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## **MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, MISSOURI ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2023**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Mount Vernon, Missouri met in a regularly scheduled meeting, at the regular place of meeting, 109 N Hickory Street, on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jason Haymes with the following roll call recorded: Craig Nelson, Lowell Phillips, Scott Beckley, Dallas Gramm, Sherie Thrasher, Steve Fairchild, Logan Phillips, and Sue Lee. The following city personnel were also in attendance: City Administrator Joe Kelley, Public Works Director Dustin Davis, Code Enforcement Terry Moore, Chief of Police Dave Hubert, and Intern City Clerk Shari Weldy. Absent Counselor Toni Hendricks

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. The following changes were requested:

- Police            Add: Personnel

Alderman Lowell Phillips moved to approve the agenda with the aforementioned changes, seconded by Alderman Scott Beckley.

Motion passed.

### Presentation of Minutes

Mayor Haymes presented the minutes from the Board of Aldermen meeting held on Tuesday, July 25, 2023, to the Board for approval. Alderman Lowell Phillips moved to approve the minutes from the July 25, 2023, seconded by Alderman Scott Beckley. The following vote was recorded:

AYES: Beckley, Gramm, Fairchild, Lee, Lowell Phillips, Thrasher, Nelson  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: Logan Phillips  
ABSENT: None

Motion passed.

Mayor Haymes presented the minutes from the Board of Aldermen special meeting held on Tuesday, August 1, 2023, to the Board for approval. Alderman Lowell Phillips moved to approve the minutes from the August 1, 2023, seconded by Alderman Steve Fairchild. The following vote was recorded:

AYES: Beckley, Gramm, Fairchild, Lowell Phillips, Thrasher, Nelson, Logan Phillips  
NOES: None

ABSTAIN: Lee  
ABSENT: None

Motion passed.

### Citizen Participation

Mayor Haymes announced this portion of the meeting was set aside to receive input from those in attendance. The following brought forth:

- Josefa Mc Connell addressed the board about the copy of the Planning & Zoning Comprehensive plan was outdated at the library. Ms. Mc Connell also addressed the council members that it was their job and city employee's to drive around and report tall grass not the citizens of Mount Vernon.

### Department Reports

#### City Administrator

Mr. Kelley held discussion on the following items:

- **Sales Tax/Use Tax.** Kelley reported the sales tax for July is \$192,423.26, that is up \$23,820.99 from the previous year, and year to date sales tax is ahead \$35,832.03 from 2022. Use tax for June is \$42,887.47 that is up \$19,016.21 from 2022, and year to date use tax is ahead \$48,875.13 from 2022. Park tax for June is \$48,146.49 that is up \$6,587.90 from 2022, and year to date Park tax was up \$193,981.58 from 2022.
- **Spirit of '76 Park Expansion.** Kelley informed the Board that draft contract documents have been prepared by Olsson Engineering and they are currently being reviewed. Formal documents and ordinance will be presented at the August 22, 2023, meeting. Discussion was held.
- **MoDot Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).** Kelley stated that draft contract documents have been prepared by OWN Inc for the Hickory Street sidewalk project. These documents are currently being reviewed and will be brought back to the council for approval.

#### 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 then presented the bills over \$5,000.00 for July, to the Board for approval. Discussion was held. Alderwoman Lee moved to approve the bills over \$5,000.00 for July, seconded by Alderman Logan Phillips.

Motion passed.

- **Reimbursement Request 18 – Spirit of '76 Park.** Weldy presented Reimbursement Request 18 for the Spirit of '76 Park in the amount of \$53,319.00 and requested approval for the City Administrator to sign off on the request. Alderman Fairchild moved to approve the City Administrator sign off on Reimbursement Request 18 for \$53,319.00 seconded by Alderman Logan Phillips.

Motion passed.

### Director of Public Works

Mr. Davis held discussion on the following items:

- **July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Storm:**
  - On July 30, 2023, a storm hit the City of Mount Vernon. This storm had damaging winds that knocked out primary lines mostly on Gibbs St, Country Ln, and Sleepy Meadow. There was also damage to many citizens' secondary power coming off the primary lines. The Electric Department, with help from The Street and Water Department, started working on getting the power on and roadways cleared at approximately 11:00 PM that night. Crews stayed working through the entire night and into the evening. Power was finally restored to the last citizen at 7:00 pm that night.
- **Wastewater Plant Update:**
  - On August 1<sup>st</sup> -3rd Copperstate Machine & Industrial Services started with the rotor replacement in the North Oxidation Ditches of the Wastewater Plant. All the rotor covers, rotors, motors, and gearboxes have been removed. Everything has been prepared for the installation of the new rotors. The new rotors are tentatively scheduled to be installed in late September.

The mayor asked Davis if his employees could document tall grass and pass it on. Davis said yes, he would be talking to the employees.

### Code Enforcement

Mr. Moore held discussion on the following items:

- **July 2023 Permits.** Moore presented the Permit Report for July 2023 and requested any questions or discussion. None brought forth.

Mayor stated that he had driven over to check out the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of Moore ranch. He asked Moore if we had the correct transformers out there, Moore stated yes.

### Police

Chief Hubert held discussion on the following items:

- **National Night Out.** Chief Hubert stated that the National Night out was August 1, 2023, at the Spirit of 76 Park, this was well attended, and he thought SRO officer Ed Evatt did a fantastic job.
- **Personnel.** Hubert requested to take Jon Sappington from probationary status to full-time status. Discussion was held. Alderman Logan Phillips moved to take Jon Sappington from probationary officer to full-time officer, seconded by Alderman Lowell Phillips. Motion passed.

### Old Business

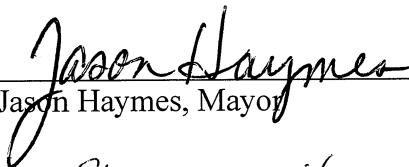
Mayor Haymes requested any old business to be brought to the floor for discussion. None brought forth.

New Business

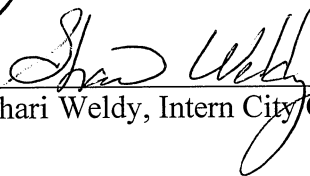
Mayor Haymes requested any new business to be brought to the floor for discussion. Alderman Lowell Phillips brought to the board a dying wish from his aunt. She had requested if the city could widen the handicap parking at the Spirit of 76 park to actual ADA compliance. Mayor Haymes asked Geoff Ford, parks supervisor if he could widen the handicap parking at the park and Ford stated he would have it done by end of week.

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 7:23 p.m.

  
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Jason Haymes, Mayor

8/22/23  
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Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Shari Weldy, Intern City Clerk

8/22/23  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

