

November 6, 2023

The **regular meeting** of the Vanceburg City Council was held on **November 6, 2023**, and presided over by Mayor, Dane Blankenship.

Pledge of Allegiance by all and Prayer gave by Councilwoman Cantu.

**Council Present:**

Kody Willis	Kathy McCann	Angie Patton
Nichole Cantu	Joni Pugh	Mary McClurg

Attorney Erin Hall was present for City Attorney Stephen McGinnis.

Councilwoman Pugh made a motion to suspend and approve the **minutes** of the **regular meeting** held on **October 2, 2023**. Councilwoman Patton seconded the motion.

**Vote:**

Willis	yes	Patton	yes	McCann	yes
Pugh	yes	Cantu	yes	McClurg	yes

**Speakers:**

Richard Evans approached the council regarding the city cleaning up some of the riverbank making it better for boaters on the river to dock in Vanceburg. He said he had run into them, and they had stopped and docked at the Veterans Park area, and they said how nice it was that the area was cleaned off enough for them to dock. They had gone up and had lunch at Riverbend Pub & Grill and enjoyed Veterans Park.

Landon Bentley approached the council regarding a misunderstanding with the mayor. He stated himself, Morgan Roe, Mayor Blankenship, and Brenda Bear had met one evening on the mayor's back porch regarding working on having a festival to help raise money for Warrior Ridge. During that time the mayor had discussed the city charging Warrior Ridge for the cleanup of the festival being around \$1,000. The next day, himself, Morgan Roe, Mayor Blankenship, Brenda Bear and Greta May had met in the office regarding the same possible festival and Mr. Bentley stated the amount of money Mayor Blankenship had mentioned went from \$1,000 to \$2,000. Mr. Bentley wasn't sure what happened between those meetings of it costing \$1,000 more than what he was told the evening before. He also stated if there is a feud between the city and the Chamber of Commerce, that it is childish. Fireworks were mentioned in the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting as well. Assistant Chief Billman had spoken saying he had received a call during that meeting about a small \$5,000 firework show. During that conversation Mayor Blankenship and Brenda Bear had talked about getting sponsors to help pay for the fireworks having no cost to Warrior Ridge.

Mayor Blankenship stated in the meeting Mr. Bentley is speaking about how he said he did not want to work with the Chamber of Commerce. This was going to be a festival the city was

going to put on with Warrior Ridge to help them raise funds for their project. Mayor Blankenship also stated that everything that Mr. Bentley is saying is not true. Mr. Bentley had called the office the next morning and told us the festival was off, he did not want to do it.

Councilwoman Pugh said she had called Kentucky League of Cities and ask them about the 3-minute speaking rule, and they stated it was ridiculous to have that kind of rule. Councilman Willis asks what she wanted to do. Councilwoman Pugh stated she wanted to revisit this to change the motion to let the public speak longer than 3 minutes. Councilwoman Patton said the experience she has had in the past for letting the public speak out in the open has not been good, it has been out of order. She stated this was done to have a mannerly meeting and to keep it in order. We must have control of the meetings.

**Electric Plant Board Report:**

Councilwoman Patton reported there is a change order on the agenda regarding the Black Oak Sewer Project in the amount of \$4,500.00 to connect existing 3" force main to the 8" gravity sewer line. The Scotts Branch Project is complete, and the final paperwork is being filed for the funds to pay for the additional funding of the project.

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

Councilwoman McCann made a motion to **approve the change order for the Black Oak Sewer Project in the amount of \$4,500.00.** Councilwoman Patton seconded the motion.

**Vote:**

Willis	yes	McCann	yes	Patton	yes
McClurg	yes	Cantu	yes	Pugh	yes

Councilwoman Patton made a motion to **approve Resolution #23.04, Scotts Branch Project additional funds.** Councilwoman Cantu seconded the motion.

**Vote:**

Willis	yes	McCann	yes	Patton	yes
McClurg	yes	Cantu	yes	Pugh	yes

Councilwoman Cantu made a motion to **approve the Grant Agreement for the Scotts Branch Project additional funds.** Councilwoman McClurg seconded the motion.

**Vote:**

Willis	yes	McCann	yes	Patton	yes
McClurg	yes	Cantu	yes	Pugh	yes

Councilwoman McCann made a motion to **approve the following city streets to be blacktopped in the amount of \$57,536.66, Halbert Ave., Washington St., Holiday Dr., Harper Ave., Harper Ave. Extension, Rainbow St., Green St., Bruce St. South, Bruce St. North and mobilization.** Councilwoman Patton seconded the motion. Mayor Blankenship stated the streets will not be blacktopped until next year, but he needed this motion in order to sign the proposal given by Eaton Asphalt Paving/Brown County Construction to get the price for this year.

