

**STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, COUNTY OF MARSHALL, CITY OF MOUNDSVILLE,
APRIL 1, 2014**

The Council of the City of Moundsville met in regular session in the Council Chambers on April 1, 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, Remke, Simms, Wood and Mayor Saunders. Absent: P. Haynes & 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 March 18, 2014.

Councilperson Simms moved to accept and approve the minutes of the regular council meeting of March 18, 2014, with amendment, stating page 1 line 9, "Simms was absent and did not give invocation", seconded by Councilperson DeWitt as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Special Council Meeting of February 27, 2014.

Councilperson Simms moved to accept and approve the minutes of the special council meeting of February 27, 2014, seconded by Councilperson DeWitt. Motion carried unanimously.

Presentation of Retirement Plaque to Jeff Murray.

Mayor Saunders and Chief Mitchell presented a retirement plaque to Jeff Murray former Lt. with the Moundsville Police Department.

GENERAL PUBLIC HEARING:

* Dennis Kidd, 1215 Second Street, asked why his water bill was so high this month? Mr. Kidd was told he will have to attend the Water Board meeting. City Council has no control over water bills.

* Carl Boso, 305 10th Street, complained about a demolished house on Lockwood Avenue that owners buried shingles and roofing on the property. Mr. Boso was told that Building Inspector Richmond was addressing the problem.

Councilperson Remke asked City Manager Hess to have an answer for Mr. Boso at the next regular council meeting.

Tony Ankrom - Speaking on concerns of the Moundsville Rifle Pistol Club.

Mr. Ankrom previously provided copies of letters to council he had sent to City Manager Hess and Paul Benedum of the DEP concerning issues at the Moundsville Rifle Pistol Club and the revocation of his Life Membership with the Club. Mr. Ankrom was told by Mr. Ron Kaluger, President of the Moundsville Rifle Pistol Club, that his Life Membership was revoked due to remarks made to him by Jim Richmond, Public Works Director, on behalf of the City Manager, strongly suggested that his letter to Paul Benedum, DEP, was a sabotage to have the Club lease revoked.

Mr. Richmond, Public Works Director, made comment to the lease in which he showed Mr. Kaluger that states the city can revoke the lease within 30 days. Mr. Richmond said he feels he was being put in the middle of bad feelings between Mr. Ankrom & Mr. Kaluger. Mr. Richmond went on to say that he informed Mr. Kaluger if he and the club proceeded to bury tires, cars or anything else in the ground the clubs lease will be revoked.

PUBLIC HEARING:

A Public Hearing Concerning the Home Rule Application and Ordinance.

* James Stultz, 1216 Sixth Street, said he appreciates the work the city administration does. He feels that a decision to apply for Home Rule will take the City of Moundsville into the 21st Century. This will allow the city to better control properties in the community and make the owners accountable for their property; the opportunity to increase the revenue base for the city; and streamline the licenses and the process. Mr. Stultz feels it is imperative to take Moundsville in a new direction with Home Rule and strongly encourages council to pass the ordinance.

* Allen Hendershot, 1 Hess Court, voiced his support for Home Rule. He, as former City Manager, feels that Home Rule has worked well in surrounding cities. He hopes that council will approve the ordinance.

* Michaela Karr, 401 11th Street, hopes that passing the Home Rule ordinance will help keep her residence from being considered dilapidated.

NEW BUSINESS:

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

Attorney White read the following Home Rule ordinance by title only to be passed by council on

first 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 (FIRST READING)

Councilperson Wood moved to accept and approve the Home Rule ordinance, seconded by Councilperson DeWitt.

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

Re-appointment to the Moundsville Sanitary Board. (Council's Appointment)

City Manager Hess received a letter from Joseph Richmond asking to be re-appointed to the Sanitary Board.

Councilperson Wood moved to re-appoint Joseph Richmond to the Sanitary Board, seconded by Councilperson Remke. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and Approval of a Proclamation to "Paint the Town Purple-Relay for Life Days" in the City of Moundsville.

* Lottie Durbin, 38 Brady Drive presented a proclamation to Mayor Saunders and Council asking for their support to "Paint the Town Purple Relay for Life Days" from May 14, 2014 to June 14, 2014.

Councilperson Remke made a motion to support Relay for Life by signing proclamation, seconded by Councilperson Simms. Motion carried unanimously.

Other Items to be Discussed by Council.

* Councilperson Remke asked for an update on the Sanford Center. Manager Hess reported meeting with a representative at the Sanford Center has been put on hold.

* Councilperson Remke reported openings in the fence at the Fostoria property.

* Councilperson Remke received complaints that residents are being billed for garbage but don't have any garbage. Mr. Remke was advised that state law requires every resident in the city to have garbage service.

MANAGER ITEMS:

* Manager Hess announced that Councilpersons David & Paul Haynes are absent due to the loss of their brother Mike.

* Manager Hess thanked council passing the Home Rule ordinance on first reading. She also thanked Jim Stultz and Allen Hendershot for sharing their expertise in management and government.

MAYOR ITEMS:

* Mayor Saunders announced the skatepark is open to the public. He hopes the kids will take care of the park.

* Mayor Saunders announced there being an opening on the Parks & Recreation Board since the resignation of Jane Klug.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Discussion and Approval of Recommendations by the Finance Committee.

The finance meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 8, 2014.

Discussion and Approval of Recommendations by the Traffic Committee.

The traffic meeting will follow the finance meeting.

Discussion and Approval of Recommendations by the Policy Committee.

The policy meeting will follow finance meeting.

COUNCIL ITEMS:

* **DeWitt** - Said that she and her grandchildren have attended several events at the Sanford Center and have been very pleased with the participation.

* Thanked the Street Department for paving and sweeping the streets.

* Expressed her condolences to the Haynes family for their loss.

* **Remke** - Expressed condolences to Dave and Paul for the loss of their brother.

* Thanked all the citizens who attended the council meeting to speak on Home Rule.

* **Wood** - Also expressed condolences to the Haynes family.

* Asked Attorney White the next step for the Home Rule application. Attorney White said there will be a second reading and the application will then be sent to the State of West Virginia Home Rule Board.

- * Asked council members to review goals at the Policy Committee.
- * Reported the Historic Landmarks Commission met earlier in the day for their first meeting. Mr. Wood provided copies of the Comprehensive Plan to the commission members.
- * Announced May 14, 2014 is a comprehensive plan meeting.
- * **Simms** - Expressed condolences to the Haynes family.
- * Asked council to consider the purchase of a dura-patcher for the Street Department.

Councilperson Simms moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilperson DeWitt. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Sondra J. Hewitt, City Clerk

Eugene Saunders, Sr., Mayor