

Minutes Approved Tuesday, October 27, 2020

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, MISSOURI ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2020.

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Mount Vernon, Missouri met in a regular scheduled meeting, at the regular place of meeting, 319 E Dallas Street, on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jason Haymes with the following roll call recorded: Scott Beckley, Deanna McElveen, Craig Nelson, Lowell Phillips, Sherie Thrasher (teleconference), Steve Fairchild (teleconference), and Marda Gramm. Absent Sue Lee. The following city personnel were also in attendance: City Administrator Max Springer, Counselor William Petrus, Jr., Treasurer Shari Weldy, Director of Public Works Joe Kelley, Code Enforcement Officer Terry Moore, Assistant Chief of Police Jason Lacey, and Deputy City Clerk Melissa Aduddle.

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

Approval of the Agenda

Mayor Haymes presented the agenda to the Board for approval. Alderman Phillips made the motion, seconded by Alderwoman McElveen to approve the agenda with the following additions:

- City Administrator: Add: Finance Committee Meetings and Fire District Work Session

The following vote was recorded:

AYES: Beckley, McElveen, Nelson, Phillips, Thrasher, Fairchild, Gramm

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lee

With all present members voting, Mayor Haymes declared the motion approved.

Presentation of Minutes

Mayor Haymes presented the minutes from the Board of Aldermen meeting held on Tuesday, September 22, 2020 to the Board for approval. Alderman Phillips made the motion, seconded by Alderman Beckley to approve the minutes with no corrections.

The following vote was recorded:

AYES: Beckley, McElveen, Nelson, Phillips, Thrasher, Fairchild, Gramm

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lee

With all present members voting, Mayor Haymes declared the motion approved.

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Citizen Participation

Mayor Haymes announced this portion of the meeting was set aside to receive input from those in attendance and requested any discussion.

- Mayor Haymes read a letter from a citizen discussing ideas for the green space on the square. Discussion was held.

Resolution

Bill No. (R) 2020-03 re: A resolution stating proposed Mountaintop Homes Development is consistent with zoning regulations and the comprehensive plan is adopted by the City of Mount Vernon.

AYES: Beckley, McElveen, Nelson, Phillips, Thrasher, Fairchild, Gramm

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lee

Bill No. (R) 2020-03 was declared passed and sent to the Mayor for signature. Bill No. (R) 2020-03 thus became Bill No. (R) 2020-03.

Ordinance

Bill No. 2020-024 re: First and seconding reading of an Ordinance authorizing execution of a real estate sales agreement by and between the City of Mount Vernon, Missouri and Lawrence County, Missouri regarding eight acres of real property.

First Reading:

AYES: Beckley, McElveen, Nelson, Phillips, Thrasher, Fairchild, Gramm

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lee

Second Reading

AYES: Beckley, McElveen, Nelson, Phillips, Thrasher, Fairchild, Gramm

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lee

Bill No. 2020-024 was declared passed and sent to the Mayor for signature. Bill No. 2020-024 thus became Ordinance Number 14.325.

Department Reports

City Administrator

Mr. Springer held discussion on the following items:

- **Sales Tax.** Springer reported that sales tax has continued to stay ahead of last year through the COVID-19 pandemic. Use tax is now also ahead of last year.
- **Purple Wave.** Springer updated the Board that the City has ten cars and one broom listed for auction on November 17, 2020, on the Purple Wave site. Discussion was held.

- **Digi Ticket.** Springer informed the Board that another component of the Show-Me Courts system is Digi Ticket. It is a computer system for the police department laptops that will allow them to directly enter tickets at the time of the stop, and they will automatically populate into the court system, alleviating the officers from hand writing tickets as well as, dramatically cutting down the time the prosecutor spends entering each ticket individually into the system. The system cost is \$25,883.00 plus installation of hardware and programming. They are requesting \$25,883.00 for the system and \$3,000.00 to install hardware in seven cruisers. Discussion was held. Alderman Phillips made the motion, seconded by Alderman Fairchild to approve the purchase of the system with installation in the amount of \$28,883.00.

The following vote was recorded:

AYES: Beckley, McElveen, Nelson, Phillips, Thrasher, Fairchild, Gramm

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lee

With all present members voting, Mayor Haymes declared the motion approved.

