

**City of Mt. Washington
Regular Council Meeting
January 9, 2023
Fick Hall**

Mayor Owen called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with the following council members present, Layne Abell, Troy Barr, Greg Gentry, Bruce Gooden, Sandra Hockenbury and Curt Hudson.

Also, present were, City Administrator Dawn Hardin, Paul Brannon Public Works Director, and Chief Tim Morris.

Greg Gentry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Owen asked those present to take a moment of reflection.

Minutes

Councilman Hudson made, and Councilwoman Hockenbury seconded a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for December 12, 2022. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 6 to 0.

Police Report

Chief Morris read the police report for the month of December and provided an annual recap the year of 2022.

Sign in sheet

Paul Hollinger is a resident and said he attended the last meeting in December and said the City Council was criticized for not responding to ADA needs. Mr. Hollinger said he wants to commend the City Council for their efforts in responding expeditiously on the hearing devices that was requested. Mr. Hollinger said he did have a question on what was approved regarding the round-about. Councilman Gentry said the Council reviewed a new design and approved the engineers to move forward with acquiring easements.

Dan Sowder stated he went on record at the last council meeting regarding non-compliance on ADA requirements. Mr. Sowder said Councilwoman Hockenbury asked what those ADA needs were and the requirement to become in compliance. Mr. Sowder said he reported the ADA Act, and the ADA amendments Act and wants to receive a commitment from the council that a plan is in place to bring his concerns into compliance. Mr. Sowder said he will provide the mayor with a copy along with an ADA summary. Councilwoman Hockenbury thanked Mr. Sowder and said the city needs to be in compliance and said we have a representative appointed, Nora McCoy, to oversee the ADA Act and help us get the resources we need to make progress and get a time frame and report back to everyone. Councilwoman Hockenbury said being compliant is near and dear to our hearts and want our city to be enjoyed by all.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Owen reported he is in the final stage of appointing a new City Attorney and will introduce him at the next meeting. The mayor thanked everyone for their support and looks forward to serving the community moving forward.

Report from the City Council

Councilman Barr wished everyone a Happy New Year and said he looks forward to the next 2 years. Troy said we had some inclement weather and thanked Paul and his crew for working hard to make the roads safe.

Councilman Gentry thanked the road department for fixing the potholes throughout town.

Councilwoman Hockenbury asked for an update on the letters to business owners for the grease traps. Paul said letters will be mailed out pursuant to the ordinance and will begin inspecting for compliance with the ordinance.

Councilwoman Hockenbury thanked Building Housing and Construction for the report on all the permits sold, she said it was very informational.

Councilman Hudson also thanked the Public Works Department for an outstanding job on the roads with this last bout of bad weather.

Councilman Gooden said he is excited to work with everyone in the next 2 years and excited for the learning experience.

Layne Abell stated with today being National Law Enforcement Day he thanked our Police Department for all they do serving and protecting our community.

Councilman Abell also discussed homestead exemptions and disability exemptions that are available to applicable citizens and reminded them to file with the PVA in order to receive a discount of \$46,350 of the assessed valued on your property taxes. Layne Abell said the city will be having another reassessment soon and the most vulnerable citizens will be disabled and senior citizens. Layne Abell also wants to open up a dialogue to do a municipal order for an additional \$25,000 for homestead exemption.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion for the council, Councilman Barr made, and Councilman Gentry seconded a motion to adjourn at 7:59 PM

Elizabeth D Hardin
City Administrator

Stuart Owen
Mayor