

Minutes approved – April 28, 2009

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, MISSOURI, HELD ON TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2009.

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Mount Vernon, Missouri, met in the regular place of meeting, City Hall, on Tuesday, April 14, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor David W. Eden with the following Aldermen answering roll call: J.N. Greene, Bruce Conway, Randy Short, Mike Tebow, April Canchola, Max Springer, Carol Millsap and David Van Pelt. The following city personnel were also in attendance: City Administrator John Rice, City Attorney William Petrus, Jr., Director of Public Works Gene Stanton, Chief of Police Garry Earnest, Treasurer Shari Weldy and City Clerk Shannon Neely.

Approval of Agenda.

Mayor Eden presented the agenda for approval. Alderwoman Canchola made a motion, seconded by Alderman Tebow to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Presentation of Minutes.

Minutes of the last meeting, which was held on Tuesday, March 24, 2009 were presented to the Board for approval. Alderman Springer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Short to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Comments of Visitors.

Mayor Eden requested any comments from visitors. None brought forward.

Liquor License Transfer Request.

Mayor Eden presented a request for liquor license transfer from Casey's General Store, currently located at 410 East Mount Vernon Blvd. and transferring to 505 East Mount Vernon Blvd. Petrus noted the request of transfer did not change the type of license currently on file with the City Clerk, which is Malt Liquor – Original Package and Sunday Sales, Intoxicating Liquor – Original Package and per the City Codes would have no additional charge with the liquor license transfer request. Chief Earnest reported the background check shows no indication of any problem. Alderman Short made a motion, seconded by Alderman Van Pelt to approve transfer of liquor license for 410 East Mount Vernon Blvd. to 505 East Mount Vernon Blvd. Motion carried.

Citizen Request for Keeping of Chickens.

Petrus reported he had researched keeping of chickens inside the city limits and presented three model ordinances from other cities. Discussion was held. Alderman Short made a motion, seconded by Alderman Van Pelt to leave ordinance as is with no action. The following roll call vote was recorded:

AYES: Greene, Short, Tebow, Millsap, Van Pelt

NOES: Conway, Canchola, Springer

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

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Enhanced Enterprise Zone.

Rice held discussion on Bill No. 2009-0010 and 2009-0011 regarding the Enhanced Enterprise Zone. Rice explained how the zone was determined by the Department of Economic Development and submitted a map for the Board to review.

Ordinances.

Bill No. 2009-0009 re: An ordinance declaring the results of the general election held in the City of Mount Vernon, Missouri, on April 7, 2009 was read twice with the following roll call vote recorded:

1st reading:

AYES: Greene, Conway, Short, Tebow, Canchola, Springer, Millsap, Van Pelt

NOE: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

2nd reading:

AYES: Greene, Conway, Short, Tebow, Canchola, Springer, Millsap, Van Pelt

NOE: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Bill No. 2009-0009 was declared passed and sent to the Mayor for signature. Bill No. 2009-0009 thus became Ordinance No. 5.155.

Bill No. 2009-0010 re: An ordinance supporting an application for an Enhanced Enterprise one and establishing the Board for the Mount Vernon Enhanced Enterprise Zone was read twice by title only, with the following roll call vote recorded:

1st reading:

AYES: Greene, Conway, Short, Tebow, Canchola, Springer, Millsap, Van Pelt

NOE: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

2nd reading:

AYES: Greene, Conway, Short, Tebow, Canchola, Springer, Millsap, Van Pelt

NOE: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Bill No. 2009-0010 was declared passed and sent to the Mayor for signature. Bill No. 2009-0010 thus became Ordinance No. 1.245.

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Bill No. 2009-0011 re: An ordinance authorizing tax abatement and determining types of eligible businesses for Enhanced Enterprise Zone was read twice by title only, with the following roll call vote recorded:

1st reading:

AYES: Greene, Conway, Short, Tebow, Canchola, Springer, Millsap, Van Pelt

NOE: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

2nd reading:

AYES: Greene, Conway, Short, Tebow, Canchola, Springer, Millsap, Van Pelt

NOE: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Bill No. 2009-0011 was declared passed and sent to the Mayor for signature. Bill No. 2009-0011 thus became Ordinance No. 1.246.

Old Business.

Mayor Eden requested any old business to be brought to the floor for discussion.

Weldy requested the Board consider repealing an amendment to the budget which was passed March 24, 2009 meeting. Alderman Springer made a motion, seconded by Alderwoman Canchola made a motion to repeal the amendment. Motion carried.

Mayor Eden presented Alderman Short and Alderman Van Pelt with Certificates of Appreciation for serving on the Council. Alderman Van Pelt thanked the city for the opportunity to serve the community as a Board of Alderman.

Adjourn Sine Die.

Alderman Short made a motion, seconded by Alderman Van Pelt to adjourn meeting Sine Die. Motion carried, meeting adjourned Sine Die at 7:20 p.m.

Oath of Office.

City Clerk Neely administered the oath of office to the following for Board of Aldermen: J.N. Greene, Ward One; Gary Albers, Ward Two; Max Springer, Ward Three; and John Hull, Ward Four.

Reconvened Session.

Mayor Eden reconvened the meeting at 7:25 p.m. Roll call resulted in the following members present: J.N. Greene, Bruce Conway, John Hull, Mike Tebow, April Canchola, Max Springer, Carol Millsap and Gary Albers.

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Mayoral Committee Appointments.

