

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, MISSOURI, HELD ON TUESDAY FEBRUARY 10, 2009.

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Mount Vernon, Missouri met in the regular place of meeting, City Hall, on Tuesday, February 10, 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, 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, Code Enforcement Officer Steve Helsper, Chief of Police Garry Earnest, Treasurer Shari Weldy and City Clerk Shannon Neely.

Approval of Agenda.

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

Minutes.

Minutes of the last meeting, which was held on January 27, 2009, were presented for approval. Alderman Van Pelt made a motion, seconded by Alderman Short to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Comments of Visitors.

Mayor Eden requested any comments from visitors to be brought to the floor. The following was discussed:

- Scott George held discussion on the importance of an Economics Director and requested the city hire a full-time economic development director.

Resolution.

Bill No. (R)2009-0005 re: A resolution of the Board of Aldermen of the City of Mount Vernon, Missouri authorizing execution of an amendment to the depository agreement by and between the City of Mount Vernon, Missouri and Liberty Bank entered on February 26, 2008 was read once by title only, with the following roll call vote recorded:

1st reading.

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: Millsap

ABSENT: None

Bill No. (R)2009-0005 was declared passed and sent to the Mayor for signature. Bill No. (R)2009-0005 thus became Resolution No. (R)2009-0005.

Ordinances.

Bill No. 2009-0002 re: An ordinance vacating a portion of Johnston Street within the city limits of Mount Vernon, Missouri was read twice by title only, with the following roll call vote recorded:

Minutes approved – February 24, 2009

1st reading:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

2nd reading:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Bill No. 2009-0002 was declared passed and sent to the Mayor for signature. Bill No. 2009-0002 thus became Ordinance No. 10.52.

Bill No. 2009-0003 re: An ordinance declaring the results of a special election held in the City of Mount Vernon, Missouri on February 3, 2009 at which election there was submitted to the qualified voters of said city the proposition to impose a city sales tax for transportation purposes at a rate of one-half of one percent (1/2 of 1%) on the receipts from all retail sales of property or services within the city which are subject to taxation by the State of Missouri under the provisions of Sections 144.010 to 144.525, RSMo 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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

2nd reading:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Bill No. 2009-0003 was declared passed and sent to the Mayor for signature. Bill No. 2009-0003 thus became Ordinance No. 11.80.

City Administrator Report.

Rice held discussion on the following items:

- Personnel Policies. Presented policies for Personal Vehicle Use, Email and Internet Use and Cellular Phone Use for the Aldermen to review and present with resolutions at the next council meeting.
- Sales Tax Ballot Issue. Commended the residents of Mount Vernon for passing the Transportation Sales tax with 83% of the vote in favor.
- Budget Cuts. Reported some seasonal employee positions would be delayed in re-hiring due to budget concerns.

Minutes approved – February 24, 2009

- Emailing Council packets. Researching how to save the city money and requested if Council packets could be emailed to the Aldermen.
- Recycling Bin. Discussed the recycling program and how the effects of the economy affected the recycling market.
- Senior Center lunch. Will attend the Senior Center lunch on Thursdays to answer any questions or concerns. Rice invited the Aldermen to attend also.
- Depository Agreement. Discussed the changes in the FDIC insurance regulations concerning deposits in excess of \$100,000.00.
- CDARS. Discussed the CDARS program in which the city can deposit funds with Great Southern Bank, which is a member of the program. Rice proposed a ladder system for investments so that certificate of deposits mature monthly in case the funds are required for operations. After much discussion, Alderman Short made a motion, seconded by Alderman Van Pelt to participate with CDARS program by laddering certificate of deposits by listed maturity dates. The following vote was recorded:
AYES: Greene, Conway, Short, Tebow, Canchola, Millsap and Van Pelt.
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: Springer
ABSENT: None
Motion carried.
- Stimulus Plan. Reported Jane Earnhardt, with Scott Consulting had contacted him regarding capital improvement projects which may qualify for the stimulus plan and requested a list of any projects to submit.
- City Clerk Academy. Alderman Short made a motion, seconded by Alderman Springer to allow City Clerk Shannon Neely to attend the 2009 Master Academy and Spring Institute, March 9, 2009 thru March 12, 2009. Motion carried.

