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**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE  
CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, MISSOURI ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 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 22, 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, Sherie Thrasher, Steve Fairchild, 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, Counselor Toni Hendricks, and Treasurer/Intern City Clerk Shari Weldy. Absent Dallas Gramm, and Logan Phillips.

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:

- Joe Kelley Add: Project updates.
- Mayor moved Ordinance 2023-13 and 2023-14 from New Business to Old Business
- Mayor add new committee – Focus Group for Development of City Property before Old Business.

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, August 8, 2023, to the Board for approval. Alderman Steve Fairchild moved to approve the minutes from the August 8, 2023, seconded by Alderman Lowell Phillips. The following vote was recorded:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Gramm, Logan Phillips

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: None brought forth.

### **Ordinance**

**Bill No. 2023-12 re:** First and second reading of an Ordinance authorizing execution of a contract by and between the City of Mount Vernon, Missouri, A Municipal Corporation, and Branco Enterprises, INC., for Construction at the Spirit of 76 Park for Expansion and Improvements, was read twice, by title only, with the following roll call vote recorded:

First Reading:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Logan Phillips and Gramm

Second Reading:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Logan Phillips and Gramm

Bill No. 2023-12 was passed by unanimous roll call vote and sent to the Mayor for signature, thus becoming Ordinance Number 14.353.

**Bill No. 2023-15:** First and second reading of an Ordinance authorizing execution of a contract by and between the City of Mount Vernon, Missouri, A Municipal Corporation, and OWN, INC., for engineering services related to sidewalk improvements Phase 3B, was read twice, by title only, with the following roll call vote recorded:

First Reading:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Logan Phillips and Gramm

Second Reading:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Logan Phillips and Gramm

Bill No. 2023-15 was passed by unanimous roll call vote and sent to the Mayor for signature, thus becoming Ordinance Number 14.354.

## Department Reports

### City Administrator

Mr. Kelley held discussion on the following items:

- **Project updates**
- **Spirit of '76 Park Expansion.** Kelley stated with the approval of Bill No. 2023-12, the spirit of 76 park, field expansion project will begin the transition from the engineering/design phase to the construction phase. Discussion was held.
- **MoDot Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).** Kelley stated with the approval of Bill No. 2023-15, the MoDOT TAP project will begin the engineering/design phase, this project will be replacing sidewalks along Hickory Street south of the square.
- **Missouri Drive.** Kelley stated that OWN Inc. (formerly Anderson Engineering) is working with the county's design team on the infrastructure development around the new health department site.
- **SWMPEP.** The board meeting is on September 29, 2023, in Branson, Missouri. 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 then presented the bills over \$5,000.00 for August and September, to the Board for approval. Discussion was held. Alderman Fairchild moved to approve the bills over \$5,000.00 for August and September, seconded by Alderman Beckley.  
Motion passed.
- **Investments.** Weldy presented that she had 2 CDARS maturing at Old Missouri Bank One Special Sales Tax \$ 220,970.37 One Water \$ 224,112.15. Weldy recommended staying with the CDARS at Old Missouri Bank for 12 months with an interest rate at 5.38%. Alderwoman Lee moved to reinvest the CDARS at Old Missouri Bank for 12 months with an interest rate at 5.38%, seconded by Alderman Lowell Phillips.  
Motion passed.

### Director of Public Works

Mr. Davis held discussion on the following items:

- **Water Department**  
Davis presented that on July 25, 2023, he brought to council that Flynn Drilling reported well #6 was not pumping the correct volume and the estimate cost would cost \$14,146 and council approved to spend up to \$16,000 to make the repairs. **Flynn Drilling started**

to make the repairs the following week and after removing the well casing and pump to perform the inspection they determined that there were no holes in the casing and the pump was performing as designed. Flynn Drilling found that the pump did not match the information plaque in the wellhouse which resulted in a miscalculation by Flynn Drilling on July 24, 2023, for the low volume of water being pumped. Flynn Drilling reinstalled all the components and updated the information plaque with no charge to the city of Mount Vernon.

- **Electric Department**

Davis stated that the Electric Department switched the new 911 Dispatch Center from temporary power to full power on August 21, 2023. Davis stated this will allow the contractors to test all the electronic components inside the facility for occupancy. Supervisor stated they have not transferred from temporary power because he is awaiting a switch gear to be installed before they can transfer to full power.

- **Personnel**

Davis requested to take Dallas Babineaux from probationary status to full-time status. Discussion was held. Alderwoman Lee moved to take Dallas Babineaux from probationary status to full-time, seconded by Alderman Beckly. Motion passed.

- **Parks Department**

Davis stated that there is only two weeks left in the pool season, the last of the chemicals had already been purchased. According to what was reported as revenue there was approximately 43 family passes with additional members were sold which made \$4,430. There have been 18 pool parties that were reported to date. After the pool closes for the season Westport pools will be back out to make some warranty repairs to some of the following items. Lifefloor bubbler, Lifefloor bench, (East end of pool) trim at the lazy river entrance, ladder, and caulking on the pool deck. The Parks Department Supervisor, Geoff Ford, took great initiative in keeping the city pool very clean and the water very clear along with the rest of the park's staff and pool staff. His attention to detail has resulted in a fantastic pool season.