- **Altec Track Backyard Digger.** Springer stated that the Electric Department would like to purchase an Altec Track Backyard Digger to eliminate rutting in grass alleys and backyards when they have to service or repair electric lines and poles. There has been a lot of time and money spent repairing alleys and backyards that have been rutted up. There are also wet areas in town that bucket trucks cannot get to without getting stuck and a backhoe has to be used to get them out. The cost of a new digger is \$139,000. They found a used 2011 model, with 400 hours on it in like new condition for sale for \$46,900.00, and the trailer to haul it is an additional \$3000.00. They are requesting \$46,900.00 to purchase the digger and \$3000.00 to purchase the trailer. Discussion was held. Alderman Beckley made the motion, seconded by Alderman Phillips to approve the purchase of the digger and trailer in the amount of \$49,900.00, as well as, approve writing the check for purchase.

The following vote was recorded:

AYES: Beckley, McElveen, Nelson, Phillips, Thrasher, Fairchild, Gramm

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lee

With all present members voting, Mayor Haymes declared the motion approved.

- **Ventrac Equipment.** Springer conveyed that the Golf Department is requesting to purchase an Aera-vator, roller kit, seeder kit and weights for the Ventrac Tractor, which is a budgeted item and would further increase the equipment's usefulness. The cost for the attachments is \$10,647.36. Discussion was held. Alderman Phillips made the motion, seconded by Alderwoman McElveen to approve the purchase of the attachments for the Ventrac Tractor in the amount of \$10,647.36.

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The following vote was recorded:

AYES: Beckley, McElveen, Nelson, Phillips, Thrasher, Fairchild, Gramm

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lee

With all present members voting, Mayor Haymes declared the motion approved.

- **Skate Park.** Springer advised the Board that when the skate park process was started years ago the City was working with the Arc group out of Joplin. Recently the design and turnkey offer that were accepted were from Artisan. No construction contracts have been signed and the Arc group has shown interest in having the opportunity to bid on construction. The agreed upon cost of the skate park design by Artisan was \$5,000.00 with the turnkey offer accepted. If it goes out to bid they might charge more for the design, but there could be savings in construction. Discussion was held. Alderman Beckley made the motion, seconded by Alderman Phillips to put the skate park construction out for bid.

The following vote was recorded:

AYES: Beckley, McElveen, Nelson, Phillips, Thrasher, Fairchild, Gramm

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lee

With all present members voting, Mayor Haymes declared the motion approved.

- **Other Items of Discussion.** Springer discussed the items added to the agenda. He stated Finance Committee Meetings to work on the 2021 Budget need to be scheduled, and the Fire District requested a work session before the meeting on October 27, 2020. Discussion was held.

Treasurer

Ms. Weldy held discussion on the following items:

- **Bills Paid.** Weldy presented the bills paid report and requested any discussion. None brought forth.
- **Bills Over \$5,000.00.** Weldy presented the Bills over \$5,000 report to the Board for approval. Alderwoman McElveen made the motion, seconded by Alderman Beckley to approve bills over \$5,000.00 for September and October as presented.

The following vote was recorded:

AYES: Beckley, McElveen, Nelson, Phillips, Thrasher, Fairchild, Gramm

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lee

With all present members voting, Mayor Haymes declared the motion approved.

- **Investments.** Weldy informed the Board that there is a CD for the light fund that is maturing. Bids were sent out Thursday morning and two were received back, however, one bid was a day late, so did not qualify. Based on the interest rates she recommends cashing the CD in and putting the funds in the checking account. Discussion was held.

Alderman Phillips made the motion, seconded by Alderwoman McElveen to cash the CD and put it in the checking account.

The following vote was recorded:

AYES: Beckley, McElveen, Nelson, Phillips, Thrasher, Fairchild, Gramm

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lee

With all present members voting, Mayor Haymes declared the motion approved.

Director of Public Works

Mr. Kelley held discussion on the following item:

- **Electric Department – Inventory Purchase.** Kelley requested to purchase a spool of underground primary wire, a spool of secondary wire and hardware in the amount of \$12,537.20. Discussion was held. Alderman Phillips made the motion, seconded by Alderman Beckley approve purchase of the discussed inventory items in the amount of \$12,537.20.

