

Minutes approved – April 14 2009

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY
OF MOUNT VERNON, MISSOURI, HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2009.

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Mount Vernon, Missouri met in the regular place of meeting, City Hall, on Tuesday, March 24, 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. Absent: None. The following city personnel were also in attendance: City Administrator John Rice, City Attorney William Petrus, Jr., Director of Public Works Gene Stanton, Treasurer Shari Weldy and City Clerk Shannon Neely.

Approval of Agenda.

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

Presentation of Minutes.

Minutes of the last City Council meeting, which was held on Tuesday, March 10, 2009 were presented to the Board for approval. Alderman Tebow made a motion, seconded by Alderman Conway to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Comments of Visitors.

Mayor Eden requested any comments from visitors. The following persons requested discussion the need to fill the vacancy of Code Enforcement Officer: Jason Brown, Rick Clark, Grady Reach and Rick Thiesfield.

Ordinance.

Bill No. 2009-0008 re: An ordinance changing zoning designation of seven (7) tracts of real estate located on the west end of Mt. Vernon Boulevard from B-3 general commercial district to R-2 two-family dwelling district and directing change to be indicated on the district map, as adopted by the City of Mount Vernon, Missouri 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. 2009-0008 was declared passed and sent to the Mayor for signature. Bill No. 2009-0008 thus became Ordinance No. 2.140.

City Administrator Report.

Rice held discussion on the following items:

- State Revolving Fund Escrow Account. Reported the State Revolving Fund required the city to hold money in an escrow account, for a total of \$176,000.00, in which the city has deposited \$119,000.00. Rice noted United Missouri Bank was requesting direction as to what account to put the escrow money into and reported the trust company is not insured by the FDIC, but the trust company does carry insurance to cover these monies. Alderman Springer made a motion, seconded by Alderwoman Canchola to withhold \$57,000.00 from the April 2009 schedule for Wastewater CDARS and invest it with United Missouri Bank in the escrow account along with the current balance of \$119,000.00 for a total of \$176,000.00 required for the State Revolving Fund. Motion carried.
- Golf Course. Reported the Personnel Committee Requested the Board consider Grady Hagler for part-time employment at the Golf Course Club House. Alderman Conway made a motion, seconded by Alderman Greene to hire Grady Hagler to part-time employment at the Municipal Golf Course Club House.
- Budget Schedule. Rice reminded the Board of the upcoming schedule for budget meetings.
- Airport Grant. Rice reported a grant available with the Missouri Highway and Transportation Department for pavement maintenance and re-striping at the Airport. Rice noted this was a 90/10 grant, valued at \$108,500.00, with the city share to be \$10,850.00. Alderman Springer made a motion, seconded by Alderwoman Millsap to direct Rice to apply for grant and research money for city share. Motion carried.
- Sidewalk Grant. Rice reported Missouri grant for replacement of sidewalks. Rice noted this was an 80/20 for a minimum of \$31,250.00, with city share \$6,250.00, to be reimbursed to the city after the project was completed. Aldermen agreed not to pursue this grant.
- Enhanced Enterprise Zone. Rice presented a Zone Redevelopment Strategic Plan to the Board for approval. Alderman Springer made a motion, seconded by Alderwoman Canchola to approve the Zone Redevelopment Strategic Plan as presented. Motion carried.
- Seven member Board. Rice reported the need for a seven-member Board for the Enhanced Enterprise Zone. Discussion was held.

Treasurer Report.

Weldy held discussion on the following items:

- Bills. Requested permission to pay bills as presented. Alderman Tebow made a motion, seconded by Alderman Conway to approve bills as presented. Motion carried.
- Investment Bids. Presented a bid tab for investment of available \$162,000.00 from a certificate of deposit which matured on March 27, 2009. Alderman Tebow made a motion, seconded by Alderman Springer to deposit the \$162,000.00 into the city's depository account and re-bid the \$162,000.00 at the next City Council meeting on April 14, 2009. Motion carried.

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- Shredding of Documents. Presented a list of documents to be shredded. Alderman Springer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Greene to allow Weldy to shred the listed documents and the list to be included with the minutes. Motion carried.
- Budget Amendment. Requested the budget to be amended for the State Revolving Fund Interest payments. Alderman Springer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Tebow to amend the budget to take \$38,000.00 from account 48-5-480-300, Professional Fees and to put \$38,000.00 into account 48-5-480-603, Interest Expense State Revolving Fund 2008. Motion carried.

