

APPROVED MINUTES  
MANCHESTER VILLAGE COUNCIL  
May 4, 2020  
7:00 PM

President Vaillencourt called the teleconferenced, regular meeting of the Manchester Village Council to order at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Council members present: Vaillencourt, Way, DuRussel, Dresch, Woods, Andrews and Chartrand. Council members absent: None. Also present via telephone were: Manager Wallace, Clerk Schaible, Brent Jones (DPW), Mark Dresch and Ron Fielder

The minutes of the April 20th, 2020 regular meeting were approved on a motion by Dresch, seconded by Chartrand.

**AGENDA** – The agenda was approved as amended: deleting: 6. Special Session-City Status; 7. Old Business and Reports: A) Sheriff; B) Parks; C) Planning Commission; D) DDA; E) Healthy Communities/Wellness Coalition; F) Manchester Community Joint Planning Commission; G) Building; H) Personnel Committee; I) Finance Committee on a motion by Chartrand, seconded by Dresch.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**- None

**OLD BUSINESS**- None

**NEW BUSINESS**-

**SEWER AND WATER PROJECTS/RATE DISCUSSION**-Wallace referred to budget development noting that the sewer and water projects and rates were the biggest discussion area for this year. He discussed the WWTP Headworks project as a solution to the wipes and rags that choke the system along with other improvements to the sewer system including an upgrade to the Riverbend lift station, force main extension and equalization tank. Wallace reported that these improvements would take care of heavy flow situations and effectively upgrade the system for use over the next 30 years. He presented a water and sewer rate increase program to accomplish these improvements plus the State mandated lead and galvanized water service line replacement. The program feathers rate increases in to pay back the 30-year State Revolving Loan Fund bonds that would be necessary to complete the projects. The bond repayment would begin in 2023. Water and sewer rate increases would range from \$2.91 to \$5.37 per month for an average user over the next 6 years. Wallace also noted the increased rates would still be within the surrounding community rates who have already worked on their systems.

Andrews entered at this time.

Council discussed the requirement that the sewer and water enterprise funds be treated similar to businesses and that the state has said that water line replacement be done at the utilities cost. They were also reminded that 2.118 mills for the Ford Building, Series A sewer bonds and Headlee reduction would come off for the next tax year. They agreed that this concept is a reasonable and fair way to fund the needed improvements. Way noted that a special assessment district would not work well for the approximately 100 service line replacements as it increases the cost significantly and the homeowner has the right to refuse the improvement.

Wallace reported that the entire budget would be a subject for the next Council meeting.

**CORRESPONDENCE**- Council acknowledged the following correspondence:

- Public hearing notice for the customers of Consumers Energy.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE** – Council reviewed the payables list. A motion was made by Dresch, seconded by Andrews, to approve for payment the list dated 05/04/2020 totaling \$29,114.84. Roll call vote: ayes-all. Motion carried.

**REPORTS**

**DPW**- Jones presented his report. He added that brush chipping had begun.

**MANAGER**- Wallace presented his report. He reported that a State Budget webinar that he had attended confirmed that we should get comfortable with uncertainty, continue budgeting conservatively and remain flexible with revenue projections and project planning. Wallace also reported a possible plan that the school is working on for graduation seniors to parade down Main Street. The Sheriff's Department has noted that this would be acceptable. Council was very supportive.

There being no further business, President Vaillencourt adjourned the meeting at 7:49pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Julie Schaible, Village Clerk