

BARRY CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 3, 2023

Mayor Rennecker called the regular meeting of the Barry City Council to order at 7 p.m. He then led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance. All elected officials were present except Bob Dieker.

Steve Schultz made a motion to approve the minutes from the March meeting and Marynel Corton seconded the motion. Motion carried with 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

Steve Schultz made motion to approve payment of the bills and Scott Harris seconded the motion. Motion carried with 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

Officer Ryan Rouse from the Pike County Sheriff's department gave the police report. He said there were 3 traffic warnings, 5 arrests which included 3 traffic arrests and 2 misdemeanor arrests.

Robert Snyder gave the Public Works Director report. He said they had been busy patching and cleaning ditches trying to get the water to drain better. They got the new mural put up on J.D. Ross's building. The big water meter at Ascend quit working. They seemed to think it had a lot of air and when it got wet it blew up and had to be replaced. It is the same setup as the ones we have at the hog confinement and haven't had any trouble for two years with them.

Robert, Rusty, Jeremy and Josh all went to Springfield to a conference so they could get some CEU's for water license. The bathrooms in the park are open.

Jeff Hogge gave the City Administrator report. He delivered the TIF applications to businesses and the deadline for returning them is April 21st. Sent lifeguard ads to area newspapers to recruit lifeguards for this year. He attended a meeting with Terry Lehr about overseeing our water operation. Also attended an organizational meeting at Western School about an upcoming crash simulator to be held on April 14th at 10 a.m. and will involve Barry Fire Department, Pike County Sheriff's Department, State Police, Pike County Ambulance and air-evac helicopter which will land on the ball field by the school. The port-a-potties have been ordered for the Pool Park and Mountain Dew ballpark. He met with Trent Mountain about plans for building he purchased at 725 Bainbridge Street.

Trash RFP discussion will be tabled and reviewed later at a meeting on April 11 at 6 p.m.

Mayor Rennecker discussed the water/sewer rates with council. He said that water/sewer rates are below DCEO guidelines to be eligible for any grants. Steve Schultz stated the last audit showed a deficit in both water and sewer. He said the largest deficit is with sewer and would need to be raised 73% to be eligible for grants. Steve asked: do we do this over two – three years. After much discussion the council decided they need to raise the rates. Steve Schultz said we need to raise the sewer 20% or 15% this year. Justin Puterbaugh said he doesn't have a problem with 20% and Bridget Cramsey stated she was ok with it. Steve Schultz made motion to increase water 8% and sewer 20% in order to come closer to where we need to be. Justin Puterbaugh seconded the motion. Motion carried with 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent to raise water and sewer rates. Council was in agreement for Mayor Rennecker to prepare ordinance for consideration at next month's meeting.

Steve Schultz made a motion to go into executive session at 7:50 p.m. and Marynel Corton seconded the motion.

Council returned from executive session and motion was made to increase wages 6% for the employees.

Meeting adjourned.

Mayor

City Clerk