

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF DIAMOND BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING**  
**July 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 June 30, 2014. Brenda asked for two corrections and made a Motion to approve the corrected Minutes. Jerry 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. One citizen asked about the rate increase in sewer charges. Mayor Hunter explained that the council found it necessary to be able to repay the loan needed to fix the lagoons. He told her council understands it will create a hardship on some residents. She asked if the City will be working with people that can't pay their bills. Mayor Hunter told her that council is exploring option to work with residents.

Council next reviewed Bill Number 06102014 which would on approval, create Ordinance Number 403, An Ordinance Amending Section 205.140 Livestock and Poultry. Having been previously posted, the Bill was read by title only. Billie Jo Hardy made a Motion to accept Bill number 06102014 to create Ordinance Number 403. Brenda 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 asked council to approve changes to the Employee Manual. Billie Jo and Brenda discussed the need to update the whole manual. Billie Jo made a Motion to approve the changes to the employee manual for bereavement leave. Jerry seconded the Motion. All in Favor, Brenda Schmitt yes, Billie Jo Hardy yes, Ken Bell yes, Jerry Shipman yes. All opposed, none.

The issue of bulk water sales was brought for discussion. Council decided the charge for bulk water sales will be the same as the residential water rate, which is \$10.75 and \$2.63 per 1,000 gallons.

JoAnn sought approval to create an account on Webgrants to allow the City to apply for law enforcement grants. Brenda made a Motion to allow JoAnn to create an account on Webgrants. Ken seconded the Motion. All in Favor, Brenda Schmitt yes, Billie Jo Hardy yes, Ken Bell yes, Jerry Shipman yes. All opposed, none.

Next JoAnn sought approval to attend the MML conference. Billie Jo made a Motion to not allow her attendance. Jerry 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. Brenda asked about the police car. Mike told her the part was under warranty, but it was not a heavy duty fan so they upgraded it to heavy duty at an additional cost of \$136.00. He stated the car was doing good. Officer Wayne Smith was asked about the altercation he had when he made a traffic stop. He stated the defendant was scheduled to appear in court. Mayor Hunter told council that he contacted Vickie Bayless at Central Dispatch with a grievance about Officer Smith calling for assistance and dispatch not responding to his request. Dispatch told the Mayor the request for help never came over the radio. Council asked for a copy of the video and plans to write a letter to the County Commission about the incident.

Chief Jones then asked council to go into closed session to discuss personnel disciplinary action. Billie Jo Hardy made a Motion to go into closed session at 7:37 p.m. Brenda seconded the Motion All in favor, Ken Bell yes, Jerry Shipman yes, Brenda Schmitt yes, Billie Jo Hardy yes.

Council returned to open session at 8:47 p.m. Billie Jo Hardy made a Motion to dismiss Officer Cody Harris. Jerry Shipman seconded the Motion. All in favor, Billie Jo Hardy, yes, Jerry Shipman, yes, Brenda Schmitt, no, Ken Bell, no. Mayor Hunter voted yes to break the tie. Cody Harris was terminated. JoAnn was asked to prepare any pay due him.

Mike Jones asked to allow Wayne Smith to work Tuesday through Friday from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. RJ Smith will work Saturday and Sunday and Robert Jacobus will work Sunday and Monday nights. Council agreed. Wayne Smith will receive an increase in pay to \$11.00 per hour plus benefits and will be considered full-time.

The Court Clerk/City Collector submitted a written report. Brenda noted the water loss was down to 8%. Vicki was asked about the customer that was going to work off her water bill. Vicki stated she was going to start working it off. Vicki asked to contact the records Preservation Program to come help her with what records can be destroyed and what must be kept. Council agreed. Vicki also stated she was working on a new P.O. system.

Water Superintendant Jesse Gibson submitted a written report. Ken Bell asked Jesse to look for signs to to put at the culvert in front of the school. Ken stated that cars and buses are having trouble due to road narrowing at that culvert. Jesse said the will check on the signs. Brenda asked about the street tar machine. Charlie has been working on sealing cracks. Brenda asked what was wrong with the mower. Jesse told her it is an electrical issue. One of the switches melted. Jesse is going to get a quote before they fix it.

Wastewater Superintendant Gerald Ezell submitted a written report. Mayor Hunter asked Gerald when the generator will be up and running. Gerald said he needs to get an electrician out to wire it up. Brenda asked him about the flooding on Newport Lane. He said they called for an emergency dig and that they could not find anything wrong with our line. The resident is going to call if it floods again so they can try to locate the issue. Gerald was asked about the Cullum Court project. Gerald said they would be working on it the next day. Gerald asked to be allowed to purchase a dissolved oxygen meter. He found one for \$150.00. Mayor Hunter told him to make the purchase.

City Clerk, JoAnn Ohlhausen submitted a written report. Brenda Schmitt thanked her for her work on the budget.

Mayor Hunter then asked for report from council. Brenda Schmitt asked about high grass and if Mike was still issuing citations. Mike said he was.

Billie Jo Hardy had nothing at this time.

Ken Bell asked about high grass.

Jerry Shipman asked Mike about a pitbull dog that was in his neighbor's yard. Mike and Jesse and Gerald stated they have been trying to catch it.

Mayor Hunter had nothing at this time.

Next Mayor Hunter asked for approval to pay the listed and unlisted bills. Billie Jo Hardy made a Motion to pay bills listed and unlisted. Brenda Schmitt 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, Billie Jo Hardy made a Motion to Adjourn. Jerry Shipman 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 9.45 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