**Vote:**

Willis	yes	McCann	yes	Patton	yes
McClurg	yes	Cantu	yes	Pugh	yes

Councilwoman Cantu asked Attorney Erin Hall to read the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of Ordinance #200.00B-2023, Budget Amendment, increasing the amount of money for paving city streets and decreasing the amount of money for contingency.

Councilwoman Patton made a **motion to go into executive session to discuss litigation.** Councilwoman Cantu seconded the motion.

**Vote:**

Willis	yes	McCann	yes	Patton	yes
McClurg	yes	Cantu	yes	Pugh	yes

Councilwoman Cantu made a **motion to come back to regular session with no action being taken.** Councilwoman McClurg seconded the motion.

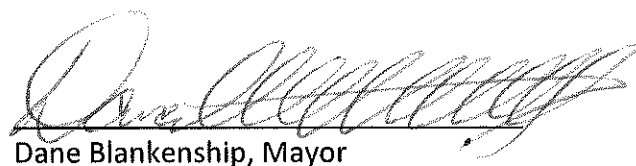
**Vote:**

Willis	yes	McCann	yes	Patton	yes
McClurg	yes	Cantu	yes	Pugh	yes

**Updates:**

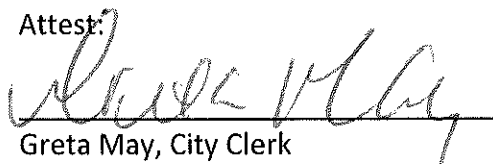
Mayor Blankenship mentioned that the roof has been replaced at Veterans Park. The city workers replaced boards, sheeting and put a black metal roof on the park. Mayor stated he would like to replace the deck boards with the composite boards making it nice and less than the city has to maintain. The composite decking will cost approximately \$3,000. In the spring is when the city workers plan on painting the park. He thanked the city workers for their hard work and dedication to the Veterans Park roof renovation.

Councilwoman Patton made a motion to **adjourn.** Councilwoman McCann seconded the motion. All agreed.



Dane Blankenship, Mayor

Attest:



Greta May, City Clerk

December 4, 2023

The **regular meeting** of the Vanceburg City Council was held on **December 4, 2023**, and presided over by Mayor, Dane Blankenship.

Pledge of Allegiance by all and Prayer gave by Councilwoman Cantu.

**Council Present:**

Kody Willis	Kathy McCann	Angie Patton
Nichole Cantu	Joni Pugh	Mary McClurg

City Attorney Stephen McGinnis was present.

Councilman Willis made a motion to suspend and approve the **minutes** of the **regular meeting** held on **November 6, 2023**. Councilwoman Patton seconded the motion.

**Vote:**

Willis	yes	Patton	yes	McCann	yes
Pugh	yes	Cantu	yes	McClurg	yes

**Speakers:**

Alex Halsey with the Lewis County Health Department spoke to the council regarding hanging an Opioid Rescue Kit in the office. In the box it contains a mask, Narcan with the instructions on how to use it if anyone came in the office that had overdosed. Mr. Halsey stated he would like to see these boxes all over town in every building. Councilwoman Pugh stated it sure can't hurt to have this in the office. Councilwoman Cantu stated she is not trained to work the Narcan if someone would need the help. Mr. Halsey stated he could train the council this evening on how to use it and that is a goal of his. Councilwoman McClurg stated she is afraid that showing the box in plain view may become an encouragement to people. Councilman Willis asked Mr. Halsey if someone was to get ahold of the Narcan that didn't need it would it hurt them, and he replied to it would not. Mr. Halsey suggested to council to research this at the Kentucky Department of Public Health website to better understand the use of it. Councilwoman Patton suggested to get everyone trained possibly on a council meeting day. Councilman Willis made a motion to **table this until next meeting where council could get a chance to look into the Opioid Rescue Box**. Councilwoman McCann seconded the motion.

**Vote:**

Willis	yes	Patton	yes	McCann	yes
Pugh	yes	Cantu	yes	McClurg	yes

**Electric Plant Board Report:**

Superintendent Bill Tom Stone of the Electric Plant Board was present for the meeting. He stated the Black Oak Wastewater Treatment Plant Project was almost complete. The Scott's Branch Project is waiting on some final funding but is almost done as well. The Salt Lick Tank

project, there is an approval on the agenda this evening to accept the low bid for the project. Mr. Stone stated the Electric Plant Board had recently had their audit and it was a clean audit.