Treasurer Report.

Weldy held discussion on the following items.

- Bills. Presented bills to be paid. Alderman Tebow made a motion, seconded by Alderwoman Canchola to pay bills as presented. Motion carried.
- Online Collections. Have begun process for on-line collections for uncollected utility bills.

Public Works Report.

Stanton held discussion on the following items:

- Electric Substation. Presented a construction re-cap of bid items.
- Preventative Maintenance. Empire District Electric Company would be doing preventative maintenance on Thursday, February 12, 2009 at midnight on the east electric substation.
- Fuel Express damage. Reported payment received from Stevens Transport, Inc. for damage to the City electric system at the Fuel Express gas station. Alderwoman Canchola made a motion, seconded by Alderman Short to authorize the Mayor to sign release from damages with Stevens Transport, Inc. Motion carried.

Planning and Zoning Report.

Helsper held discussion on the following items:

- Public Hearing. Reported a Public Hearing was held on Tuesday, February 3, 2009 regarding rezoning of 1301 South Landrum Street. Helsper noted the Planning and Zoning

Commission had recommended unanimously rezoning property from M-1 and B-3, to R-3. Helsper reported he would present an ordinance for re-zoning at the next council meeting.

- Zoning change. Reported homeowners from 721 to 821 W. Mt. Vernon Blvd. have requested zoning change from B-3 General Commercial to R-2 Single Family Residential.
- Portable on Demand (PODS) Storage Containers. Presented a draft ordinance for storage containers in residential areas.
- City Airport Hanger. Held discussion on rental of the City Hanger. Alderman Short made a motion to table discussion of the city hanger for Airport Committee to review request. After much discussion, Alderman Short withdrew his motion. Alderwoman Canchola requested the Airport Committee hold a meeting on Thursday, February 19, 2009 at 12:00 p.m., noon.
- Abandoned Property. Held discussion on abandoned building process. Helsper noted he currently had a property at 323 E. Thurman Ave. in which he was unable to locate the owner, but would need to secure the building due to it being a nuisance. After much discussion, Alderwoman Canchola made a motion, seconded by Alderman Greene to pay \$150.00 for a title search of owner at 323 E. Thurman Ave. The following vote was recorded:

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

NOES: Millsap

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

- 320 W. Sloan St. Reported the request for a ninety-day stay for demolition had expired and requested direction from the council as to action to take. Helsper noted he had not heard from Sarah Lewis as to progress of securing property. Alderwoman Canchola made a motion, seconded by Alderman Short to re-bid request for demolition of 321 West Sloan St. Motion carried.

Police Report.

Earnest held discussion on the following items:

- Certification. Reported three officers, Chance Cornell, Pauline Cruse and Josh Thompson, had completed and obtained instructor certification through the State of Missouri for Defensive tactics, expandable batons and PR-24 batons.
- Under-age Drinking Enforcement. Reported one business in violation and has been turned over to the court.
- January Activity Report. Presented the monthly activity report and discussed how the economy affected the higher number of crime.
- Fundraiser. Five officers and their families attended a fundraiser for Magic Moments Equine Therapy.
- Radar signage. State of Missouri will be placing electronic radar signage on Highway 39 in March in an attempt to slow traffic.

Committee Reports.

Mayor Eden requested reports from the following committees:

- *Airport.* Alderwoman Canchola reminded of the meeting set for Thursday, February 19, 2009.

Minutes approved – February 24, 2009

- *Finance.* Alderman Springer reported the committee had met to discuss certificate of deposits.
- *Personnel.* Alderman Conway noted he had nothing to report.
- *Public Works/Streets.* Alderman Short reminded of the meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 17, 2009.
- *Parks.* Alderman Short noted a meeting would be held on Tuesday, February 24, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.

Old Business.

Mayor Eden requested any old business to be brought to the floor for discussion. None brought forward.

New Business.

Mayor Eden requested any new business to be brought to the floor for discussion. None brought forward.

Adjournment.

Alderwoman Canchola made a motion, seconded by Alderman Van Pelt to adjourn meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Shannon Neely, City Clerk