Mayor Eden announced the following Board of Aldermen Committee appointments for 2009-2010 with the first name on the list serving as Chairman:

Finance Committee: Springer, Millsap, Greene
Personnel Committee: Canchola, Albers, Greene
Public Works/Street Committee: Hull, Tebow, Conway
Parks Committee: Tebow, Hull, Albers
Airport Committee: Greene, Conway, Canchola

At this point, Mayor Eden formally dissolved the Ad-Hoc Search for Code Enforcement Officer Committee.

Personnel Appointments.

Mayor Eden presented the following for Personnel appointments:

City Attorney – William Petrus, Jr.
City Clerk – Shannon Neely
Director of Public Works – Gene Stanton
Treasurer – Shari Weldy
Revenue Collector – Jason Patten
Chief of Police – Garry Earnest
Assistant Chief of Police – David Hubert
Fire Chief – Melvin Owens
Assistant Fire Chief – Brad DeLay

Alderman Conway made a motion, seconded by Alderwoman Canchola to appoint Personnel as presented by the Mayor. Motion carried.

Acting President of the Board of Aldermen.

Mayor Eden requested the Aldermen elect an Acting-President of the Board of Aldermen. Alderwoman Canchola made a motion, seconded by Alderman Hull to elect Alderman Springer as Acting President of the Board of Aldermen. The following vote was recorded:

AYES: Greene, Conway, Hull, Tebow, Canchola, Millsap, Albers
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: Springer
ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

City Administrator Report.

Rice held discussion on the following items:

- Public Works/Streets meeting. Rice requested a Public Works meeting be scheduled to discuss the new Industrial Park's utility infrastructure.
- Tax Credit Bonds. Discussed tax credit bonds offered with the stimulus package.

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- Elected Officials Conference. Reported the Elected Officials conference is scheduled for June 11 and 12 in Jefferson City and encouraged Aldermen to attend.
- Missouri Municipal League Legislative Wrap-up meeting. Reported the Legislative Wrap-up meeting is scheduled for June 4, 2009 at the Mount Vernon Senior Center.
- Judicial Center Parking. Reported complaints of parking at the Lawrence County Judicial Center. Rice noted MoDot will install signs if the city will pass an ordinance to restrict parking in this area. Alderman Springer made a motion, seconded by Alderwoman Canchola directing City Attorney to proceed with an ordinance restricting parking at the Lawrence County Judicial Center. Motion carried.
- Summer Rates for Water Usage. Discussed past use of meter buckets for summer watering. Rice requested the Aldermen consider allowing sewer usage from June, July and August to be averaged from January, February and March usages to citizens who request the averages. Rice noted interested customers would be required to complete an application to receive the average sewer rate, will have not been delinquent twice during the calendar year or have had utilities previously shut-off. Alderman Springer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Tebow to allow a summer rate for sewer usage for qualifying customers. Motion carried.
- Sales Tax Revenue. Reported the February sales tax revenue was slightly higher than in previous months.
- Web Site. Reported the web site has been updated.

Treasurer Report.

Weldy held discussion on the following items:

- Bills. Presented bills to be paid. Alderman Tebow made a motion, seconded by Alderman Conway to pay bills as presented. Motion carried.
- Investment. Presented a bid tab for investment of \$162,000.00. Alderman Springer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Hull to invest \$162,000.00 with Liberty Bank for six months at 2.61% interest. The following voice vote was recorded:
AYES: Greene, Conway, Hull, Tebow, Canchola, Springer, Albers
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: Millsap
ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

Public Works.

Stanton held discussion on the following items:

- Change Order. Presented a Construction Contract Amendment from Dewitt & Associates at the new substation for additional concrete (\$25,075.00), rock (\$806.00) and anchor bolts (\$115.00) for the regulator pad. Alderman Springer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Conway to approve the amendment to the contract for \$25,996.00 for the new substation. Motion carried.
- Employee Probation. Reported Chad Cloud had passed his six month probation with the Electric Department and requested permission to designate him at full-time status. Alderman Tebow made a motion, seconded by Alderman Conway to designate Chad Cloud to full time employee status. Motion carried.

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- Substation. Reported the new transformer had been delivered to the new substation and work would begin on fencing to secure the site.

Planning and Zoning Report.

Stanton held discussion on the following items:

- Building Codes. Reported a request had been presented to the Planning and Zoning Commission for living quarters in a commercial building basement located at 317 S. Main Street. Stanton noted Planning and Zoning Commission members were concerned with the fire codes and emergency exits.
- Storage Pods. Discussed metal storage pods.

Police Report.

Earnest held discussion on the following items:

- March Activity Report. Presented the March Activity report.
- MoDot Radar. Reported the radar unit had been installed on 39 Highway but had problems with batteries and unit was returned to MoDot for repairs.
- MoDot Grants. Reported the city would qualify for the Click-it or Ticket grant, DWI Enforcement grant and various equipment grants.
- Ticket Statistics. Discussed reasons for higher number of traffic tickets being issued.

New Business.

Mayor Eden requested any new business to be brought to the floor for discussion.

- Alderwoman Canchola requested a Personnel Committee meeting to be scheduled for Tuesday, April 28, 2009 at 12:00 p.m., noon.
- Petrus requested input from the Aldermen that with Council packets are emailed to the Board, could ordinance be printed on 8.5" x 11" paper instead of legal. Members unanimously consented to the proposal of printing and filing of ordinances on 8.5" x 11" paper.

Adjourn Meeting.

Alderman Hull made a motion, seconded by Alderman Conway to adjourn meeting. Motion carried, meeting adjourned.

Shannon Neely, City Clerk