

City of Melbourne
Regular City Council Meeting
May 9, 2022
7:00 at Library basement

Melbourne City Council met in regular session on May 9, 2022. Council members present were Gary Fricke, Gaege Bracy and Lucas Hauser. Also present were Mayor Cynthia Mansager, Clerk Mary Pothast, PW Superintendent Jim Pfantz, Susanne Bunting, David Gibbs and Beth Opperman. Mayor Mansager called the meeting to order at 7:02 and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Motion to approve the consent agenda made by Hauser, 2nd by Fricke. Vote was all ayes. In public comments, Suanne Bunting said that the green ash trees in front of hers and Halter's houses on the right of way (ROW) are dying. Clerk said dying or diseased trees on the ROW are the city's responsibility and that there appeared to be public funding for replanting trees, but not for removal. PW was directed to get quotes from our tree removal people. Mayor said unfortunately it will not be a quick fix but will work to build a list and get the issue addressed across the city.

In building permits, there was a request to construct a 10 x 7 metal shed at 104 3rd Avenue. Motion was made by Fricke with 2nd by Bracy to approve the request with the stipulation that it be well anchored and that PW Superintendent Pfantz be called for approval when it was complete. Vote was all ayes to approve. Council person Smith arrived at 7:07 pm. Clint Dare had called to let the clerk know he would be late, so the Mayor moved his concern to the end of new business. First on the agenda David Gibbs, Fire Chief, spoke regarding the fact that the Marshall County Communications Director was now asking that each fire department and EMS pay a monthly access fee of \$15 per radio to use the new system. It would account for approximately \$4500 to \$5000 annually that the city had not budgeted for. It was initially agreed that there would not be an ongoing access fee, as the county levied taxes for the emergency services. The Fire Chiefs were urging representation at the 911 meeting on Thursday night to speak against this ongoing fee. The investment in new radios and pagers that Melbourne (and a portion of the fire expense by Logan and Washington townships) will make is around \$70,000 by the time the project is complete without the ongoing access fee. Mayor Mansager is a member of the 911 Board and Commission meetings and will be in attendance Thursday night.

Next on the agenda is the crumbling wall at 102 Main Street. The city is awaiting the opinion of the engineer and options from Ciro Dilorio. The wall was originally left standing to supposedly help protect the wall of the building next door per request of the owner when the corner building was demolished in 2005. Due to the wind, continued sinking of the lot, and other factors, the wall started to fall. PW Pfantz called Dilorio, who immediately braced the wall to avoid any damage to the neighboring building while they assessed the situation. At the time, it was not known if the walls were attached and what needed to be done to remedy the problem. Until the report is presented, the situation remains unknown. The clerk was told by Jerry Landt that he believed that there was an original blueprint in existence for the neighboring building that could possibly provide some information about the structure. Mayor Mansager made note of that. She is the main contact with Steve Fields regarding the situation. The project will be updated as soon as new information is available.

The balances due for the radio project is \$3234.03 for EMS and \$39,754.41 for Fire. The City owes 36% of the Fire radios or \$14,311.59. The balance is owed by Logan and Washington townships, whom the City has a 28E agreement with to provide fire service. The city has \$14,853.63 in radio savings and will

need \$2691.95 transferred from Emergency checking to leave a balance of \$2128.64. Motion to approve the transfer and set up a line item for Parks checking (Resolution 22-05-01) made by Hauser, 2nd by Smith. Vote was all ayes.

The quote from VisuSewer to line the blocks requested without Railroad Street came in at \$43,218.80. There are adequate ARPA funds available to cover this expenditure. Motion to approve by Fricke, 2nd by Hauser. Vote was all ayes. PW Pfantz was directed to sign and submit the approval to VisuSewer. Clerk will prepare a resolution for next month's meeting to officially allocate the ARPA funds. It cannot be paid until July, as there is not time to amend the budget again. The next FY budget will be amended in July to accommodate the expense.

The City is still waiting for a bid from Manatt's for paving. The city was told to expect a 48% increase over last year. InRoads submitted a quote that was given to the council. Council requested that Pfantz contact InRoads to have some items broken out on their bid. The patch on the 200 block of Main and the alley behind the bar are the specifics. Clerk reminded council that the bid is good for 30 days. After the changes requested are made, the bid should fall within the 30 day window for next month's meeting. There is money in the current budget to pay for the paving as well as for some sealcoating. The sealcoating division of Manatt's has not yet been contacted. It will be tabled until June.

Clerk requested that the remainder of budgets from streets, sewer and water be put into savings for equipment replacement funding or continued projects at the end of June's 2022 fiscal year. Motion by Bracy, 2nd by Smith. Vote was all ayes.

The hauler permit for LeGrand Sanitation was presented. Payment was made for last year and the current year's permit. The permit is good through October and Mayor asked when we would send the next one. Clerk said that the Deputy Clerk has put them on a schedule to send reminders early this year to ensure they are renewed on time.

Last on the agenda, Clint Dare approached Council about the drainage issue he has been having for the past few years. He had spoken with PW in the past, and the area is completely flat. With the crown of the road, the water gathers at his garage and has nowhere to drain to. After much discussion, a possible option may be to ditch all the way down the block and to the south for at least a block. PW was directed to call and get an opinion from someone who does more drainage work than they do. Clint offered that he has access to equipment and is willing to help. PW will report back to Council in June and Dare was asked to attend again.

Fricke presented the alley map he has worked on putting down rock. In his opinion the alley running east of the water tower is the one most in need of rock. Clerk had received an email from Schulers and Smith had received a complaint from Andrews regarding the alley off Main and 4th Street behind their homes. PW has been directed to choose the top 5 and present them at the June council meeting as well. Pfantz said we have truckloads of millings that we could possibly use for the project. Clerk reported on clean-up. There was approximately \$600 taken in, \$310 fees plus labor and gas expenses paid out. For about 5 truckloads to the dump, the City possibly broke even. Susanne Bunting suggested that the City could possibly get lunch for the volunteer crews next year. Council agreed. Motion to adjourn made by Hauser, 2nd by Bracy. Vote was all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 8:28.

EXPENSES: GENERAL \$25,041.06, ROAD USE \$1551.42, EMP BENEFITS \$1328.01, LOST FIRE \$555.25, WATER \$9345.66, SEWER \$5999.49. TOAL \$43,820.90.

REVENUES: GENERAL \$113,89.70, ROAD USE \$11,759.19, EMP BENEFITS \$10,926.70, EMERGENCY \$1869.30, LOST FIRE \$11,888.12, LOST 1ST RESP \$952.12, POOL \$957.73, LOST REC CENTER \$952.77, WATER \$12,975.09, SEWER \$16,436.09, SANITARY SEWER LAGOON \$242.00. TOTAL REVENUE \$182,828.81.

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