



**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, MISSOURI ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 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, December 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, Lowell Phillips, Sherie Thrasher, Steve Fairchild, Marda Gramm, 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, Chief of Police 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.

Approval of the Agenda

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

- Remove – McLiney & Co. and Gilmore & Bell
- City Administrator - Add: Title Insurance  
Transit Audit
- Treasurer - Add: Bad Debt

Alderman 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, November 9, 2021, to the Board for approval. Alderman Phillips moved to approve the minutes with the one correction, seconded by Alderwoman Gramm.

Motion passed.

Mayoral Proclamation

Mayor Haymes presented Mayoral Proclamations to the following for recognition of their exemplary service to the City of Mount Vernon:

- William Petrus, Jr. for the 15 years he served at the City Attorney and Prosecutor for the City from May 2006 to July 2021, and wish him all the best in his new practice.
- Max Springer for the 10 years he served on the Board of Aldermen, from 2001 to 2011 and his 10 years as City Administrator from 2011 to 2021, and wish him continued success and happiness in his retirement.

### Citizen Participation

Mayor Haymes announced this portion of the meeting was set aside to receive input from those in attendance and requested any discussion. The following brought forth:

- Mike Palmer with the Lawrence County Emergency Services Board – Mr. Palmer presented the City of Mount Vernon with a Resolution thanking the City for donating the land for the new 911 Dispatch Center.
- Nathan Link – Requesting that the rule banning commercial services from dumping yard waste at the Public Works shop be reconsidered.

### Resolution

**Bill No. (R)2021-06 re:** A Resolution declaring the intention of the Board of Aldermen to reimburse certain capital expenditures with proceeds of a lease purchase financing, was read once, by title only, with the following roll call vote recorded:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Bill No. (R)2021-06 was passed by unanimous roll call vote and sent to the Mayor for signature, thus becoming Resolution number (R)2021-06.

## **Department Reports**

### City Administrator

Mr. Springer, for the last time, held discussion on the following items:

- **Sales Tax/Use Tax.** Springer reported the sales tax for December is up \$26,440.98 from the previous year, and year to date sales tax is ahead \$192,661.75 from 2020. Use tax is up from December of last year by \$5,729.80, for the year, use tax is up \$14,822.13 from 2020.
- **Property and General Liability Insurance.** Springer stated the property and general liability insurance premium for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2022 is \$175,802.00 and authorization is needed to sign the policy. Discussion was held. Alderman Fairchild moved to approve payment of \$175,802.00 for the insurance and for the City Administrator to sign the contract, seconded by Alderman Nelson.

Motion passed.

- **2022 Budget.** Springer informed the Board that there have been some changes to the 2022 proposed budget. The \$252,000.00 was removed from the General Revenue under Airport Grant funds and \$280,000.00 from Airport grant expenses. Adjustments have also been made in each department to reflect the actual amounts of LAGERS expense for each department, a total increase of \$9,800.00. Springer stated if the proposed budget with the listed changes is acceptable, then approval will be needed to pass the Budget and the appropriate funds for the expenses, Bond, COP interest and principal payments for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2022. Discussion was held. Alderwoman Lee moved to approve the 2022 Budget with the presented changes and the funds for the expenses, Bond, COP interest and principal payments, seconded by Alderwoman Gramm.

Motion passed.

- **Missouri State Assistance for Housing Relief (SAFHR) Program.** Springer reported the State of Missouri Housing Development Commission has initiated a new program. Missouri SAFHR for renters' program, which aids renters on their rent and utility bills. The State received a request for assistance from one of our citizens, which has been approved, but they can only receive the assistance if the City has an agreement with SAFHR to accept payment on behalf of the individual for their utility payments. Discussion was held. Alderman Fairchild moved to approve the City sign the agreement with SAFHR to accept utility payments, seconded by Alderman Beckley.

Motion passed.

- **Personnel Committee.** Springer stated a Personnel Committee meeting needed to be scheduled to review applications for the Utility Billing Clerk position. Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 16, 2021.
- **Park Committee.** Springer informed the Board a Park Committee meeting to review RFQ responses for the Park project and RFP responses for the Pool project. Meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 20, 2021.
- **Title Insurance.** Springer notified the Board that the City needs to have title insurance on the park land for the COPs to be issued. Gilmore & Bell have gotten quotes for the City from three Title companies, based on a policy amount of \$6,300.00, for title search, quotes are as follows:

1. First American Title - \$5,880.00
2. Chicago Title - \$6,200.00
3. Waco Title - \$8,400.00

Discussion was held. Alderman Fairchild moved to hire First American Title for title insurance for \$5,880.00, seconded by Alderwoman Gramm.

