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MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, MISSOURI ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2021.

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Mount Vernon, Missouri met in a regularly scheduled meeting, at the regular place of meeting, 319 E Dallas Street, on Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jason Haymes with the following roll call recorded: Scott Beckley, Deanna McElveen, Craig Nelson, Sherie Thrasher, Steve Fairchild, and Marda Gramm. Absent: Lowell Phillips and Sue Lee. The following city personnel were also in attendance: City Administrator Max Springer, Counselor Darlene Parrigon, Treasurer Shari Weldy, Public Works Director Joe Kelley, Code Enforcement Officer Terry Moore, Police Chief David Hubert, and City Clerk Melissa Aduddle.

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

Closed Session

Alderwoman Thrasher moved to adjourn to closed session pursuant to Section 610.021(3) Personnel, RSMo. 2018, seconded by Alderwoman Gramm. The following roll call vote was recorded:

AYES: Beckley, McElveen, Nelson, Thrasher, Fairchild, Gramm

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Phillips, Lee

Motion passed. Meeting adjourned for closed session at 7:06 p.m.

Reconvene.

Meeting reconvened at 7:14 p.m. Mayor Haymes determined all Aldermen that were present for closed session adjournment had returned to the meeting. Mayor Haymes requested any other business to be brought to the floor for discussion. None brought forth

Approval of the Agenda

Mayor Haymes presented the agenda to the Board for approval. The following changes were requested:

- New Business – Remove: Ordinance for Sewer Dedication
Add: Hire City Administrator
- City Administrator – Add: Personnel Committee Meeting, COP Refinancing

Alderwoman Gramm 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, August 24, 2021, to the Board for approval. The following change was requested:

- In Public Works section, change gold to golf.

Alderman Fairchild moved to approve the minutes with the aforementioned change, seconded by Alderwoman McElveen.

Motion passed.

Mayoral Proclamation

Mayor Haymes presented a Mayoral Proclamation to Sandy Mason, Vice-Regent of the Elkhorn Prairie Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, acknowledging “Constitution Week”, which will be honored from September 17, 2021, thru September 23, 2021. Named, as such, with September 17, 2021, marking the 234th Anniversary of the Constitutional Convention.

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. Springer held discussion on the following items:

- **Sales Tax/Use Tax.** Springer reported the sales tax for September is up \$24,741.60 from the previous year, and year to date sales tax is ahead \$145,566.80 from 2020. Use tax is up from September of last year by \$5,231.72, for the year use tax is also up \$6,983.69 from 2020.
- **Restroom at Spirit of '76 Park.** Springer stated he'd talked with other staff members, and they had come up with the idea of a roll up door at the restrooms, as opposed to the chain link gate that is currently in use. Three bids for the door and installation were obtained for the Board's consideration. The bids are as follows:

1. Renner Door of Springfield	\$1,640.00
2. Monett Door Commercial, LLC	\$1,660.00
3. Overhead Door of Springfield	\$6,542.00

Discussion was held. Alderwoman Gramm moved to accept the Monett Door Commercial, LLC bid for \$1,660.00, seconded by Alderman Beckley.

Motion passed.

- **Commercial Cleaning Contract.** Springer informed the Board that the City's current cleaning contract for City Hall and the Police Department will be up in December. The City recommended that the Board consider hiring a part-time thirty (30) hours per week individual to clean City Hall and the Police Department and also work at the MARC part-time at a cost of roughly \$18,720.00 per year. The City is currently paying Jani-King \$11,200.00 to clean both once a week. Alderwoman Gramm moved to not renew the

Jani-King contract and hire a part-time person to clean and help at the MARC, seconded by Alderwoman Thrasher.

Motion passed.

