

SUMMARY OF JULY 28, 2022 COUNCIL MEETING

Hull City Council met in person at the Jackson EMC Community Meeting Room for their regular meeting. Council members Kopenick, Barber and McElroy were present along with the Mayor and the Clerk. In addition Attorney John Clark was present in person and Attorney Nefertera Clark was present by phone. Chief Austin from the Fire Department along with a number of members of the department were in attendance along with Allison Smith from the Madison County Journal.

The minutes and financial reports were approved as presented.

Under old business council member Koepnick reported that he had looked further into replacing the mulch in the beds along Highway 72. He recommends mulch over pine straw even though it will be more expensive. He will keep contacting businesses to try and get the best price but this is something that will need to be included in the budget for 2023. Permission was granted to Brian to purchase pine straw to go around plants that he will place in the beds at the well.

The Clerk presented a letter of resignation from council member Gantt effective July 7th. The resignation was accepted. She indicated that there would be a special election in March 2023 to fill this position. Qualifying will be in January with dates TBD.

A Legal Services Agreement between the City and the Clark and Clark Law firm which is necessary in connection with the USDA loan was approved and executed.

Chief Austin and members of the Fire Department expressed their concern about losing their kitchen and storage area when the new City Hall is constructed. Everyone concurred that the building was constructed by the fire department on city property but the fire department requested that they have similar space which is currently used in connection with their chicken BBQ fundraisers and occasionally to store equipment and vehicles. There was also discussion about the City conveying the property where the fire hall is located to the department. This has been an ongoing discussion for years. Council member Koepnick expressed his desire to see the City and the fire department work together to solve these conflicts so that the City and the Fire Department could move forward and work together for the good of the City and the department. With the help of the city attorneys the issue of conveying the land to the department and the issues with the original deed and the reversionary clause will be looked into. The clerk will provide information that former attorney Pat Graham provided to the City several years ago.

A request to amend the training budget by \$1,500.00 with funds from the miscellaneous line item was approved.

Mayor Walton requested permission to sign the LOST Agreement with the County on behalf of the City of Hull. The percentage amount received by the city will remain the same as in the past. Motion passed to allow the Mayor to execute the Agreement.

Council member Koepnick expressed his desire that the City begin thinking about where space could be found to provide some greenspace in the form of a playground area; soccer fields, etc.

Mayor Walton reported that the back to school give-away that was held at Hull Sanford was huge success and thanked everyone who participated. There was some discussion about joining with Hull Baptist Church in the future to host a joint back to school activity.

Mayor Walton advised that he had determined with the assistance of NEGRC that the space where SPS Plumbing is located which was thought not to be in the city limits is actually in the City and correspondence has been sent advising them of this and that they would need to obtain a business license. The Clerk indicated she had not heard anything back from them.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Pou, City Clerk