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**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE
CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, MISSOURI ON TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2023.**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Mount Vernon, Missouri met in a regularly scheduled meeting, at the new regular place of meeting, 109 N Hickory Street, on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jason Haymes with the following roll call recorded: Dallas Gramm, Craig Nelson, Lowell Phillips, Sherie Thrasher, Steve Fairchild, and Sue Lee. Absent: Scott Beckley and Logan Phillips. The following city personnel were also in attendance: City Administrator Joe Kelley, Treasurer Shari Weldy, Public Works Director Dustin Davis, Code Enforcement Terry Moore, Chief of Police David Hubert, and City Clerk Melissa Aduddle. 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:

- Add: Committee Reports Add: Parks Committee
- Treasurer: Add: Reimbursement Request 15 Spirit of '76 Park

Alderman Fairchild moved to approve the agenda with the aforementioned change, seconded by Alderman Lowell Phillips.

Motion passed.

Presentation of Minutes

Mayor Haymes presented the minutes from the Board of Aldermen meeting held on Tuesday, April 11, 2023, to the Board for approval as presented. Alderman Fairchild moved to approve the minutes from the April 11, 2023 meeting as presented, seconded by Alderman Lowell Phillips.

Motion passed.

Citizen Participation

Mayor Haymes announced this portion of the meeting was set aside to receive input from those in attendance and requested any discussion. None brought forth.

Presentation of the Audit – KPM CPAs

Rebecca Baker presented the 2022 audit to the Board. Ms. Baker reported the City has received an “unmodified” or “clean opinion” by KPM on the 2022 audit, which is the best you can get. Discussion was held.

Mayoral Committee Appointments

Mayor Haymes appointed the following committees for Aldermen to service:

- **Airport:** Lowell Phillips, Nelson, Beckley.
- **Finance:** Lee, Fairchild, Thrasher
- **Parks and Recreation:** Lowell Phillips, Nelson, Logan Phillips
- **Personnel:** Fairchild, Beckley, Gramm
- **Public Works/Streets:** Lowell Phillips, Beckley, Gramm
- **The MARC:** Thrasher, Lee, Logan Phillips

Mayor Haymes suggested members of committees select the chairman of their choice within each committee.

Department Reports

City Administrator

Mr. Kelley held discussion on the following items:

- **Electric Department – Mutual Aid Agreement.** Kelley stated that the City of Monett has offered to assist our Electric Department with outage response and maintenance. The agreement establishes guidelines for personnel conduct and cost for labor and equipment. Discussion was held. Alderman Lowell Phillips moved to authorize the City Administrator to sign the mutual aid agreement with the City of Monett, seconded by Alderman Nelson.
- **Personnel Committee.** Kelly requested to set a meeting with the Personnel Committee in mid-May. Discussion was held. Meeting is set for May 9, 2023 at 6:00 pm.

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 to the Board for approval with the addition of the bill for Westport Pool for \$425,396.00. Discussion was held. Alderwoman Thrasher moved to approve the bills over \$5,000.00 to include Westport Pools for \$425,396.00, seconded by Alderman Fairchild.

Motion passed.

- **Reimbursement Request 15 – Spirit of '76 Park.** Weldy presented Reimbursement Request 14 for the Spirit of '76 Park in the amount of \$425,396.00, and requested approval for the City Administrator to sign off on the request. Alderwoman Thrasher moved to approve the City Administrator sign off on Reimbursement Request 15 for \$425,396.00, seconded by Alderman Fairchild.

Motion passed.

Director of Public Works

Mr. Davis held discussion on the following items:

- **Electric Department – Equipment Purchase.** Davis requested approval to purchase a reel trailer from Westgate Trailers for \$8,000.00. Discussion was held. Alderwoman Lee moved to approve the authorize purchase of the reel trailer from Westgate Trailer for \$8,000.00 and authorize the Treasurer to write the check, seconded by Alderman Gramm. Motion passed.
- **Electric Department – Equipment Purchase.** Davis requested approval to purchase a replacement reclosure for Substation Two pending quotes. This is to replace the damaged reclosure, which will be sent off for repairs to use a backup. Discussion was held. Alderman Fairchild moved to approve purchase of a new reclosure up to \$35,000.00, seconded by Alderwoman Lee. Motion passed.
- **Golf Course – Chemical Purchase.** Davis requested approval to purchase the last of the spring/summer fairway granular chemicals for the golf course for \$7,200.00. Alderman Lowell Phillips moved to approve the purchase of the chemicals for the golf course for \$67,200.00, seconded by Alderwoman Lee. Motion passed.
- **Parks Department.** Davis requested approval to purchase the pool vacuum that Westport Pools recommended for \$6,000.00. Discussion was held. Alderwoman Lee moved to approve purchase of the pool vacuum from Westport Pools for \$6,000.00, seconded by Alderman Fairchild. Motion passed.
- **Street Department – Chemical Purchase.** Davis requested approval to purchase the four 55 gallon drums of weed killer for \$5,500.00. Alderman Phillips moved to approve the purchase of four 55 gallon drums of weed killer for \$5,500.00, seconded by Alderman Beckley. Motion passed.
- **Department Recognition.** Davis wanted to recognize his departments for the following:
 - The Public Works Department came together and installed two rows of 15 inch culverts across Patten Street. An inlet and outlet were set in place on both ends of the culverts with headwalls and wingwalls. This new drainage has helped with flow between two ditches that were not connected.
 - At approximately 4:00pm on April 23rd there was a power outage on the east side of Mount Vernon. The Electric Department came in, with additional staff, and began troubleshooting and driving the lines out to locate the problem. The problem ended up being a bad reclosure at Substation Two. After identifying the problem, the reclosure was swapped out and power was restored.