Motion passed.

- **Transit Grant.** Springer reported in September the Federal Transportation Administration conducted a virtual Compliance of Performance review of the City's taxi service, which is partially supported through a Transit Grant administered by MoDOT. On the close out report, there were no deficiencies nor recommendations.

#### 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, and requested to add a payment to B & L Waterworks for \$6,250.51. Alderwoman Thrasher moved to approve the bills over \$5000.00 including B & L Waterworks for \$6,250.51, seconded by Alderman Beckley.

Motion passed.

- **October 2021 Treasurer Report.** Weldy presented the October 2021 Treasurer Report to the Board for approval. Alderwoman Lee moved to approve the October 2021 Treasurer Report as presented, seconded by Alderwoman McElveen.  
Motion passed.
- **Budget Amendment – Sales Tax.** Weldy reported the City has exceeded what was budgeted for Water and Wastewater by \$57,900.00. Weldy requested to make an amendment to the Budget by transferring in \$25,000.00 to Water and \$32,900.00 Wastewater from Special Sales Tax. Alderwoman Thrasher moved to approve the budget amendment \$25,000.00 going to water and \$32,900.00 going to wastewater, seconded by Alderwoman Gramm.  
Motion passed.
- **Bad Debt.** Weldy requested approval to write off \$9,748.42 in the system and send \$4,474.41 to online collections. Alderwoman Lee moved to approve the request for bad debt, seconded by Alderwoman Thrasher.  
Motion passed.

#### Director of Public Works

Mr. Kelley held discussion on the following items:

- **Electric Department – Ratify November 16, 2021 Email Vote.** Kelley requested to ratify the email vote from November 16, 2021. Confirmation of ratification of the email vote was approved by unanimous consent.
- **Electric Department – Inventory Replacement.** Kelley requested to purchase one pallet of LED streetlights, which contains 53 streetlights, for \$6,625.00, to replace used inventory for the Electric Department. Alderwoman Lee moved to approve the inventory replacement and payment of the invoice in the amount of \$6,625.00, seconded by Alderwoman Gramm.  
Motion passed.
- **Public Works – Backhoe Purchases.** Kelley requested approval to 2 backhoes from Potter Equipment for the Water, Street, and Electric Departments. Alderwoman Lee moved to approve the purchase of two backhoes from Potter Equipment for \$25,000.00 and make the payment, seconded by McElveen.  
Motion passed.

#### Code Enforcement

Mr. Moore held discussion on the following items:

- **November 2021 Permit Report.** Moore presented the Permit Report for November 2021 and requested any questions or discussion. None brought forth.
- **Planning & Zoning Meeting Report.** Moore updated the Board about Planning and Zoning and requested any questions or discussion. None brought forth.

#### Police

Chief Hubert held discussion on the following items:

- **Dawltan Pittman – Request to Make a Full-time Officer.** Hubert stated the Officer Pittman had completed his probationary period satisfactorily and requested permission to

make him a full-time officer. Alderman Phillips moved to make Dawlton Pittman a full-time officer, seconded by Alderwoman McElveen.

Motion passed.

- **Request to Advertise for Officer.** Hubert requested permission advertise for a new officer. Alderwoman Lee moved to approve request to advertise for an officer, seconded by Alderman Beckley.

Motion passed.

- **Microchip Scanner from MO Lost and Found Paws.** Hubert reported MO Lost and Found Pets donated a microchip scanner to the Police Department, which will hopefully help them reunite lost dogs with their owners.
- **MoDOT Grant – DWI Enforcement.** Hubert stated the Police Department received \$1,200.00 MoDOT grant money for DWI Enforcement and requested any discussion. None brought forth.

### 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. None brought forth.

- Joe Kelley wanted to than Max on behalf of all the public works staff.
- Mayor Haymes suggested the Board reconsider having the meeting on December 28, 2021. Discussion was held. Alderman Phillips moved to have the Council meeting on December 28, 2021, seconded by Alderman Beckley.

Motion passed.

### 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 8:31 p.m.

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Jason Haymes, Mayor

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Date

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Melissa Aduddle, City Clerk

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Date