

MINUTES
CITY OF DIAMOND BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING
December 8, 2014 - 7:00 P.M.

MAYOR SHANE HUNTER CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:00 P.M.

OPENING PRAYER: Jerry Shipman

PLEDGE OF ALLIEGANCE: Mayor Hunter led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL: City Clerk called roll. Mayor Shane Hunter, present. Aldermen present were Billie Jo Hardy, Brenda Schmitt, Ken Bell and Jerry Shipman.

Mayor Hunter sought approval of the Minutes of November 10, 2014. Billie Jo Hardy made a Motion to approve the Minutes. Jerry Shipman seconded the Motion. All in Favor, Brenda Schmitt yes, Billie Jo Hardy yes, Ken Bell yes, Jerry Shipman yes. All opposed, none.

Mayor Hunter opened the floor to citizens wishing to address council. With no citizens present, Mayor Hunter recognized Nancy Green from Taylor & Green Accounting Firm. Nancy presented the 2013-2014 Audit results to Council. Nancy stated that the City continues to show financial growth and performance received the highest marks. She reviewed suggestions that the City review tax rates in the water system to ensure correctness. Nancy stated she would forward the finding to the State. She commended the cooperation they received from City staff. Council thanked Nancy and she left.

Next Council reviewed a request from Adam Brown for a refund of sewer fees. After a discussion, Council felt that it was the property owner's duty to know if the property was on septic tank. Jerry made a Motion to Not to grant a refund. Billie Jo Hardy seconded the Motion. All in Favor, Brenda Schmitt yes, Billie Jo Hardy yes, Ken Bell yes, Jerry Shipman yes. All opposed, none. JoAnn will ask Charles Genisio to prepare a letter in response to this request. Brenda asked about permits for the sewer tap and if we charged for it. Vicki read the City Code prescribing a \$100.00 fee for the saddle and installation and inspection. Jesse stated that the resident provided the supplies and it was on Saturday so no permit was available.

Next Council addressed the need for a new web hosting provider. Our current provider is not going to offer this service any longer. Vicki stated she had just started to look at alternatives and would keep Council informed. Council tabled this item to review at the January meeting.

Council then discussed the offer from the State Surplus for two storm shelters. Council feels the new one being built by the Diamond School would provide the City with a safe place to go in the event of a tornado. Ken made a Motion to not accept the storm shelters and the expected cost of moving them. Billie Jo seconded the Motion. All in Favor, Brenda Schmitt yes, Billie Jo Hardy yes, Ken Bell yes, Jerry Shipman yes. All opposed, none.

Next Mayor Hunter sought approval for Bill Number 12082014 to Amend Ordinance 401 and the Bill was read twice. Brenda made a Motion to accept Bill Number 12082014 to Amend Ordinance 401. Billie Jo seconded the Motion. All in Favor, Brenda Schmitt yes, Billie Jo Hardy yes, Ken Bell yes, Jerry Shipman yes. All opposed, none.

Mayor Hunter then addressed City Officers' Reports. Police Chief Mike Jones submitted a written report. Ken asked about the incident at Casey's. Mike stated the subject had been cited and that he could not discuss it further because it is an active case. Brenda asked about the repair to the police car. Mike stated it was minor. Ken asked about recent break-ins. Mike said there had been one over in the south west area. Ken also asked about missing dogs. Mike stated he continues to investigate the dog taken from a resident's front porch.

The Court Clerk/City Collector submitted a written report. Vicki was asked about the adjustment to Gary Grantham's account. Vicki explained he was still charged the base rates even though he had no water service. So she adjusted the account to reflect he had no service. Brenda asked how many residents were still without service Vicki stated four

remained off. Vicki then distributed a proposal in which she was resigning her position as City Collector. She wished to remain as Court Clerk and go to a part-time basis. Under the proposal the Court files would be moved to the Police Station and she would work out of Chief Jones' office. Judge Steve White was asked his thoughts and he stated he would like to see the City do some sort of contract for this position so that he is not left with a clerk. Council set the issue aside to be discussed in more depth at the end of the meeting so that other employees could be excused. Brenda made a Motion to accept the resignation for the position of City Collector. Billie Jo seconded the Motion. All in Favor, Brenda Schmitt yes, Billie Jo Hardy yes, Ken Bell yes, Jerry Shipman yes. All opposed, none.

Water Superintendent Jesse Gibson submitted a written report. Brenda asked about the flushing of the water lines and how often he did the rural lines. Jesse explained his schedule for flushing and stated that if a citizen has concerns he will flush the line just as a precaution.

Wastewater Superintendent Charlie Writer submitted a written report. Brenda asked who was working with Swift on the road work since it was on both his report and Joann's report. He stated he and Jesse take care of the streets. JoAnn clarified by stating they oversee the project and work being done, and she has been dealing with the supervisor on the issues. Council stated that the area beside Diamond Café just need the edge tapered and that is all. JoAnn will contact Swift.

City Clerk, JoAnn Ohlhausen submitted a written report. Brenda stated that she might be able to get more history of the Police Department from Jim Murray. Billie Jo asked about the fees for Kelly and Compton. JoAnn said she thinks her and Dana will provide a solution to keep our prices from going up. Council asked Mike if he had talked to Mary Ellison. Mike said he had talked to her and things seemed to be fine now. Council asked JoAnn about the Model Ordinance she provided. She explained if Council approves this Ordinance it would be put on the Ballot for the resident to decide if the City will hold elections if the number of candidates is the same as the number of seats available. It could save election costs. The Ordinance would have to be approved every six years. Council asked her to put the Election Ordinance on the ballot for January. She will comply.

Mayor Hunter then excused employees who wished to go home.

A discussion continued regarding the Court Clerk. It was decided that compensation would be fair at \$800.00 per month. Council reviewed the hour it would offer a part-time City Collector. Council felt 1p.m. to 5p.m. would be the best hours for the position so that the hours of City Hall could be extended and asked that an ad be placed seeking applicants.

Treasurer Brenda Schmitt stated that financials had been reviewed and appears to be in order.

Mayor Hunter then asked for report from council.

Brenda Schmitt asked Mayor Hunter about the parking sign and if it had been cleared by the Fire Department. Shane stated he had approval from former Chief Ezell. Brenda stated she had talked to Chief Ezell and he was unaware of any approval. Mayor Hunter stated he would put it before the Fire District Board on Friday.

Billie Jo Hardy had nothing at this time.

Ken Bell had nothing at this time.

Jerry Shipman had nothing at this time.

Next Mayor Hunter asked for approval to pay the listed and unlisted bills. Brenda asked about the \$450.00 charge for Wallace Auto Repair. Mike stated the repair was \$45.00. JoAnn said she would get it corrected. Brenda made a Motion to pay bills with the correction to Wallace Auto. Jerry seconded the Motion. All in Favor, Brenda Schmitt yes, Billie Jo Hardy yes, Ken Bell yes, Jerry Shipman yes. All opposed, none

Adjourn: All business having been presented and addressed, Brenda made a Motion to Adjourn. Billie Jo seconded the Motion. All in Favor, Brenda Schmitt yes, Billie Jo Hardy yes, Ken Bell yes, Jerry Shipman yes. All opposed, none

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Note: This document is a draft. It will not become an official record of proceedings until approved by the Board of Aldermen and signed by the Mayor and City Clerk.

Minutes approved _____, 2014

Shane Hunter, Mayor

JoAnn Ohlhausen, City Clerk