

1 **STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, COUNTY OF MARSHALL, CITY OF**  
2 **MOUNDSVILLE, OCTOBER 6, 2020**

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4 The Council of the City of Moundsville met in Regular Session in the Council  
5 Chambers on October 6, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

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7 Meeting was called to order by Mayor David Wood.

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9 Invocation by Vice Mayor Judy Hunt.

10  
11 City Clerk Hewitt called the roll and the following Councilpersons were in  
12 attendance: DeWitt, Hickman, Hunt, Remke, Saunders, S. Wood and Mayor  
13 David Wood. Also present were City Manager Healy, Police Chief Mitchell,  
14 Attorney White, Finance Director Ankrom and City Clerk Hewitt. Meeting was  
15 live stream on Zoom.

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17 **MINUTES:**

18  
19 **Regular Council Meeting of September 15, 2020.**

20 Councilman Remke moved to approve the minutes of the regular council meeting  
21 of September 15, 2020, seconded by Councilwoman DeWitt. Motion carried  
22 unanimously.

23  
24 **GENERAL PUBLIC HEARING:**

25  
26 \* Carl Boso, 305 10<sup>th</sup> Street, asked Mayor D. Wood if he is allowed more than the  
27 normal five minutes? Mayor Wood said only 5 minutes. Mr. Boso reported  
28 speeders on 10<sup>th</sup> Street, reporting school buses were even driving faster than the  
29 allowed 25 mph. Also, on 12<sup>th</sup> Street people driving faster than 40 mph. He asked  
30 why is the city paving at the RV Park? Manager Healy said those funds are  
31 coming from the RV Park fund, not Municipal Fee fund that other streets are being  
32 paved with. Councilwoman DeWitt informed Mr. Boso that Jackson Avenue is the  
33 only city street in Moundsville that was left unpaved. Mr. Boso reported an  
34 individual was arrested for burning plywood and other are allowed to burn illegally  
35 but don't get arrested. Lastly, Mr. Boso said Attorney White has built his garage  
36 too close to the alley and property line.

37  
38 **MANAGER ITEMS:**

1 **Appointment to the Moundsville Housing Authority. (Unexpired Term of Bill**  
2 **Hinegardner)**

3  
4 City Manager Healy announced he appointed Rita Sedoski to the unexpired term of  
5 Bill Hinegardner.  
6

7 City Manager Healy presented the following report to council:

8 1. Update on the new Municipal Building – we had another meeting with  
9 McKinley last Thursday, October 1, to see updated floor plans. We continue to  
10 tweak these floor plans and ensure that we are designing this building with the  
11 future in mind. We still have some work to do to arrange everything, so it fits in  
12 the right places. The good news is that I think we are getting closer each time to a  
13 design that works for us – the bad news is that construction costs continue to  
14 climb, with the estimate up about \$50/square feet from originally estimated. We  
15 have also added additional square footage to the building and are working hard to  
16 determine if there are any non-essential areas.

17 2. We received another reimbursement from the Governor’s Office from the  
18 CARES Act. This was for the August 2020 period, but also included  
19 reimbursement for unemployment costs for employees off due to COVID, dating  
20 back to the second quarter of this year. The latest check was \$143,625.91. This  
21 brings the total amount so far to \$807,606.81.

22 3. Additionally, from the Governor’s Office, we received an additional  
23 contribution towards our 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks Display of \$2,970.00. This was also  
24 from the CARES Act funding and was approved by the Governor for all West  
25 Virginia Fairs and Festivals.

26 4. After months of negotiations with Ohio-West Virginia Excavating on the  
27 invoice for the emergency work completed at 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Lockwood Avenue, the  
28 Sanitary Board has approved payment of that invoice. After carefully combing  
29 through the large invoice, and a courtesy discount by the contractor, the invoice  
30 was reduced by over \$55,000 to a new total of \$445,754.60. Unfortunately, the  
31 Board will have to borrow funds to pay this invoice, which will most likely  
32 necessitate a rate increase. The Board held a Special Meeting last week to discuss  
33 this and directed the accountant to begin the loan process. Representatives will  
34 appear before the Sub-Committee next week with more explanation and  
35 information.