The following vote was recorded:

AYES: Beckley, McElveen, Nelson, Phillips, Thrasher, Fairchild, Gramm

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lee

With all present members voting, Mayor Haymes declared the motion approved.

- **Water Department – Map Update.** Kelley reported the City's water maps haven't been updated since 2011. He is working with HDR Engineering to get the maps updated and requested to purchase seventeen map copies and the GIS data for \$9,400.00. Discussion was held. Alderwoman McElveen made the motion, seconded by Alderman Phillips to approve the map and GIS data purchase in the amount of \$9,400.00.

The following vote was recorded:

AYES: Beckley, McElveen, Nelson, Phillips, Thrasher, Fairchild, Gramm

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lee

With all present members voting, Mayor Haymes declared the motion approved.

- **SWMO Water – Rate Study.** Kelley reported that Southwest Water has finally put some numbers to water allocations from Stockton Lake and bringing raw water to Mount Vernon. Southwest Water has reached out to ask if the City wants to continue to be part of this project or step away. This project is in conjunction with other cities in the area, and Mount Vernon's portion of the commitment to stay in the project is \$140,553.00. Discussion was held. Alderman Fairchild made the motion, seconded by Alderwoman McElveen to commit to the Southwest Water project and pledge the fund in the amount of \$140,553.00.

The following vote was recorded:

AYES: Beckley, McElveen, Nelson, Phillips, Thrasher, Fairchild, Gramm

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lee

With all present members voting, Mayor Haymes declared the motion approved.

- **Golf Course – Update Brochure & Fees.** Kelley presented the new updated golf membership brochure for 2021. He noted a few fees have changed and some options eliminated in an effort to streamline services. There would just be one fee now for storing carts in the barn or garage, regardless of gas or electric. The family membership fee was increased to \$535.00, but would include the entire household instead of two members. Kelley requested approval of the fee changes and updates. Discussion was held. Alderman Beckley made the motion, seconded by Alderman Phillips to approve the new golf membership brochure fee changes and updates.

The following vote was recorded:

AYES: Beckley, McElveen, Nelson, Phillips, Thrasher, Fairchild, Gramm

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lee

With all present members voting, Mayor Haymes declared the motion approved.

Code Enforcement

Mr. Moore held discussion on the following items:

- **Statistical Report for September.** Moore presented the Statistical Report of September and requested any questions or discussion. None brought forth
- **Planning & Zoning Report.** Moore presented the Planning & Zoning Report and informed the Board that there is a public hearing scheduled for November 3, 2020 for a rezoning application for 570 N Spring Park Blvd. Discussion was held.
- **Other Items of Discussion.** Moore stated he has a series of webinars scheduled for review of the International Plumbing Code Chapters 1-14. He also gave updates on the following nuisance areas:
 - 202 S Vine St. Moore has discussed the old shoe shop on the east side of the property with the owners. They are looking to remove the south side of the building and rehab the remaining part of the building. They have also been working on repairs to the roof of the main structure. Moore said since they have shown progress he will give them another 30 days and monitor additional progress. Discussion was held.
 - 101 N Vine St. Moore reported some of the property has been cleaned up and looks better at this location. Moore stated in a discussion with the owner that he will continue to work on cleaning up the property. Moore said that since there has

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been progress at this property as well, he will give him an additional 30 days and monitor progress. Discussion was held.

Police

Mr. Lacey held discussion on the following items:

- **Statistics for September 2020.** Hubert presented the Statistical Report for August and requested any discussion. None brought forth.

Old Business

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

New Business

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

- **Sewer at 600 N Main.** Mr. Petrus provided copies of a draft letter for Mountaintop Homes proposed development. They asked for confirmation from the City that there would be cooperation in making utilities available if the development moved forward. Mr. Petrus requested approval for the City Administrator to sign the letter after corrections were made to the draft. Alderman Beckley made the motion, seconded by Alderwoman Gramm to approve the request for the City Administrator to sign the letter after corrections were made.

The following vote was recorded:

AYES: Beckley, McElveen, Nelson, Phillips, Thrasher, Fairchild, Gramm

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lee

With all present members voting, Mayor Haymes declared the motion approved.

Adjournment

Mayor Haymes announced there being no further business listed on the agenda to come before the Board, the meeting is adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Jason Haymes, Mayor

Date

Melissa Aduddle, Deputy City Clerk

Date