

**CITY OF MANAWA  
COMMON COUNCIL MEETING  
October 16, 2023 6:00 pm**

Proceedings of the Manawa Common Council meeting held Monday, October 16, 2023. Called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Frazier pursuant to open meeting regulations, Pledge of Allegiance and roll call. Alderpersons present on roll call: Ann Bonikowske, Jim Roenz, Alice Brown, Aaron Timm, Mark Lehrer, Mayor Mike Frazier. Absent: Mary Eck. City Employees: Josh Smith, Jason Severson, Logan Hass. Audience: Holly Neumann, Mary Mengert, Dave Sarna, employees from Creative Design, John & Mary Mann.

Moved Bonikowske/Roenz to approve the agenda of October 16, 2023. Carried.

Moved Timm/Bonikowske to approve the council meeting minutes of September 18, 2023. Carried.

Moved Bonikowske/Brown to approve of the Bills of Allowance \$139,429.56. Carried.

**Audience:** Mary Mengert – weeds and lawns: Mary said that she lives at 1175 Depot Street. There is a property between my house and Rodeo Grounds and they are not mowing the full length of the property. In the fall we get tumbleweeds because they don't mow. The property is landlocked. When they do mow, they go on Rodeo property to get to their own. There is a property across the road from me that lets stuff grow up alongside the property. Alice asked what is the process the city takes to mow tall lawns. Josh said once lawns exceed 8 inches in length, they get sent a letter after 5 days receipt of the letter if it is not taken care of then we go in and take care of it and charge the landowner. Mary said how many times do I need to call for it to be taken care of. Josh said this time of year that is not our priority that takes a backseat to everything else that we have to do. Mayor Frazier said the issue will have to go to Protection and Welfare to look at. Triangle Park Signs: Dave said the brown sign on the Triangle Park needs to be repaired. 32 spots on the sign can be occupied for organizations and area groups. \$250 would be the cost to be on it. Looking at adding more names to the sign of well know state of national level people from Manawa. John said \$250 would also cover a portion of the electronic sign. Dave said our goal is to have this project completed by the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in August. It would be revealed with the celebration of 150<sup>th</sup> of Manawa. We received one bid so far of \$10,000 for the brown sign to fix. Looking for the city to cover half of the cost. The second project is an electronic sign. Creative Sign came back as the best bid at \$42,000. It would be a 4ft by 8ft. the screen would be 2ft by 8ft on both sides. Location would be north side of bandstand. There is a daytime mode and night time mode. At 6:34 pm Council left to go out in the parking lot to view a demonstration of the sign. Council came back at 6:46 pm. Dave said it would cost \$1.34 a day for the electric. If the organization is not on the brown sign, they would have to pay \$50 to go on sign. Looking for the city to pay half \$21,000. A total of \$26,000 for both signs. Mayor Frazier said what happens if the city can't find the additional money in the budget. Dave said would have to go back to the donors to figure it out. John said this would benefit people who don't have Facebook to know what is going on.

**Improvements:** Easement: Moved Brown/Timm to grant an easement to 303 High Street for driveway to Water Tower. Carried. Benches, trash cans and fishing line disposal: Moved Brown/Roenz to allow Manawa Middle School students to place benches, trash cans, and fishing line disposal system in the city. Carried.

**Protection:** 3 dogs: Moved Roenz/Brown to allow Robbie Schneiderwent to keep 3 dogs once his dogs go down to 2 can't add anymore. Carried. Snowmobile trail: Moved Roenz/Lehrer to have the snowmobile route from Millpond, Veterans Park, along N Bridge Street, in Lindsay Park, behind softball field and come up behind Steve & Michelle's. The route can be shut down if abused. This is for access to Manawa downtown. Carried.

**Plan Commission:** 3B use: Moved Roenz/Brown to add laundromat to language for 3B permitted uses. Carried.

**Recycle:** Mark said bag tags increased from \$3.50 to \$4.50, there is a new recycling coordinator and secretary.

**Mayor:** City logo: Moved Bonikowske/Lehrer to approve new city logo. Carried. Mayor Frazier said 150<sup>th</sup> celebration is working on clothing line; next meeting is November 6<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm and Band Cooper Box will be performing on Saturday evening. Mayor recognized Noah Brandl 1 year of service to the city and Angie Jacobsen 26 years of service.

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**DPW:** Josh went over his report. Sidewalk and shed pad poured at Lindsay Park. Exercised water valves. Safe Step came in and did sidewalk shaving. Sewer jetting. Repairing sidewalks and catch basins. Plow truck will be in 2025. Both plow trucks are in shop right now. Salt price increased \$5 ton.

**Police:** Police report was given by Chief Severson. Looking to order new police squad. No calls for anything with Homecoming. Had 104 calls in September.

**Fire:** Chief Josh Smith went over his report. Yearly hose testing done. Added a new member. Total of 25 members. Looking into starting an explorer program. 3 members going through training. Had open house during Fall Fest. 10 calls responded to since last meeting. Assisted in Homecoming activities. For the year responded to 112 calls which is a record.

**Library:** Board rep Alice Brown said had interviews for Director position. Working on budget. Ellen does a great job.

**Clerk:** Financial Report: General Fund balance – \$282,635.35; Government Pool – \$32,440.78;

**New Business:** Next budget meeting will be on Monday October 30<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. Protection and Welfare will be meeting on Monday October 30<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm to review snowmobile ordinance and tall lawns and grass.

Moved Brown/Bonikowske to adjourn at 7:53 pm. Carried.

Logan Hass, City Clerk