36 5. We made the first payment on the Fostoria Bridge Project last week, with a  
37 \$27,000 down-payment on the engineering/design. The local utilities are all  
38 working on their relocation plans, and everything seems on target for next  
39 Spring/Early Summer. As a reminder, City Council committed approximately  
40 \$100,000 toward this \$1 million project.

- 1 6. The Street Department has taken delivery of a new crack sealing machine. This  
2 is something that I have looked at for a while, and Director Stocklask brought one  
3 to my attention that he approved of. It was put into service last week and began on  
4 the most recently paved streets. This sealer will fill the small cracks that develop  
5 and keep water from penetrating and getting under the new asphalt. This should  
6 lengthen the life of our streets.
- 7 7. The entire Street Department, along with Safety Director George Carter,  
8 participated in a virtual presentation last week called “The Snow & Ice  
9 Workshop”. This reviewed general safety, COVID concerns, and new  
10 developments to prepare our staff for the upcoming winter season.
- 11 8. At the request of Councilperson Sara Wood and Councilperson Brianna  
12 Hickman, I researched the possibility of Moundsville applying to become a  
13 Blueprint Communities member. The Blueprint Communities Program is a  
14 Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh program that they operate in communities  
15 in WV, PA, and DE. They open the applications by state once every four or so  
16 years. They are just finishing the current group of six communities who applied  
17 and were accepted into the program in 2019. So, we are looking at a three to four-  
18 year period before the application cycle is available. In the recent program, New  
19 Martinsville is a member.
- 20 9. There were three representatives present from the City of Moundsville at a  
21 meeting on September 25 at the Marshall County Chamber of Commerce Office to  
22 discuss the Christmas Parade. After hearing from Mr. Tom Cook of the Marshall  
23 County Health Department, who detailed that parades are still not permitted under  
24 State guidelines, nor are marching bands (only percussion), and no handouts would  
25 be permitted. Additionally, with the short route, social distancing would be  
26 impossible. After much discussion of any other options, it was decided to not hold  
27 the parade. The decision was not taken lightly, and everyone was disappointed in  
28 the final decision. A parade of this magnitude cannot be pulled together in a few  
29 weeks, and a decision needed to be made. Let’s hope for a bigger and better  
30 parade next year.
- 31 10. The website continues to be strong. In September there were 4,835 visits to  
32 our website, with almost 72% of those being new visitors. Actual page views  
33 totaled 9,448, with the post about Trick-or-Treat being the most visited page.
- 34 11. I have attended three ribbon cuttings since last Council meeting. On  
35 September 17, Kennon and Kennon re-opened their office on Sixth Street right  
36 across from the City Building. On Saturday, September 26, Boss Babe Boutique  
37 and Angel Kay Photography and Tranquil Touch Therapeutic Massage held an  
38 opening, as well. Those two are sharing the old Neubauer’s location.  
39 Congratulations to four new businesses in Moundsville.
- 40 12. I participated in the food second food giveaway that was sponsored by

1 Marshall County FRN. The City of Moundsville was well represented with Mayor  
2 Wood, Councilpersons Hickman and Remke, Chief Brandon, Firefighters Williams  
3 and Furbee, Recreation Director John White, Police Chief Mitchell, and Patrolman  
4 Haglock all helping. We served over 250 cars with everyone receiving a food box  
5 with fresh and packaged food.

6 13. Everyone has returned their bios for the Candidate Forum, so all will be  
7 represented. I look forward to being a part of this event tomorrow night and see  
8 this as a huge positive in the City of Moundsville.

9 14. Please continue to patronize the local establishments, shops, and restaurants as  
10 they continue to struggle from the effects of COVID-19.

11 \* Councilman Remke asked if the funds the city receives from the Cares Act is  
12 given back to the state if it is not used? Manager Healy said the funds stay with  
13 the city. He has placed the funds in an account generated by the State Auditor's  
14 Office until there are more guidelines on what it can be used for.

15  
16 **OLD BUSINESS:**

17  
18 **Other Items to be Discussed by Council.**

19 \* Councilwoman Hickman thanked Manager Healy for researching Blue Print  
20 Communities.

21 \* Councilwoman DeWitt asked for an explanation as to why a business owner's  
22 B&O Tax has not decreased since the city became a Home Rule City and approved  
23 the Municipal Sales & Use tax. City Clerk Hewitt advised the retail category  
24 decreased from \$.38 to \$.33.

