

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, MISSOURI ON TUESDAY, MAY 23, 2017.

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Mount Vernon, Missouri met in a regular scheduled meeting at the regular place of meeting, City Hall, on Tuesday, May 23, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor David W. Eden with the following roll call recorded: J.N. Greene, Craig Nelson, Jason Haymes, Lowell Phillips, Sherie Thrasher, Kathy Fairchild, Sandy Martin and Sue Lee. The following city personnel were also in attendance: City Administrator Max Springer, Attorney William Petrus, Jr., Treasurer Shari Weldy, Director of Public Works Gene Stanton, Director of Public Works In-training Joe Kelley, Chief of Police David Hubert, Fire Chief Brad DeLay and City Clerk Shannon Neely. Absent: Code Enforcement Officer Bruce Conway.

Guests registering their attendance are listed on the sign-in sheet attached to and made a part of the minutes.

Approval of Agenda.

Mayor Eden presented the agenda to the Board for approval. Alderman Phillips made a motion, seconded by Alderman Greene to approve the agenda with the following amendments:

City Administrator Report – Add the following:

- Request for mutual aid of Code Enforcement Officer for the City of Aurora
- Discussion of Larping (Renaissance re-enactment)

Public Works Report – Add the following:

- Request to fill vacancy in Public Works

With all present members voting in favor, Mayor Eden declared the motion approved.

Presentation of Minutes.

Mayor Eden presented the minutes from the May 9, 2017 meeting to the Board for approval. Alderman Phillips made a motion, seconded by Alderman Greene to approve the minutes as presented. With all present members voting in favor, Mayor Eden declared the motion approved.

Citizen Participation.

Mayor Eden announced this portion of the meeting was set aside to receive input from the citizens in attendance and requested if anyone wished to address the Board.

- Dan Ditzler requested discussion on current daily maintenance of infrastructure, use of city vehicles and future plans for 600 N. Main Street. Discussion was held.
- Paula Brockwell held discussion on large number of overgrown yards and run-down homes in the city. Discussion was held.

Department Reports.

City Administrator.

Springer held discussion on the following items:

- Termination of MOU. Springer presented a Termination of Memorandum of Understanding from IFI for lease of 600 N. Main Street. Discussion was held.

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- Termination Lease Agreement for Cottage. Springer reported he has received a termination of lease notice from the Mount Vernon R-5 School District for lease of a cottage located at 600 N. Main Street. Discussion was held.
- Midcontinent Equity Holdings, LLC. Springer reported he has received notification from Midcontinent Equity Holdings, LLC which is applying for housing tax credits for a proposed 48-unit apartment complex. Springer noted Midcontinent is requesting letters of support from elected officials, business leaders and other individuals in the community to build affordable housing. Discussion was held.
- Request for Mutual Aid of Code Enforcement Officer. Springer reported the City of Aurora has requested mutual aid for Code Enforcement services. Springer noted Aurora's current Code Enforcement Officer has had a heart attack and is unable to perform the services at this time. Discussion was held. Alderman Greene made a motion, seconded by Alderman Phillips to proceed with agreement for mutual aid of code enforcement officer. With all present members voting, Mayor Eden declared the motion approved.
- LARPING. Springer presented a request from a group wanting permission to use the grassy area of the Spirit of 76 Park or Ewing Park for LARPING, with events usually held on Saturday afternoon. Springer noted LARP is "Live Action Role-Playing", with participants dressed in renaissance type clothing physically act-out character actions. Discussion was held. Mayor Eden determined it was a consensus of the Board to allow the group to use grassy areas of the park.

Treasurer.

Weldy held discussion on the following items:

- Bills. Weldy presented the Bills paid report and requested any discussion. None brought forth.
- April Treasurer Report. Weldy presented the April Treasurer Report to the Board for approval. Alderwoman Lee made a motion, seconded by Alderwoman Fairchild to approve the report as presented. With all present members voting in favor, Mayor Eden declared the motion approved.
- Bad Debt. Weldy presented a report of accounts for non-payment and requested the Board transfer these accounts to bad debt. Alderwoman Lee made a motion, seconded by Alderman Greene to transfer accounts as presented for a total of \$12,550.94 to bad debt. With all present members voting in favor, Mayor Eden declared the motion approved.
- Other Items of Discussion. Alderman Greene requested discussion on percentage received when using a collection agency for bad debt. Discussion was held.

Public Works.

Stanton held discussion on the following items:

- Storm Report. Stanton reported minor damage during recent storms. Stanton noted of the eight storm sirens, three did not work. Discussion was held.
- Request to Fill Vacancy. Stanton recommended the Board approve hiring Jody Jones to fill vacancy in Street Department. Alderwoman Fairchild made a motion, seconded by Alderman Phillips to hire Jody Jones pending results from background check and employee screening results. With all present members voting in favor, Mayor Eden declared the motion approved.

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- Other Items of Discussion. Stanton reported the oxidation ditch at the wastewater facility was shut down due to the large amount of storm water causing the ditch to go septic, resulting in a foul odor. Stanton added the ditch is back in operation and the odor should go away. Discussion was held.

Code Enforcement.

Stanton reported Conway was attending Floodplain Management training in Jefferson City, Missouri.

Police.

Hubert held discussion on the following items:

- Annual D.A.R.E. Drive for Veterans. Hubert reported the annual drive for Veterans garnered one thousand four hundred seventy (1,470) items. Hubert added Assistant Chief Jason Lacey heads up the collection drive. Discussion was held.
- Click-it or Ticket. Hubert reported Click-it or Ticket campaign began on May 22, 2017 and will run thru June 4, 2017. Discussion was held.

Fire.

DeLay held discussion on the following items:

- Calls. DeLay reported the department has received four calls since last report.
- Equipment/Vehicle Maintenance. DeLay reported maintenance has been performed on equipment and vehicles.
- Training. DeLay reported training was held on Thursday, May 18, 2017.
- Community Activities. DeLay reported the department presented a Fire Safety Program to pre-school located at 600 N. Main Street. Discussion was held.
- Miscellaneous. DeLay reported a total of seventy-three (73) smoke detectors have been installed in thirty-six (36) homes.
- Additional Item of Discussion. Alderwoman Fairchild questioned if DeLay has received any feedback regarding the proposed Fire District. DeLay noted a district map will be presented to the Lawrence County Assessor as the next step in the process. Discussion was held.

New Business.

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

Old Business.

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

Adjournment.

Mayor Eden announced there being no further business listed on the agenda to come before the Board, the meeting is adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

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David W. Eden, Mayor

Date

Shannon K. Neely, City Clerk

Date