#### Code Enforcement

Mr. Moore held discussion on the following items:

- **Conditional Use Permit for 105 E Olive Street.**

Moore presented a GIS map of 105 E Olive St. and a letter from Galen & Sarah Johnson stating their intent to build a backyard cottage for his parents and has applied for a conditional use permit.

Mr. Johnson wrote a letter stating his intent was to add to a structure already in his backyard, this structure already had utilities and would like to make it a total of 692 square feet.

Moore stated that due to the size and use this would have little to no effect on the area. Moore stated that meets all requirements for the use of a backyard cottage.

Moore stated that the Planning and Zoning Commission recommended to proceed to council with a conditional use permit. Discussion was held.

Alderman Fairchild made a motion to accept the recommendations of the conditional use permit for 105 E Olive Street, seconded by Alderwoman Lee. Motion passed.

- **Resubdivision of Land (Round Edge Lot 11)**

Moore stated that Seth Haymes is looking to subdivide another section at Round Edge, this property is zoned as MU-1 which allows for commercial and residential to be mixed. Seth Haymes has 3.8 acres and would like to split it into 2 lots. One lot will be 95,960.90 square feet and the other lot would be 69,930.8 square feet.

The lot to the North has an existing structure that Haymes plans to convert into a single-family home, and then build another single-family home on the south property. Moore stated that the property has Electric that crosses the property, the sewer is to the east of the property and due to the fall, the property Haymes will need to install a grinder pump and a twenty-foot easement to get the sewer main. Moore stated that the Planning and Zoning Commission recommended to Replat land for Round Edge Lot 11 and proceed to council. Discussion was held.

Alderwoman Lee made a motion to accept the recommendations of the Replat land for Round Edge Lot 11, seconded by Alderman Beckley. Motion passed.

### Police

Chief Hubert held discussion on the following items:

- **Statistics for July 2023.** Hubert presented the statistics for July 2023 to the Board for review and requested any discussion. None brought forth.
- **Air Conditioner/Heat Unit for Patrol office.** Hubert presented 3 bids for a new air conditioner/heat unit for the patrol office.
  1. Dion's Heating and Air \$ 5,619.01
  2. Jon Wayne Heating and Air \$ 8,217.00 includes \$1,000 off Trane Cash and last service call \$572.00.
  3. Heller Heat & Air Inc \$ 9,650.00

Alderman Fairchild made a motion to accept Dion's bid at \$5,619.01 no second so motion died.

Discussion was held on the bids.

Alderwoman Lee made a motion to accept Dion's bid at \$5,619.01 seconded by Alderman Fairchild. Motion passed.

- **Commendation for Officer Campbell.** Hubert presented Officer Allen Campbell with 2 plaques'.

1. Letter of Commendation commending Officer Campbell for his work with the Missouri State Highway patrol, Joplin Police Department, and the United States Attorney's Office.
2. Letter of Commendations from the Missouri State Highway Patrol

#### Old Business

**Bill No. 2023-13 re:** First and second reading of an Ordinance approving a conditional Permit for 105 East Olive Street in Mount Vernon, Missouri, was read twice, by title only, with the following roll call vote recorded:

First Reading:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Logan Phillips and Gramm

Second Reading:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Logan Phillips and Gramm

Bill No. 2023-12 was passed by unanimous roll call vote and sent to the Mayor for signature, thus becoming Ordinance Number 2.208.

**Bill No. 2023-14 re:** First and second reading of an Ordinance approving and accepting the Re-Plat of Lot 11 of the Round Edge, a subdivision to the City of Mount Vernon, Lawrence County, Missouri, was read twice, by title only, with the following roll call vote recorded:

First Reading:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Logan Phillips and Gramm

Second Reading:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Logan Phillips and Gramm

Bill No. 2023-12 was passed by unanimous roll call vote and sent to the Mayor for signature, thus becoming Ordinance Number 1.309.

#### Committee Report

Mayor Haymes requested to add a new committee called Committee Focus Group.

The goal is to focus on what needs to be done for the development of city property. The meeting will be during the day since there are city employees in the group.

Focus Group members are: Jason Haymes, Steve Fairchild, Lowell Phillips, Scott Beckley, Joe Kelley, Dustin Davis, Shari Weldy, Roger Owens, Bailey McCann, Chad Neely, Mike McCullah, Greg Perriman.

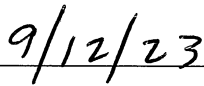
New Business

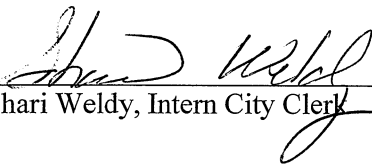
None

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 7:47 p.m.

  
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Jason Haymes, Mayor

  
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Date

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

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