25 \* Councilwoman S. Wood informed City Manager Healy on the Brownsfield  
26 Website there is an On Trac Mainstreet Conference with power points. There may  
27 be updates since the last discussion.

28 \* Councilman Saunders asked if all the dogs have been removed from the house on  
29 Penn Street? Manager Healy said they have.

30 \* Vice Mayor Hunt commended Manager Healy for a fantastic job informing  
31 citizens on the city's website of the street paving schedule. She asked when  
32 Cherokee Drive will be paved? Manager Healy was not sure at this time.

33 \* Councilman Remke asked what the percentage of web pay on the city's website?  
34 Manager Healy said the program is working fine but could provide a percentage of  
35 usage.

36  
37 **NEW BUSINESS:**

38 **Discussion and Approval of an Ordinance Pertaining to the Public Safety Fee**  
39 **Billing. (First Reading)**

1 Attorney White read the following ordinance by title only to be passed by council  
2 on first reading:

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4 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNDSVILLE,**  
5 **WEST VIRGINIA, AMENDING AND REENACTING SECTION 759.01 OF**  
6 **THE CITY CODE TO PROVIDE FOR MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF THE**  
7 **PUBLIC SAFETY FEE. (FIRST READING)**

8  
9 Councilman Remke moved to approve the above ordinance, seconded by Vice  
10 Mayor Hunt. Mayor D. Wood called for a voice vote. City Clerk Hewitt announced  
11 the following tally. 7 yeas. Motion carried unanimously.

12  
13 **Discussion and Approval of an Ordinance Creating a New Tax Increment**  
14 **Financing District in the City of Moundsville. (First Reading)**

15  
16 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNDSVILLE,**  
17 **WEST VIRGINIA, APPROVING AND CREATING A NEW TAX**  
18 **INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT IN THE CITY OF MOUNDSVILLE**  
19 **MARSHALL COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA, TO BE KNOWN AS “THE CITY**  
20 **OF MOUNDSVILLE DEVELOPMENT/REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**  
21 **NO.1 AND PROJECT NO. 1” AND ESTABLISHING A TAX INCREMENT**  
22 **FINANCING FUND; AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS IN**  
23 **CONNECTION THEREWITH. (FIRST READING)**

24  
25 City Manager Healy asked council to table this ordinance until the next meeting  
26 since we have not received the letter of approve. Councilwoman moved to table,  
27 seconded by Councilman Saunders. Motion carried unanimously.

28  
29 **Discussion of Trick or Treat in Moundsville.**

30 Manager Healy reported at the direction of the Health Department Director, Tom  
31 Cook, Municipalities have agreed to collaborate on the date for Trick or Treat as  
32 October 31, 2020 from 6-7 p.m., as long as the cities stay in the green or yellow  
33 zone.

34  
35 **Discussion and Approval of a Proclamation by the City of Moundsville City**  
36 **Council in Support of Law Enforcement Officers.**

37 Councilman Remke moved to approve the proclamation supporting law enforcement  
38 officers, seconded by Councilman Saunders. Motion carried unanimously.

1 Councilwoman Hickman suggested future proclamations could be January 9 which  
2 is National Law Enforcement Day or in May during Law Enforcement month.

3  
4 **Re-appointment to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. (6 year Term)**

5 Councilman Saunders moved to re-appoint Karen Ali to the Parks & Recreation  
6 Advisory Board, seconded by Vice Mayor Hunt. Motion carried unanimously.

7  
8 **Other Items to be Discussed by Council.**

9 \* Vice Mayor Hunt commended Manager Healy for being proactive and obtaining  
10 funds from the Cares Act for reimbursement during COVID-19 pandemic.

11 \* Councilman Saunders asked Chief Mitchell if he was able to resolve the ongoing  
12 problems in his neighborhood? Chief Mitchell said he spoke with all residents and  
13 feels the situation has been taken care of.