- **Pool Update.** Davis stated the pool project is still on schedule, but didn't have any pictures, but they poured more deck and the goal next week is to have all the perimeter deck pours and get the fencing started. Discussion was held.

Code Enforcement

Mr. Moore held discussion on the following items:

- **March Permits.** Moore presented the permit report for March 2023 and requested any question or discussion. None brought forth.
- **Re-plat Auston Weldy.** Moore stated that there was a public hearing scheduled during the next Planning & Zoning meeting. Moore said if the re-plat is approved by Planning & Zoning it will be brought in front of the Board during the next meeting.

Police

Chief Hubert held discussion on the following item:

- **Statistics for March 2023.** Hubert presented the statistics for March 2023 to the Board for review and requested any discussion. None brought forth
- **Personnel.** Hubert requested to rehire John Sappington as a patrol officer. Hubert stated Sappington left on good terms and is eligible for rehire. Discussion was held. Alderwoman Thrasher moved to rehire John Sappington for the Police Department pending drug test results, seconded by Alderman Gramm.

Motion passed.

Committee Reports

Alderman Phillips, Chairman of the Parks Committee presented the committee report. The committee met on April 21, 2023, and discussed the Spirit of '76 Park. Alderman Fairchild moved to accept the Parks Committee report as presented, seconded by Alderwoman Lee.

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. The following items were brought up for discussion:

- **Other Items of Discussion.** Continued from the Parks Committee Report, Alderman Lowell Phillips moved to open the pool Memorial Day Monday, May 29, 2023 and to close the pool Labor Day Monday, September 4, 2023, seconded by Alderwoman Lee
Motion passed.
- **City Hall.** Mr. Kelley informed the Board that last week the cooling unit stopped working, Springfield Engineering Company (SEC) was called to inspect the unit. The unit had a compressor failure. We had SEC look into the warranty information on the unit, a compressor was installed in 2020. The warranty was only for a year. SEC has been servicing this system prior to the City's possession of the building and is the only currently known service company who will work on it. Discussion was held. Alderman

Fairchild moved to authorize the City Administrator to sign an agreement with Springfield Engineering Company in the sum of \$25,000.00 to install a new compressor and associate parts. Alderman Gramm states colleague in Heating and Air stated bid was on high side and suggested getting a quote from Conway Mechanical. No second, motion fails. Further discussion is held. Alderman Gramm moves to get a second bid on the compressor for the City Hall air conditioning from Conway Mechanical, seconded by Alderman Lowell Phillips.

Motion passed.

Closed Session

Alderman Phillips moved to adjourn to closed session pursuant to Section 610.021 (1) Litigation, (3) Personnel, & (12) Contract Negotiations, RSMo. 2018, seconded by Alderman Nelson. The following roll call vote was recorded:

AYES: Gramm, Nelson, Lowell Phillips, Thrasher, Fairchild, Lee

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Beckley, Logan Phillips

Motion passed. Meeting adjourned for closed session at 8:01 p.m.

Reconvene from Closed Session

Meeting reconvened at 9:18 p.m. Mayor Haymes determined all Aldermen that were present for closed session adjournment had returned to the meeting.


In open session, Alderwoman Lee moved to retain Ashley Ragsdale as the Pool Manager for the 2023 season starting April 26, 2023, seconded by Alderman Nelson

Adjournment

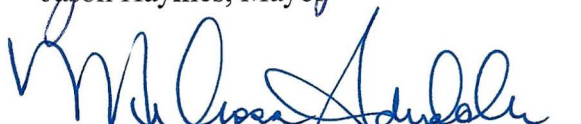
Mayor Haymes announced there being no further business listed on the agenda to come before the Board, the meeting is adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 9:19 p.m.




Jason Haymes, Mayor



Date



Melissa Aduddle, City Clerk



Date