Public Works Report.

Stanton held discussion on the following items:

- Reclosure. Reported the new re-closure had been installed at the substation but was not on-line due to a glitch in the program. Stanton noted it should be energized at some point later in the week. Stanton reported the reclosure's porcelain insulator was cracked and for precautions would be inspecting the other re-closures porcelain insulators.

Planning & Zoning Report.

Stanton held discussion on the following items:

- Temporary Storage Units. Reported Planning and Zoning would be reviewing a draft ordinance for temporary storage units.
- Discussion was held regarding the handling of building permits due to absence of a Building Inspector.

Police Report.

Due to absence of Chief Garry Earnest, no report was submitted, but the following discussions were held:

- Increase in traffic tickets. Discussion was held regarding increase number of traffic tickets compared to statistics from previous years.

Committees.

Airport. Alderwoman Canchola reported the committee has not met, thus no report to submit.

Finance. Alderman Springer noted budget meeting schedule is posted.

Parks. Alderman Short reported on the following items:

- Locozoomos. Local bicycle club has offered to donate to park projects in exchange for help with annual ride that begins and ends at the Spirit of 76 Park. Alderman Short noted whichever youth group, for example Youth Baseball volunteers for the annual ride, Locozoomos will donate the proceeds to that specific group.
- Pool and Park Fee Increases. Reported the Committee recommended the following increases for summer swimming and Park Program fees:

Season Pass - \$40.00 (one child age 5-15)
 \$60.00 (one adult age 16 and over)
 \$100.00 (Single family – one parent and children)
 \$125.00 (Two-adult family and children)
Pool Fees Free (ages 0 – 4 with adult paid admission)
 \$1.50 (ages 5 – 15)

Sunbathers \$1.00

Park Program \$25.00 (age's first grade thru sixth grade)

- Safety Net Installation. Reported the Committee had recommended the installation of safety nets installed above the backstops at the ball fields at Spirit of 76 Park. Alderman Short reported the estimated cost is \$3,000.00 to properly install. Alderman Short made a motion, seconded by Alderman Tebow to approve the increase in Pool and Park Program fees and to purchase the safety nets. Discussion was held and Alderman Short and Alderman Tebow agreed to withdraw the motion. Alderman Short made a motion, seconded by Alderman Tebow to approve pool and park program fees. The following voice vote was counted:

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

NOES: Canchola

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

Alderman Short made a motion, seconded by Alderman Tebow to approve purchase of safety nets for Spirit of 76 Park ball fields. The following voice vote was counted:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None.

Motion carried.

Personnel. Alderman Conway reported Committee items had been discussed earlier in meeting.
Public Works. Alderman Short reported the committee has not met, thus no report to submit.

Old Business.

Alderman Springer requested discussion on allowing residents to keep chickens inside the city limits. Alderman Springer reported he had received a letter from a constituent request the city allow residents to keep chickens. Discussion was held. Alderman Springer made a motion, seconded by Alderwoman Canchola to direct City Attorney to proceed with an ordinance to allow residents to keep chickens. The following voice vote was recorded:

AYES: Greene, Conway, Tebow, Canchola, Springer

NOES: Short, Millsap, Van Pelt

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

New Business.

Employee Probation. Rice reported Jeremy Wiess had reached his six-month probation and was doing a very good job. Alderwoman Canchola made a motion, seconded by Alderman Short to put Wiess to full-time status. Motion carried.

Closed Session.

Alderman Short made a motion, seconded by Alderwoman Canchola to adjourn to close a portion of the meeting pursuant to RSMo, Section 610.021(3), Personnel Issues. The following roll call vote was recorded:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried. Meeting adjourned to closed session at 8:17 p.m.

Return to Regular Session.

Council returned to regular meeting at 8:44 p.m. Mayor Eden called the meeting back to order and requested any other items to held for discussion.

- Rice requested the Board to consider taking Chief Garry Earnest off of probation with a recommendation that he is doing a very good job and the statistics reflect that. Alderman Conway made a motion, seconded by Alderman Van Pelt to remove Chief of Police Garry Earnest from probation. Motion carried.
- Ad Hoc Steering Committee. Mayor Eden appointed the following Board members to serve on the Ad Hoc Steering Committee to search for a new Code Enforcement Officer: Alderman Greene, Alderwoman Canchola and Alderman Van Pelt.

Mayor Eden requested any other items for discussion. None brought forward.

Adjournment.

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