



109 N Hickory St
PO Box 70
Mount Vernon, MO 65712
Phone: 417.466.2122
Fax: 417.466.2513

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE
CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, MISSOURI ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2024**

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, January 9, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Acting President Lowell Phillips with the following roll call recorded: Scott Beckley, Dallas Gramm, Craig Nelson, Sherie Thrasher, Steve Fairchild, and Logan Phillips. The following city personnel were also in attendance: City Administrator Joe Kelley, Public Works Director Dustin Davis, Code Enforcement Terry Moore, Chief of Police David Hubert, City Attorney Toni Hendricks, Treasurer Shari Weldy, and City Clerk April Hale. Absent: Mayor Jason Haymes and Alderwoman Sue Lee.

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

Approval of the Agenda

Acting President Lowell Phillips presented the agenda to the Board for approval. City Administrator Joe Kelley stated to add a bullet point "City Audit Agreement" to his report. Alderman Craig Nelson moved to approve the agenda with the added City Audit Agreement, seconded by Alderman Scott Beckley. Motion passed.

Presentation of Minutes

Acting President Lowell Phillips presented the minutes from the Board of Aldermen meeting held on Tuesday, December 12, 2023, to the Board for approval. Alderman Scott Beckley moved to approve the minutes, with proposed mentioned changes, from the December 12, 2023, Board of Aldermen meeting, seconded by Alderman Logan Phillips. Motion passed.

Mentioned changes: page 4 under Treasurer, Write off bad dept., change dept to debt in four places.

Closed Session

Acting President Lowell Phillips moved to adjourn to closed session at 7:04 p.m. pursuant to Section 610.021(3) Personnel & (1) Legal Actions, RSMo., first by Alderwoman Sherie Thrasher, seconded by Alderman Craig Nelson. The following roll call vote was recorded:

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lee

Motion to adjourn to closed session passed.

Discussion was held.

No votes taken; unanimous roll call vote to adjourn closed meeting at 7:35 pm. (Beckley, Gramm, Nelson, Thrasher, Fairchild, Logan Phillips)

Reconvene from Closed Session

Meeting reconvened at 7:37 p.m. Acting President Lowell Phillips determined all Aldermen, who were present for closed session adjournment, had returned to the meeting.

Police Department Report

Chief David Hubert held discussion on the following items:

- **Acceptance of resignation of Police Officer.** Hubert presented the resignation of Police Officer Allen Campbell. Alderman Logan Phillips made motion for the board to accept the resignation of Police Officer Allen Campbell, seconded by Alderman Steve Fairchild. Motion passed.
- **Permission to advertise for open Police Officer position.** Hubert requested permission to advertise for the open Police Officer position. Alderman Steve Fairchild made motion for the board to give permission to advertise for the open Police Officer position, seconded by Alderman Craig Nelson. Motion passed.
- **Permission to hire Police Officer.** Hubert requested permission to hire Drew Miller for position of Police Officer pending UA. Alderman Craig Nelson made motion to hire Drew Miller for position of police officer pending UA, seconded by Alderman Scott Beckley. Motion passed.
- **Update on Patrol Cars.** Hubert reported both vehicles were scheduled to be built in the middle of December and scheduled to be received in the middle of January. They will be outfitted by NRoute out of Ozark.

Citizen Participation

None

Department Reports

City Administrator

Mr. Kelley held discussion on the following items:

- **Hickory Street Sidewalk.** Kelley reported the City received Pay Request #1 prepared by Own Inc (formerly Anderson Engineering) for design work on the Hickory Street Sidewalk project. This is a 75% federal and 25% local grant funded project through the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT), Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). Kelly requested authorization for the City Administrator to sign the MoDOT reimbursement request #1 in the amount of \$10,006.70. Alderman Logan Phillips made motion for the board to authorize the City Administrator to sign the MoDOT reimbursement request #1 in the amount of \$10,006.70, seconded by Alderman Steve Fairchild. Motion passed.
- **State Audit Update.** Kelley reported in July 2022, the Council, by ordinance, requested the Missouri State Auditor to conduct a comprehensive audit of the City's financial records. Since the request was made, the City has provided additional information to the Missouri State Auditor's office including information that the Lawrence County Prosecutor's office has filed felony charges related to the former concerns and based on

the documentation received by the Missouri State Auditor, has determined no further action will be required and the investigation is closed.

- **City Audit Agreement.** Kelley requested authorization for the City Administrator to sign the agreement with KPM CPA and Advisors, of Springfield, Missouri; in the amount of \$21,200, to conduct the City of Mt. Vernon, Missouri, year ending December 31, 2023, audit. Alderman Craig Nelson made motion for the board to authorize the City Administrator to sign the agreement with KPM CPA and Advisors, of Springfield, Missouri; in the amount of \$21,200, to conduct the City of Mt. Vernon, Missouri, year ending December 31, 2023, audit, seconded by Alderman Steve Fairchild. Motion passed.

Treasurer

Ms. Weldy held discussion on the following items:

- **Bills Paid.** Weldy presented November, December & January 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 November, December & January to the Board for approval. Alderman Steve Fairchild moved to approve the bills over \$5,000.00 for November, December & January, seconded by Alderman Scott Beckley. Motion passed.
- **Treasurer Reports for October & November 2023.** Weldy presented the Treasurer reports for October & November 2023. Alderman Craig Nelson moved to approve the Treasurer Reports for October & November 2023, seconded by Alderman Logan Phillips. Motion passed.

Public Works Report

Mr. Davis held discussion on the following items:

- **Electric Department Damages & Equipment Purchase.** Davis updated on Tuesday, 12/12/2023, at approximately 3:00p.m., a concrete truck backed into and damaged a 25kva dual voltage pad mount transformer, two 200 AMP meter combos, and one transformer pedestal on Kori Court. The City insurance has been notified of the damage and advised to send the company an itemized bill of materials and labor. The total in damages amounts to \$9,673.61. Concrete Company will be reimbursing the City for the full \$9,673.61.
 - **Purchase a new 25kva dual voltage pad mount transformer.** Davis presented that a new 25kva dual voltage pad mount transformer will need to be purchased to fix the damage. Alderman Logan Phillips moved to approve the purchase of a new 25kva dual voltage pad mount transformer, seconded by Alderman Scott Beckley. Motion passed.
- **Water Department.** Well 4 repairs needed. Getting quote. 6-8 week lead time.

- **SWMO Water Update.** SWMO Water will be finalizing the contract for capacity purchase in 2024. As of right now there is no set date. Next meeting will be 1/16/2024. Davis will ask a representative to speak at a future board meeting.
- **Parks Department Maintenance Building Update.** Davis stated the Parks Department maintenance shop had the rollup doors installed Friday, 1/5/2024. The Public Works staff has been framing in the office, breakroom, and bathroom. The Electric Department has power going to the new shop and has been wiring all the lights, plugs, and switches.

Code Enforcement Report

Mr. Moore held discussion of the following items:

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

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Adjournment

Acting President Lowell Phillips announced there was no further business listed on the agenda to come before the Board, the meeting is adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Jason Haymes

 Jason Haymes, Mayor

1/23/24

 Date

April Hale

 April Hale, City Clerk

1/23/24

 Date

