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**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE
CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, MISSOURI ON TUESDAY, MAY 23, 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, May 23, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jason Haymes with the following roll call recorded: Scott Beckley, Dallas Gramm, Craig Nelson, Lowell Phillips, Sherie Thrasher, and Steve Fairchild. Absent: Logan Phillips, Sue Lee. The following city personnel were also in attendance: City Administrator Joe Kelley, Public Works Director Dustin Davis, Treasurer Shari Weldy, 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:

- Treasurer: Add: Two invoices to Bills over \$5,000
Change: Total on Spirit of '76 Park Reimbursement Request

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

Motion passed.

Presentation of Minutes

Mayor Haymes presented the minutes from the Board of Aldermen meeting held on Tuesday, May 9, 2023, to the Board for approval. The following change was requested:

- Under City Administrator, in Missouri Drive – Dollar amount in motion.

Alderman Lowell Phillips moved to approve the minutes from the May 9, 2023 meeting with the correction, seconded by Alderman Beckley. The following vote was recorded:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Logan Phillips, Sue Lee

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.

Department Reports

City Administrator

Mr. Kelley held discussion on the following items:

- **Sales Tax/Use Tax.** Kelley reported the sales tax for April is \$202,040.13, that is up \$37,633.58 from the previous year due in large part to the addition of the local park tax, and year to date sales tax is ahead \$212,180.12 from 2022. Use tax for April is \$11,962.66 that is down \$4,099.17 from last year, and year to date use tax is ahead \$17,300.12 from 2022.
- **Spirit of '76 Park Expansion.** Kelley informed the Board that on Wednesday, May 25th, Olsson Engineering will begin the bid advertisement for the Phase 1 expansion project at the Spirit of '76 Park. The bid opening is scheduled for June 22nd at 1:00 pm.
- **City Hall.** Kelley reported to the Board that the following are the quotes were received for the chilling unit at City Hall:

	Repair unit compressor	Full unit replacement
Gold Mechanical	\$21,620.00	\$62,800.00
Connelly/Waldinger Corp.	\$17,870.95	\$67,851.83
Springfield Engineering	\$25,000.00	TBD

After much discussion, Alderman Fairchild moved that if the lead time is less than three weeks to accept the Connelly/Waldinger bid to repair the compressor for \$17,870.95, and if the lead time is more than three weeks to accept the Connelly/Waldinger bid to replace the full unit for \$67,851.83, seconded by Alderwoman Thrasher.

Motion passed.

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 bills for Westport Pool for \$5,999.00 and Olsson Engineering for \$17,798.59 . Discussion was held. Alderwoman Thrasher moved to approve the bills over \$5,000.00 including the additional bills, seconded by Alderman Fairchild.

Motion passed.

- **Write-off – Online Collections.** Weldy requested to write-off \$2,926.18 in bad debt to Online Collections. Discussion was held. Alderman Beckley moved to write-off the amount of \$2,926.18 to Online Collections, seconded by Alderman Fairchild.

Motion passed.

- **Write-off – Utility Software.** Weldy requested to write-off \$4,762.64 in bad debt to the utility software. Discussion was held. Alderman Beckley moved to write-off the amount of \$4,762.64 to the utility software, seconded by Alderman Gramm.

Motion passed.

- **Letters Sent.** Weldy informed the Board that she sent out letters to collect on past due accounts totaling \$6,606.59.
- **Reimbursement Request 16 – Missouri Drive.** Weldy presented Reimbursement Request 16 for Missouri Drive in the amount of \$295,689.53, and requested approval for the City Administrator to sign off on the request. Alderman Beckley moved to approve the City Administrator sign off on Reimbursement Request 16 for \$295,689.53, seconded by Alderman Fairchild.

Motion passed.

- **Reimbursement Request 17 – Spirit of '76 Park.** Weldy presented Reimbursement Request 17 for the Spirit of '76 Park in the amount of \$434,402.59, and requested approval for the City Administrator to sign off on the request. Alderman Beckley moved to approve the City Administrator sign off on Reimbursement Request 17 for \$434,402.59, seconded by Alderman Fairchild.

Director of Public Works

Mr. Davis held discussion on the following items:

- **Street Department.** Davis requested approval to hire Andrew Manary as seasonal help for the Street Department, pending the results of the background check and drug screening. Discussion was held. Alderman Beckley moved to hire Andrew Manary as seasonal help for the Street Department pending the results from the drug test and background check, seconded by Alderman Nelson.

Motion passed.

- **Meter Reader Upgrade.** Davis informed the Board that technical support for our current Itron readers went out in December of 2021. This has really become an issue, and we are requesting approval to upgrade the current Itron reader to the Toughpad Tablet system for \$50,745.00 with an annual maintenance cost of \$8,844.32. Discussion was held. Alderman Lowell Phillips moved to approve the upgrade of the Itron meter reader for \$50,745.00 and annual maintenance of \$8,844.32, seconded by Alderman Nelson.

Motion passed.

- **Electric Department – Personnel.** Davis requested approval to hire Dallas Babineaux as Lineman 1st year for the Electric Department, pending the results of the background check and drug screening. Discussion was held. Alderman Nelson moved to hire Dallas Babineaux as first year lineman pending the results from the drug test and background check, seconded by Alderman Lowell Philips.

Motion passed.

- **Pool Update.** Davis reported that everything is looking really good and that the pool house looks to be completed by opening day, but there is a Plan B should the pool house not be completed. Discussion was held.

Code Enforcement

Mr. Moore held discussion on the following items:

- **Rosebriar Hill Final Plat – Public Hearing.** Moore stated that he received a Final Plat for the proposed Rosebriar Hill Subdivision and the public hearing is set for the June 9th Planning & Zoning meeting, and pending recommendation it will be coming before the Board. Discussion was held.

Police

Chief Hubert did not have any agenda items, but requested any questions from the Board. None brought forth.

City Clerk

Ms. Aduddle held discussion on the following item:

- **New Website.** Aduddle stated that she had included a preview link for the Board to look at the new website, and that it is in its final editing stages and hoped to go live by June 1st, however it may be July 1st before the editing can be completed. Discussion was held.

Old Business

Mayor Haymes requested any new business to be brought to the floor for discussion. The following was brought forth:

- Mayor Haymes wanted to discuss the City's sales tax rate of 9.225% and how it is relative to neighboring communities and that the City of Mount Vernon is different than most municipalities because we only collect sales tax. The City collects no property tax from the citizens. Discussion was held.

New Business

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

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 7:45 p.m.


Jason Haymes, Mayor

6/13/23
Date


Melissa Aduddle, City Clerk

6/13/2023
Date