- **Storm Water Study Update.** Springer reported Kurt Higgins, an engineer with Allgeier Martin, submitted the updated study for the Shafer/Patten Street storm water issues. The study shows rerouting the storm water to the alley north of the substation then going west, daylighting it at the north end of Shafer Park. The total cost of the project would be \$306,000.00. Discussion was held.
- **Land Closing.** Springer informed the Board that the closing on the land sale of 19.65 acres, Lot 1 in the Mt. Vernon Commercial Park South, 1st Subdivision, to Wilmoth Enterprises will take place Thursday, September 16, 2021.
- **Personnel Committee Meeting.** Springer requested to set a meeting with the Personnel Committee to discuss City employment. Discussion was held. Meeting is set for Thursday, September 23, 2021.
- **Certificate of Participation (COP) Refinancing.** Springer updated the Board that the refinancing for the COP's closed and everything went smoothly. 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 presented the Bills over \$5,000.00 for to the Board for approval, with an addition of an \$8,618.29 payment to BBC Electric. Alderman Fairchild moved to approve the bills over \$5000.00 with the addition of \$8,618.29 to BBC Electric, seconded by Alderwoman Gramm.

Motion passed.

- **Letters mailed for Bad Utility Debt.** Weldy reported she had mailed out letters for bad utility debt in the \$2,775.96 in hopes of recouping some of the bad debt.

Director of Public Works

Mr. Kelley held discussion on the following items:

- **Fall Clean-Up.** Kelley informed the Board that Fall Clean-Up is set for Friday, October 1, 2021 from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, and Saturday, October 2, 2021 from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm. Kelley stated that disabled and handicapped citizens can call City Hall to schedule curbside pick-up, but they will need to make arrangements before noon on the Thursday prior. Kelley also reported that he reached out to the company that has provided recycling services, during clean-up, in the past, and they still aren't offering any services due to COVID-19. Discussion was held.

Code Enforcement

Mr. Moore held discussion on the following items:

- **Final Plat – Mt. Vernon Commercial Park South, 1st Subdivision.** Moore updated the Board the land was subdivided into 5 lots, with lots set aside for sale to Wilmoth

Enterprises, and sale to the County for a Health Department and Sheriff's Department with a jail, and for the Lawrence County Emergency Services Board. Discussion was held.

- **Permit Report – August 2021.** Moore presented the Permit Report for August 2021 and requested any questions or discussion. None brought forth.

Police

Chief Hubert held discussion on the following items:

- **Statistics for August 2021.** Hubert presented the statistics for August 2021 to the Board for review and requested any discussion. None brought forth.
- **Introduction of New Officer.** Hubert introduced Dawlton Pittman to the Board, and stated he was the new officer for the City of Mount Vernon. He stated Officer Pittman had previously worked for Dade County. Discussion was held.

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.

- **Bill No. 2021-26 re:** First and second reading of an ordinance accepting the Final Plat of the Mt. Vernon Commercial Park South, 1st Subdivision was read once, in its entirety, and once by title, with the following roll call vote recorded:

First Reading:

AYES: Beckley, McElveen, Nelson, Thrasher, Fairchild, Gramm

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Phillips, Lee

Second Reading:

AYES: Beckley, McElveen, Nelson, Thrasher, Fairchild, Gramm

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Phillips, Lee

Bill No. 2021-26 was passed by unanimous roll call vote and sent to the Mayor for signature, thus becoming Ordinance Number 1.289.

- **Hiring City Administrator.** Ms. Parrigon reported that after interviewing four candidates the Board decided they would like to offer the City Administrator position to the current Public Works Director Joe Kelley. Discussion was held. Alderman Fairchild moved to offer the City Administrator position to Joe Kelley, with a salary of \$68,000.00, three weeks of vacation, and all basic benefits with the completion of the Gold Class, seconded by Alderwoman McElveen.

Minutes Approved September 28, 2021

Motion passed. Mr. Kelley thanked the Board for the offer and stated he would like to talk things over with his significant other before deciding.

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 8.06 pm.

Lowell Phillips, Acting Board President

Date

Melissa Aduddle, City Clerk

Date