

1 **STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, COUNTY OF MARSHALL, CITY OF**
2 **MOUNDSVILLE, MAY 19, 2020**

3
4 The Council of the City of Moundsville met in Regular Session in the Council
5 Chambers on May 19, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

6
7 Meeting was called to order by Mayor David Wood. This meeting was closed to
8 the public due to Covid-19 Pandemic. However, the meeting was streamed live on
9 Zoom.

10
11 Invocation by Councilwoman Judy Hunt.

12
13 City Clerk Hewitt called the roll and the following Councilpersons were in
14 attendance: DeWitt, Hickman, Hunt, Remke, Saunders, S. Wood and Mayor David
15 Wood. Also present were City Manager Healy, Police Chief Mitchell, Finance
16 Director Ankrom, Attorney White and City Clerk Hewitt.

17
18 **MINUTES:**

19
20 **Regular Council Meeting of May 5, 2020.**

21
22 Councilwoman Dewitt moved to approve the minutes of the regular council
23 meeting of May 5, 2020, seconded by Councilwoman Hickman. Motion carried
24 unanimously.

25
26 **MANAGER ITEMS:**

27
28 City Manager Healy presented the following manager's report to council:

- 29
30 1. The City Building and other offices remain closed. Targeted opening date is
31 Monday, June 1, with certain restrictions and policies in place.
32 2. Businesses are continuing to re-open in a slow manner, with restaurants
33 permitting inside dining starting Thursday, again, with restrictions.
34 3. Last week, I participated in a meeting with Director White and Tom Cook, MC
35 Health Department Administrator, and representatives from the other County
36 municipalities and Grand Vue Park. The meeting dealt with parks, playground,
37 and pool openings this summer. It was decided that the five municipalities would
38 follow the same protocol, especially with playgrounds, in an effort to show a
39 unified front and help decrease overcrowding at any one park. It was decided that
40 the playgrounds and shelters would be opening on June 1. A press release will be

1 going out this week explaining all of the restrictions and policies regarding usage
2 of City facilities. Also, Governor Justice has targeted June 8 as an opening date for
3 youth baseball and softball. There are restrictions in place for this, as well, and
4 Director White has been working with the association presidents to relay those and
5 work on scheduling.

6 4. Last meeting, I reported that as of March 31, we had received \$49,038.75 in
7 deposits from the West Virginia State Tax Department from Income Tax
8 assessments in 2020. These are delinquent accounts that we have a judgement
9 against, that are then received from their potential income tax refund. I also
10 reported that since the inception of this process, the City has collected
11 \$115,235.59. We were notified last week by the West Virginia Municipal League
12 that the law that allows us to do this has been changed, and municipalities will no
13 longer be able to attach these wages. This is a huge blow to all municipalities
14 using this. I would encourage all Council to express their dismay over this to our
15 local representatives.

16 5. Update on the Municipal Building Project: Mayor Wood, Chief Brandon, Chief
17 Mitchell, City Clerk Hewitt, and myself participated in the Kick-Off Meeting with
18 McKinley. There are now surveys that each of these department heads were sent.
19 Those results will be used to begin the needs assessment process.

20 6. A new administrative secretary has been hired to replace Lacey Williams, who
21 moved to the City Treasurer position. The new hire is Kimberly Scarbin and she
22 will be starting on June 1. Again, I will have all of the recently hired employees at
23 a Council Meeting in the near future.

24 7. I received an update on the dock yesterday afternoon. American Muscle Docks
25 in Wellsburg should be receiving a check from Industry Terminal and Salvage
26 today for the construction of a replacement dock. American Muscle docks began
27 last week cutting material and fabricating parts of the dock. Due to the Covid-19
28 restrictions, the company is just now slowly getting back up and
29 running. Therefore, we do not have a firm date when the dock will be done, but
30 have been told that they will get it done as soon as possible. Additionally, Industry
31 Terminal and Salvage will be removing the damaged dock and prepping the pipe
32 for pilings this week.

33 8. Recycling planning is continuing, with Councilperson DeWitt and I discussing
34 the plans for current and the grant application. I am waiting on two or three more
35 cost estimates and further discussion with Jochum Refuse.

36 9. As of May 18th, Moundsville had a 60.4% self-response rate, moving up two
37 spots to 39th in the state. In the BIG 12 Challenge, we are still in 6th place, just
38 behind Wheeling by ½ percent. Glen Dale is still leading the pack with a 74.3%
39 rate. We still need to do better. The Census is so important to many things such as
40 obtaining federal funding for education, housing assistance, federal highway

1 planning, family service grants, public safety grants, and much more. Please
2 continue to encourage those who have not responded to do so.

3 10. Next Monday is Memorial Day. With the COVID restrictions, the annual
4 ceremony normally held at the Courthouse or Central School is not going to be
5 open to the public. In working with organizer Robert Blazer, the abbreviated
6 closed ceremony will be done here in City Council Chambers and streamed live on
7 the City's Facebook page. Take some time on Monday to remember those who
8 gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country, so we could all enjoy the freedom that
9 we have.

10
11 **OLD BUSINESS:**

12
13 **Other Items to be Discussed by Council.**

14
15 * Councilman Saunders again asked if utility trailers are required to have a valid
16 plate while stored on private property? Chief Mitchell said that all vehicles and
17 trailers are required to have valid plates on their vehicles or trailers. He said he
18 placed a couple of notices in the Echo to inform residents the city police will be
19 tagging and towing vehicles with expired plates and inspection stickers.

20
21 * Councilman Saunders asked for the location of the truck route. Chief Mitchell
22 advised 7th Street to Jefferson Avenue, Jefferson Avenue to First Street.

