



The regular meeting of the Stockport City Council was held at Stockport City Hall on January 8, 2024 and called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Garrett Filson. Council members present were Madge Clark, Joanna Heckethorn, Terry Dorothy, Grant Carter, and Tanya McClaran. Mayor Filson declared a quorum present. Also in attendance were Jim Warner of Warner Engineering; Kris Rankin from SAFE Coalition; City Maintenance Supervisor Matt Brown; and City Clerk Jennifer Palmer.

Mayor Garrett Filson appointed Council Member Madge Clark as Mayor Pro-Tem; Clark accepted the appointment.

Report Items: Sewer Rehabilitation Project – Engineer Jim Warner spoke to the council as to the delay of the two sewer rehabilitation proposals; Warner Engineering is reevaluating the proposals and the data to make certain the proposals are the most cost-effective solutions for the city. Maintenance Report – Hiatt Park is progressing. Utilities Report – Clerk Palmer shared with the council the December water loss report which showed loss now at 419,834 gallons. Rathbun Water representative Kolton Horn and City Maintenance Supervisor Matt Brown have investigated the lines and found no visible signs of the leak at the surface. Dorothy motioned the City Clerk to contact a water leak detection company for an estimate as to the cost to find the leak; Clark seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried. SAFE Coalition – Kris Rankin spoke to the council about the need for volunteers and spring merchant training available.

Approval of Consent Items: Clark motioned to approve the minutes to December’s regular meeting; Carter seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried. Clark motioned to approve December’s Treasurer Report; Heckethorn seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried. Carter motioned to pay current bills; Dorothy seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried. Council reviewed complaint filed concerning cats being shot within city limits, Clerk Palmer will send a letter to the accused citing the discharge of a firearm is illegal within city limits.

Old Business: Hiatt Park – The bathroom roof has been completed thanks to City Superintendent Matt Brown and the volunteer work of Mike Palmer, Joe Heckethorn, Garrett Filson, and Denny Davison. Items remaining on the project is installation of shiplap siding and bathroom fixtures, and electrical. Water and Sewer Charges - The council reviewed the city attorney’s recommendation to require a minimum water and sewer charge for unoccupied and abandoned homes. They were not in agreement with the recommendation. Recodification - The council reviewed sixteen of the sixty-five recommendations Simmering-Cory had addressed in a letter; items seventeen through thirty-five will be reviewed at the February meeting.

New Business: Clark motioned to designate the Van Buren County Register as its official newspaper in 2024; Heckethorn seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried. Dorothy motioned to accept LL Pelling’s 2024 cost proposal; Clark seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried. The council tabled the discussion as to which streets will be resurfaced. The council reviewed the FY25 Budget timeline and agreed to hold a budget workshop meeting on January 16<sup>th</sup> at 6pm in City Hall.

Heckethorn motioned to adjourn the meeting; Dorothy seconded the motion. All Ayes motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm.

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Jennifer Palmer, City Clerk

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Garrett Filson, Mayor