14 \* Councilwoman S. Wood asked Manager Healy if he received any feedback from  
15 Belomar concerning the city's eligibility status for any of the Emergency Based  
16 Monthly Housing Payments and Dilapidated Properties funding? Manager Healy  
17 said Mr. Wiethe of Belomar Regional Council will be present at the next council  
18 meeting to hold a second public hearing. Manager Healy said we will be applying  
19 for both the Emergency Monthly Housing Payments and Dilapidated Properties.  
20 Applications will be submitted by the end of October. The Dilapidated Properties  
21 application will be submitted at a later date this year.

22 \* Councilwoman S. Wood announced the City of Moundsville Arts & Culture  
23 Commission is sponsoring another Drive In Movie Night on October 10, 2020  
24 showing Hocus Pocus at the Valley Fork Baseball Field parking lot starting at  
25 dusk.

26 \* Councilwoman DeWitt asked if we hired new firefighters? Manager Healy said  
27 two individuals passed the test and will be interviewed soon.

28 \* Councilwoman DeWitt said council received an email from the WV Municipal  
29 League concerning Covid-19 Utilities Services Grant Funding that provides  
30 funding for residential utility customers to help with unpaid balances incurred after  
31 March 1, 2020. Manager Healy said he is working with Belomar on these grants.

32 \* Councilman Remke commended the Historic Landmarks for the fall flowers they  
33 hung on Jefferson Avenue, in front of the prison and on 7<sup>th</sup> Street. He also thanked  
34 the city employees who installed the flower planters.

35 \* Councilman Remke commented on the reconstruction of the Coen Oil station at  
36 10<sup>th</sup> & Lafayette. There will be a food court included in the new reconstruction.

37 \* Councilman Remke welcomed the new Holiday Inn Express Hotel General  
38 Manager to Moundsville.

39 \* Councilman Remke asked Manager Healy for an update on the Sanford Center.  
40 Manager Healy left a message for Ms. South.

1 \* Councilwoman Hickman reiterated comments on the Drive In Movie Night. The  
2 weather is supposed to be great. Free popcorn, candy and drinks.

3  
4 **MAYOR ITEMS:**

5 \* Mayor D. Wood invited the Water Board representatives to the sub committee  
6 meeting to discuss the positives of what they do and what are the goals and  
7 purposes of Water Board.

8 \* Mayor D. Wood announced we will be discussing the bus levy at the next  
9 finance committee meeting.

10 \* Mayor D. Wood asked for an update on the splash pad. Manager Healy said the  
11 initial survey was done by Thrasher now we will move into a preliminary design  
12 phase.

13 \* Mayor D. Wood thanked everyone who participated in the distribution of food at  
14 Four Seasons Pool. Special thanks to the Police Chief for traffic control.

15 \* Mayor D. Wood reminded everyone that October is Fire Prevention Month.

16  
17 **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

18 The finance sub committee will meet on October 13, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. followed by  
19 the traffic committee followed by the policy committee.

20  
21 **COUNCIL ITEMS:**

22 \* Councilwoman DeWitt announced that October is also Breast Cancer Awareness  
23 Month.

24 \* Councilwoman S. Wood announced smoke detectors can be obtained at the  
25 Moundsville Fire Department for citizens who may need them.

26 \* Councilman Saunders asked for an update on the proposed Municipal Building.  
27 Manager Healy said 5 designs have been presented to the committee. McKinley  
28 has been tweaking one particular design that is a corner entry. The committee  
29 continues to work on both the inside and outside designs.

30 \* Councilwoman Hunt thanked Chief Mitchell and officers for their continuous  
31 efforts to protect the City of Moundsville.

32 \* Councilman Remke said he does not approve of the design of the city building  
33 provided by McKinley Engineering.

34 \* Councilman Remke hopes everyone watches the Candidate Forum Wednesday  
35 evening.

36 \* Councilman Remke asked Manager Healy to explain the forum process.

37 \* Councilwoman DeWitt suggested the design of the city building should have a  
38 rec center in the basement.

39 \* Councilwoman S. Wood feels the engineers were hired to design the building  
40 and council should rely heavy on their expertise.

1 \* Councilwoman Hunt also agrees the city should rely on the engineers.  
2 \* Councilwoman Hickman asked how residents would get a smoke detector.  
3 Manager Healy said the call the Fire Department at 304-845-2050.

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5 Councilwoman DeWitt moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Remke.  
6 Motion carried unanimously.

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8 Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

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Sondra J. Hewitt, City Clerk

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David Wood, Mayor