23
24 **NEW BUSINESS:**

25
26 **Discussion and Approval of an Ordinance to Abandon Alley and the Unused**
27 **Portion of Diamond Street. (First Reading)**

28
29 Attorney White read the following ordinance by title only to be passed by council
30 on first reading:

31
32 **AN ORDINANCE VACATING, ABANDONING AND ANNULLING A**
33 **PORTION OF AN ALLEY INTERSECTING THE EAST SIDE OF**
34 **GARFIELD STREET BETWEEN PEARL AND DIAMOND STREETS IN**
35 **THE CITY OF MOUNDSVILLE AND ALSO A PORTION OF DIAMOND**
36 **STREET INSECTING THE EAST SIDE OF GARFIELD STREET. (FIRST**
37 **READING)**

38
39 Councilman Saunders moved to approve the above ordinance, seconded by
40 Councilman Remke.

1 Mayor D. Wood called for a voice vote. City Clerk Hewitt announced the
2 following tally. 7 yeas. Motion carried unanimously.

3
4 **Discussion and Approval of an Ordinance Creating an Arts & Culture**
5 **Commission. (First Reading)**

6
7 Attorney White read the following ordinance by title only to be passed by council
8 on first reading:

9
10 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNDSVILLE,**
11 **WEST VIRGINIA, CREATING AND ESTABLISHING AN ARTS AND**
12 **CULTURE COMMISSION AND PROVIDING FOR ITS COMPOSITION,**
13 **AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITIES. (FIRST READING)**

14
15 Councilman Remke moved to approve the above ordinance, seconded by
16 Councilwoman Hickman.

17
18 Mayor D. Wood called for a voice vote. City Clerk Hewitt announced the
19 following tally. 7 yeas. Motion carried unanimously.

20
21 **Other Items to be Discussed by Council.**

22
23 * Councilman Remke moved to have an executive session for real estate matters,
24 seconded by Councilwoman DeWitt. Motion carried unanimously.

25
26 * Councilman Remke commended Manager Healy & Chief Mitchell for taking
27 steps to clean up the junk vehicles in town.

28
29 * Councilman Remke said he turned in a list of 32 properties that were in need of
30 their grass cut. Some of the properties are dilapidated structures.

31
32 * Councilwoman Wood announced the Arts & Culture Commission will be
33 sponsoring a coloring contest. Pictures can be downloaded, printed & colored.
34 There will be prizes for winners in different age groups.

35
36 **MAYOR ITEMS:**

37
38 * Mayor D. Wood announced he will be appointing a committee to help with
39 preparations of the new proposed city building and Four Seasons pool splash pad.

1 **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

2
3 **Discussion of Recommendations by the Finance Committee.**

4
5 1. Discussion of Donation to Body and Soul Soup Kitchen. Committee
6 recommends to Donate \$100 to the Body and Soul Soup Kitchen.

7
8 Councilwoman Hunt moved to approve the donation of \$100 to the Body and Soul
9 Soup Kitchen, seconded by Councilwoman DeWitt. Motion carried unanimously.

10
11 2. Discussion of Donation to the Moundsville Lions Club to Support the Eyeglass
12 Program. Committee recommends donating \$100 to the program.

13
14 Councilwoman Hunt moved to approve the donation of \$100 to the Moundsville
15 Lions Club, seconded by Councilman Saunders. Motion carried unanimously.

16
17 3. Discussion of Donation to Cameron Recreational Park Ballfields. Committee
18 recommends donating \$50 to the program.

19
20 Councilwoman Hunt moved to approve the donation of \$50 to the Cameron
21 Recreational Park, seconded by Councilman Remke. Motion carried unanimously,

22
23 **Discussion of Recommendations by the Traffic Committee.**

24
25 1. Discussion of Free Parking in the Business District Due to Covid-19.
26 Committee recommends authorizing free parking for two months in the business
27 district.

28
29 Councilman Saunders moved to approve free parking excluding around the
30 Courthouse, seconded by Councilwoman S. Wood. Motion carried unanimously.

31
32 2. Discussion of Renaming a Street in the City after Chief Thatcher, a Former
33 Moundsville Police Chief. Committee recommends to rename a street in the city
34 which will be determined at a later time.

35
36 Councilman Saunders moved to approve renaming a street after the former Police
37 Chief to be determined at a later date, seconded by Councilwoman Hunt. Motion
38 carried unanimously.

1 **COUNCIL ITEMS:**

2
3 * **Hickman** – Nothing at this time.

4 * **DeWitt** – Nothing at this time.

5 * **Remke** – Nothing at this time.

6 * **S. Wood** – Asked Manager Healy when he wanted council’s list of Municipal
7 Sales Tax break downs? Manager Healy said he will email council some
8 information and they can return it to him in about a week.

9 * **Saunders** – Informed Mayor D. Wood that he would be interested to sit on the
10 committee concerning the new city building and splash pool.

11 * **Hunt** – Nothing at this time.

12
13 Meeting recessed at 7:48 p.m.

14 Meeting reconvened at 7:50 p.m.

15 Executive session began at 7:55 p.m.

16 Executive session recessed at 8:22 p.m.

17 Regular session reconvened at 8:22 p.m.

18
19 **Receive and File Legal Ads.**

20
21 Attorney White submitted legal ads published in the Moundsville Daily Echo to be
22 received and filed by council.

23
24 Councilman Saunders moved to receive and file the legal ads, seconded by
25 Councilwoman Hickman. Motion carried unanimously.

26
27 Councilwoman S. Wood moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Hickman.
28 Motion carried unanimously.

29
30 Meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

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34 _____
Sondra J. Hewitt, City Clerk

David Wood, Mayor