

Minutes Approved February 12, 2019 with changes

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, MISSOURI ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2019.

The Board of Alderman of the City of Mount Vernon, Missouri met in a regularly scheduled meeting, at the regular place of meeting, City Hall, on Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor David W. Eden with the following roll call recorded: J.N. Greene, Deanna McElveen, Jason Haymes, Sherie Thrasher, Steve Fairchild, Sandy Martin and Sue Lee. Absent: Lowell Phillips. The following city personnel were also in attendance: City Administrator Max Springer, Counselor William Petrus, Jr., Treasurer Shari Weldy, Director of Public Works Joe Kelley, Code Enforcement Officer Terry Moore, Chief of Police David Hubert and City Clerk Shannon Neely.

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

Approval of Agenda.

Mayor Eden presented the agenda to the Board for approval. Alderman Fairchild made a motion, seconded by Alderwoman Martin to approve the agenda with the following amendments:

- City Administrator Report – Add: Gibbs House Discussion
Wynne Park Discussion
Community Garden
- Treasurer Report – Add: Approval to pay bills over \$5,000.00

With all present members voting in favor, Mayor Eden declared the motion approved.

Presentation of Minutes.

Mayor Eden presented the minutes from the January 8, 2019 council meeting to the Board for approval. Alderwoman Thrasher made a motion, seconded by Alderwoman McElveen to approve the minutes with the following correction:

- Treasurer Report. November Treasurer Report. Correct motion as follows:
Alderwoman Lee made a motion, seconded by Alderwoman Martin to approve the report as presented.

The following voice vote was recorded:

AYES: Greene, McElveen, Thrasher, Fairchild, Martin, Lee

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: Haymes

ABSENT: Phillips

With all present members voting, Mayor Eden declared the motion approved.

Citizen Participation.

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

Department Reports.

City Administrator.

Springer held discussion on the following items:

- Sales Tax. Springer reported sales tax revenue is slightly down, which may be due in part to the government shutdown. Discussion was held.
- Electric Rate Challenge. Springer reported The Empire Cities group has filed a protest with FERC regarding the recent rate change filing by Liberty-Empire. Discussion was held.
- 600 N. Main St. Springer reported Clemons Real Estate has been very busy showing the property to interested parties. Springer noted with the upcoming date for departure of the Veterans Administration Clinic, closing the facility is likely which will cause some problems when conducting tours. Discussion was held.
- Dispatch 911. Springer reported the 911 Dispatch committee met with the Lawrence County Commissioners on Tuesday, January 22, 2019 and announced a ½ cent sales tax will be placed on the April 2019 general election for consideration by voters. Discussion was held.
- Gibbs House. Springer reported there is a leak on the flat-roof portion of the Gibbs House and recommended the Board proceed with replacement of this portion of the roof by Abernathy Roofing Company. Springer noted Abernathy replaced the upper portion of the roof in 2018 and was the only bid received by a contractor that provided certificate of liability for work comp coverage. Discussion was held. Alderman Fairchild made a motion, seconded by Alderman Greene to proceed with Abernathy Roofing Company to replace flat roof at Gibbs House for \$5,680.00. With all present members voting in favor, Mayor Eden declared the motion approved.
- Wynne Park. Springer reported city crews would be replacing the walking bridges at Wynne Park to widen for handicap accessibility. Discussion was held.
- Community Garden. Springer reported he has received requests from citizens for a community garden and recommend two locations: behind the MARC Community Building or on two city-owned lots on Seneker Street. Discussion was held. Mayor Eden announced it was a consensus of the Board for community garden to be located on empty lots on Seneker Street.

Treasurer.

Weldy held discussion on the following items:

- Bills Paid. Weldy presented the Bills Paid report and requested any discussion. None brought forth.
- Bills Paid over \$5,000. Weldy presented the Bills over \$5,000.00 to the Board for consideration. Alderwoman Lee made a motion, seconded by Alderwoman Thrasher to proceed with payment of bills over \$5,000.00 as presented. With all present members voting in favor, Mayor Eden declared the motion approved.
- Budget Amendments. Weldy presented budget amendments for 2018 to the Board. Discussion was held. Alderwoman Lee made a motion, seconded by Alderman Greene to approve 2018 budget amendments as presented and to reflect final audit adjustments as recommended by auditors. With all present members voting in favor, Mayor Eden declared the motion approved.

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- December 2018 Treasurer Report. Weldy presented the December 2018 Treasurer report to the Board for consideration. Discussion was held. Alderwoman Lee made a motion, seconded by Alderwoman McElveen to approve the 2018 December Treasurer report as presented. With all present members voting in favor, Mayor Eden declared the motion approved.
- Six-month Financial Statement. Weldy reported the six-month financial statement would be published in the Lawrence County Record on Wednesday, January 23, 2019 as required by Section 110.100 City Code. Discussion was held.
- Bad Debt. Weldy presented accounts with past due balance and requested the Board transfer these accounts to Bad Debt. Discussion was held. Alderman Greene made a motion, seconded by Alderwoman Lee to transfer accounts as presented to bad debt for a total of \$1,187.60. With all present members voting in favor, Mayor Eden declared the motion approved.

Director of Public Works.

Kelley announced he did not have a report to present, but welcomed any questions. None brought forth.

Code Enforcement.

Moore announced he did not have a report to present, but welcomed any questions. None brought forth.

Police.

Hubert held discussion on the following items:

- Request to fill vacancy. Hubert recommended the Board hire John Sappington to fill a vacancy in the Police Department. Alderman Fairchild made a motion, seconded by Alderwoman Martin to accept recommendation to hire John Sappington as a Police Officer. With all present members voting in favor, Mayor Eden declared the motion approved.
- Vacancy. Hubert reported he received two-week notice from Police Officer Brenden Richardson notifying he would be leaving the department January 29, 2019 to pursue work with the Lawrence County Sheriff Department. Hubert requested permission to advertise the vacancy. Discussion was held. Alderwoman Lee made a motion, seconded by Alderman Fairchild to proceed with advertising vacancy. With all present members voting in favor, Mayor Eden declared the motion approved.

New Business.

Mayor Eden requested any new business to be brought to the floor for discussion.

- Alderwoman Lee reported she had received a request from a constituent to add striping on Hickory Street, from Sloan Street to the Square. Discussion was held.

Old Business.

Mayor Eden requested any old business to be brought to the floor for discussion.

- Mr. Petrus reported he has received notification that the insurance company has approved payment of claim for 155 W. Patterson burn-out. Discussion was held.

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- Alderwoman Lee requested if the city plans to demolish the gazebo at Gibbs Park. Springer discussed the current condition and how the structure has suffered from vandalism.

Adjournment.

Mayor Eden 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.

David W. Eden, Mayor

Date

Shannon K. Neely, City Clerk

Date