

**STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, COUNTY OF MARSHALL, CITY OF MOUNDSVILLE,
APRIL 15, 2014**

The Council of the City of Moundsville met in regular session in the Council Chambers on April 15, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Eugene Saunders.

Invocation by Councilperson Mark Simms.

City Clerk Hewitt called the roll and the following councilpersons were in attendance: DeWitt, P. Haynes, Remke, Simms, Wood and Mayor Saunders. Absent: D. Haynes. Also present: City Manager Deanna J. Hess, Fire Chief Clarke, Police Chief Mitchell, Street Commissioner Richmond, Building Inspector Joe Richmond, Attorney Thomas White, CPA Kathryn Goddard and City Clerk Hewitt.

MINUTES:

Regular Council Meeting of April 1, 2014.

Councilperson Simms moved to accept and approve the minutes of the regular council meeting of April 1, 2014, seconded by Councilperson DeWitt. Motion carried unanimously.

**Presentation to Honor Sgt. Shawn Allman for Receiving the 2014 Professional With
Courage Award.**

Chief Mitchell informed council of a 2014 Professional with Courage Award presented to Sgt. Shawn Allman.

GENERAL PUBLIC HEARING:

* Frank Boso, 1208 Purdy Avenue, thanked all the department for their services and discussed the 2014-2015 General Fund Budget. He feels that employee health insurance is causing a major increase to the city's budget. Mr. Boso also expressed opposition to the half percent sales tax if Moundsville is accepted as a Home Rule city.

* Delno Thayer, 61 Oak Avenue, opposed the Home Rule ordinance. He does not feel Home Rule would be the right thing for Moundsville.

* Carl Boso, 305 10th Street, also oppose the Home Rule ordinance. He also asked if council was going to do anything about the property owner on Lockwood Avenue that buried the roofing when demolishing the house?

Attorney White said he would have to research if the incident is illegal. And asked if Mr. Boso

had any witnesses to the fact. Mr. Boso said that he will bring the witness to the next council meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion and Approval of an Ordinance Pertaining to Home Rule in the City of Moundsville. (Second Reading)

Attorney White read the following ordinance by title only to be passed by council on second and final reading:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNDSVILLE, WEST VIRGINIA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT A MUNICIPAL HOME RULE APPLICATION TO THE WEST VIRGINIA MUNICIPAL HOME RULE BOARD (SECOND READING)

Councilperson Wood made a motion the accept and approve the Home Rule ordinance, seconded by Councilperson Remke for discussion.

Mayor Saunders called for a voice vote. City Clerk announced the following tally. 5 yeas. Motion carried unanimously.

Other Items to be Discussed by Council.

* Councilperson DeWitt asked when the walkway to the docks at the Riverfront Park were going to be replaced? People using the dock can not get back to land to move their vehicles. Manager Hess reported an engineer was at the site on Thursday. It was discussed to remove the docks and install them in a different location.

* Councilperson Wood made comment to Mr. Frank Boso's points on the city's budget. Insurance was estimated at 25% increase when actually the increase is 12.39% with 3.7% being for ObamaCare.

* Councilperson Remke commented that Health Insurance will never decrease, however, he is pleased with the employees the city has and the city needs to keep those employees.

* Councilperson Remke asked if the city provides the liability insurance on the Sanford Center. Manager Hess remarked the city does cover their liability insurance.

* Councilperson Remke asked if Tom Brown has contacted the Manager Hess with updates on the Fostoria Property and asked if he was informed of the hole in the fence. Manager Hess stated

that Mr. Brown will contact her when he has an update and she informed him of the opening in

the fence.

* Councilperson Remke informed Councilperson DeWitt the city does not have to go through the state to install signs on Jefferson Avenue concerning dog waste.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion and Approval to Lay the Levy for the 2014-2015 General Fund Budget.

Councilperson Wood moved to lay the levy for the 2014-2015 General Fund Budget, seconded by Councilperson DeWitt. Motion carried unanimously.

Other Items to be Discussed by Council.

* Councilperson DeWitt reported the dirt falling away at the fire hydrant at 9th & Washington Avenue. Building Inspector Richmond reported the Water Department has been notified.

* Councilperson Wood reminded council the Comprehensive Plan public hearing will be May 14, 2014 at the Council Chambers.

* Councilperson Remke made a motion to discuss at the traffic meeting the truck traffic in Moundsville, seconded by Councilperson DeWitt. Motion carried unanimously.

* Councilperson Remke reported people are still riding bicycles on Jefferson Avenue sidewalks.

* Councilperson Remke suggested billing insurance companies when their client has an accident for the use of the City Fire Department and Police Department. Attorney White said that would be impossible to do. Asst. Chief Walker said that Moundsville can not segregate between locals and out of towners.

* Councilperson Remke asked if the city could sell water to surrounding cities? Mayor Saunders said he will bring that matter up at the Water Board meeting.

* Councilperson Remke asked for an update on the Kesselring properties after appearing in municipal court. City Clerk Hewitt announced the Municipal Judge has drafted the order which will be provided to her the next day.

MANAGERS ITEMS:

Discussion to Reschedule May 13 Committee Meetings.

* Manager Hess suggested rescheduling the committee meetings to Monday, May 12, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. due to the Primary Election being held on May 13, 2014.

* Manager Hess asked that council members bring their code books to the clerk's office to be updated.

* Business After Hours will be held on April 24, 2014 at the Hampton Inn & Suites at the Highlands. Please call Marilyn if you are planning to attend.

* Manager Hess read a letter from Beth Matheny commending the Street Department and Sanitation Department for the jobs they do.

MAYOR ITEMS:

* Mayor Saunders thanked Councilperson Wood for explaining Home Rule. He also said that Council is applying for Home Rule for the betterment of the city.

* Mayor Saunders thanked the Street Department for the alleys they graveled.

* Mayor Saunders announced the skatepark committee will be obtaining proposals for fence for the skatepark.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Discussion of Recommendations by the Finance Committee.

1. Discussion of Request from John Marshall High School for Contribution to Health Occupations Students of America. Committee recommends donate \$50 to JMHS Students of America.

Councilperson Wood moved to donate \$50 to JMHS Students of America, seconded by Councilperson Remke. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion of Recommendations by the Traffic Committee.

1. Discussion and Approval to Proceed With Street Paving. After a lengthy discussion concerning the paving list. Council agreed that City Manager Hess and Street Commissioner Richmond decide which streets to pave.

Discussion of Recommendations by the Policy Committee.

Nothing at this time.

COUNCIL ITEMS:

* **Wood** - Nothing at this time.

* **Remke** - Noticed an orange cone in the drain at the intersection of First Street & Jefferson Avenue. City Manager Hess reported DOH placed the cone at the drain.

* Asked if the council could change the wording in the Municipal Fee ordinance to allow for a dura-patcher or other equipment for street maintenance. Attorney White said we have to follow state code unless we are a Home Rule city.

* **Haynes** - Nothing at this time.

* **DeWitt** - Nothing at this time.

Councilperson DeWitt made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilperson Haynes. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Sondra J. Hewitt, City Clerk

Eugene Saunders, Sr., Mayor