond the routine City Clerk duties in locating the water leak and thought the Council should consider compensating him for his efforts. The leak was costing the City double the normal monthly bill from Warren Rural Water. Galivan moved. Seconded by Truman, to pay City Clerk, Brent Baughman, an additional \$1500.00 for all the extra time and effort spent in locating the 25,000 gallon/day leak and having it promptly repaired. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

**Law Enforcement** – The report summary from the Sheriff’s Office for the month of July was reviewed. Deputies received or initiated 14 calls for service during the month. Officers spent in excess of 46 hours in the City for the month. There were no citations and/or warnings written for traffic violations that occurred within the City of New Virginia proper.

**Fire Department Business:** Chief Zuercher advised that when Warren County purchased hand-held radios and microphones for the fire departments in the county, all radios came with law enforcement rated microphones. These microphones are not rated for extreme heat and water conditions. The fire department has five microphones that need to be replaced because of this. Galivan moved, seconded by Truman to approve the purchase up to \$2500.00 for the purchase of five new hand-held radio microphones rated for extreme heat and water conditions. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

The generator being donated to the City from EveryStep Hospice will be available in late August. A concrete pad needs to be poured on the north side of the fire station for the generator.

A trailer for the grain bin rescue equipment has been purchased. The \$1500.00 received from Farm Bureau will be transferred to the New Virginia Fire Association.

Filling the City Clerk position starting September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 was discussed. City Clerk Brent Baughman will vacate the position as of August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021 due to the start of receiving IPERS payments starting September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Nelson moved, seconded by Truman to take the City Clerk position salary and the average of the Deputy Clerk wages over a six month period as payment for the Deputy Clerk to become the City Clerk. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Strange moved, seconded by Galivan to approve the 2021-22 fiscal year salaries/wages as follows: City Clerk – base \$1250.00/month from both general and water utilities; Deputy Clerk - \$20.00/hr.; City Treasurer - \$50.00/qtr.; City Council - \$50.00/mtg.; Mayor - \$100.00/mtg. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

## GAMP FINANCIAL UPDATE

August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021

The following are the balances for the GAMP accounts: Money Market \$35,546.14; Regular Account \$1,015.32. The checking accounts have been set up in gWorks, the City's accounting software. Funds from the GAMP accounts will be transferred into the City's main account and the GAMP accounts will be closed this month.

## NEW VIRGINIA PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE UPDATE

There are some concerns about the concrete at the new shelter. There also concerns about the pouring of the basketball court. There has been vandalism at the Lions Park. Two picnic tables and a post at the new shelter, as well as, the side on the older children's play equipment. There has also been several comments that the park needs to be weed-eaten more often. The Playground Committee will be working on getting the sign in place this fall. The account balance is \$2,510.82.

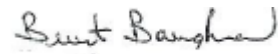
## KEEP IOWA BEAUTIFUL PROGRAM

The account balance is \$1,934.72. Work continues on what to paint on the window panels of the second story of the Depot Restaurant. The Committee is working with the artists that painted the mural on the wall of the building south of the bank to explain what the mural pictures are and display the information in an 8'x10' area of the wall.

Nelson moved, seconded by Galivan to approve Beverly Ellis to fill a vacancy on the Library Board. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Strange moved, seconded by Nelson to approve payment of all City bills. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

With no further business to come forth, Strange moved, seconded by Truman to adjourn meeting. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m. The September council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. **September meeting date – Tuesday September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.**



Brent Baughman, City Clerk