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

Councilman Willis made a motion to table the approval for the low bid on the Salt Lick Tank Project as he is just seeing the information on it. Superintendent Bill Tom Stone explained the tank has not been painted nor have any repairs to it since it has been there which is around 1980. The project was bid for \$66,000.00 which was the lowest bid. The work on the project will not get started until spring. The total grant award was \$200,000.00. With the bid coming in at \$66,000.00 and other work that will need done it will be around \$120,000.00 to do minor repairs, sandblast and paint the tank. That leaves \$80,000.00 to see what else could be done to make improvements to the tank. The funds are coming from the Clean Water Act. Councilman Willis made a motion to rescind his 1<sup>st</sup> motion of tabling this. Councilman Willis made a **motion to approve the low bid of \$66,000.00 on the Salt Lick Tank Project.** Councilwoman Cantu seconded the motion.

**Vote:**

Willis	yes	McCann	yes	Patton	yes
McClurg	yes	Cantu	yes	Pugh	yes

Councilwoman Pugh made a **motion to rescind and nullify the April 3<sup>rd</sup> motion approved by council that our citizens must contact the city office 4 days prior to a meeting with 3 minutes to speak upon additional advice from a Kentucky League of Cities attorney, I make a motion that citizens may sign in to speak at the council meetings the evening it is held after official business has been conducted, have 5 minutes to speak and an opportunity for a rebuttal if necessary.** Councilwoman Cantu added that everyone was elected by the taxpayers, and she thinks it is a good idea. Councilwoman Pugh stated there is no law that says we must have this rule. Councilman Willis seconded the motion.

**Vote:**

Willis	yes	McCann	no	Patton	yes
McClurg	yes	Cantu	yes	Pugh	yes

Councilwoman Cantu ask City Attorney to read Ordinance #200.00B-2023.  
Councilwoman Patton made a motion to **approve Ordinance #200.00B-2023, budget amendment increasing the amount of money for paving of city streets and decreasing the amount of money for contingency.** Councilwoman Cantu seconded the motion.

**Vote:**

Willis	yes	McCann	yes	Patton	yes
McClurg	yes	Cantu	yes	Pugh	yes

Police Department Vehicles Leasing Program – Mayor Blankenship stated we currently have 4 police vehicles we are looking to replace. There is a company out of Nashville TN. that has about 8 of them fully equipped and ready to go. We have been looking into making a lease with them. It is a 6-year lease with each vehicle purchased being around \$62,000.00. This would be for 4 SUVs fully equipped. The cost of the payment would run the city around \$12,000.00 per quarter and the alcohol tax money would pay for half or more of that payment. There is no mileage usage on the lease. The warranty does start on the vehicle when the city purchases the SUV's. This is a lease to where if the city could not afford the vehicles they can be given back with no repercussion. A copy of the lease was given to each council member. Councilman Willis made a **motion to allow the Mayor to enter into the 6 year contract lease of 4 Police Vehicles.** Councilwoman Cantu seconded the motion.

**Vote:**

Willis	yes	McCann	yes	Patton	yes
McClurg	yes	Cantu	yes	Pugh	yes

Councilwoman Patton made a **motion to go into executive session to discuss litigation.** Councilwoman McCann seconded the motion.

**Vote:**

Willis	yes	McCann	yes	Patton	yes
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Councilwoman Patton made a **motion to come back to regular session with no action being taken.** Councilwoman Pugh seconded the motion.

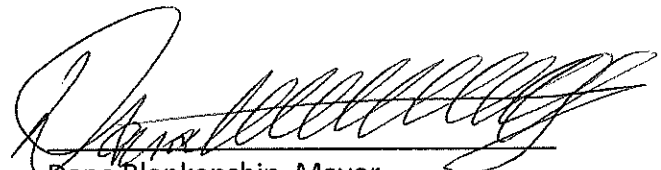
**Vote:**

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**Updates:**

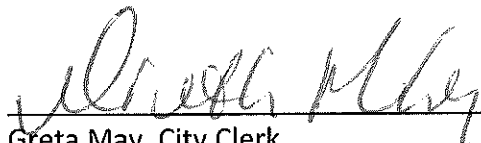
Mayor Blankenship mentioned that we had a good past weekend of the Christmas Tree Lightening Ceremony and the Christmas Parade. We had Santa Claus at the Visitor Center after the parade visiting with the kids. City worker Laddie Biles made caroler cutouts with Brenda Bear painting them. With the rain that was coming down, all in all it was a wonderful parade. Councilman Willis suggested notifying the participants that did floats in this year's parade to notify them about next years.

Councilwoman Cantu made a motion to **adjourn**. Councilwoman McClurg seconded the motion. All agreed.



Dane Blankenship, Mayor

Attest:



Greta May, City Clerk