



**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE
CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, MISSOURI ON TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2022.**

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, March 8, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jason Haymes with the following roll call recorded: Scott Beckley, Craig Nelson, Lowell Phillips, Sherie Thrasher, Steve Fairchild, Marda Gramm, and Sue Lee. Absent: Deanna McElveen. The following city personnel were also in attendance: City Administrator Joe Kelley, Counselor Darlene Parrigon, Treasurer Shari Weldy, Public Works Director Dustin Davis, Code Enforcement 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:

- Treasurer – Add: Bills over \$5000 – Anderson Engineering \$33,575.40
- Public Hearing – Strike – No person requested to give oral or written evidence and recommendations three days prior to the public hearing.

Alderman Phillips moved to approve the agenda with the aforementioned change, seconded by Alderman Beckley.

Motion passed.

Presentation of Minutes

Mayor Haymes presented the minutes from the Board of Aldermen meeting held on Tuesday, February 22, 2022, to the Board for approval. The following correction was noted:

- Under Police Department – Discuss should have -ed to make it past tense.

Alderman Phillips moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting, seconded by Alderwoman Lee.

Motion passed.

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:

- Charles Daniel, former owner of New Rising Fenix – Mr. Daniel stated he has been a resident of Mount Vernon for 82 years! He wanted to thank the Board for all they do for Mount Vernon, and stated that he believes it is in the City’s best interest to try and build up industry to grow the town.
- David Adams – Questions about power outage on February 16, 2022.

Ordinance

Bill No. 2022-03 re: An Ordinance rezoning the Preliminary Plat hereto as Exhibit A, was read twice, by title only, with the following roll call vote recorded:

First Reading:

AYES: Beckley, Nelson, Phillips, Thrasher, Fairchild, Gramm, Lee
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: McElveen

Second Reading:

AYES: Beckley, Nelson, Phillips, Thrasher, Fairchild, Gramm, Lee
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: McElveen

Bill No. 2022-03 was passed by unanimous roll call vote and sent to the Mayor for signature, thus becoming Ordinance Number 2.205.

Department Reports

City Administrator

Mr. Kelley held discussion on the following items:

- **Seasonal Employment.** Kelley state the City is getting ready for Spring and has several seasonal employees that would like to return. In past season, the City has also use Penmac Staffing to fill other seasonal vacancies. Kelley requested to bring seasonal employees back, as well as, use Penmac Staffing to fill additional vacancies. Alderman Fairchild moved to authorize bringing back seasonal employees at the supervisor’s discretion, and to use Penmac Staffing Services, seconded by Alderman Phillips.

Motion passed.

- **Survey Request.** Kelley informed the Board that Empire District Electric Company has requested permission to enter and cross land owned by the City for sixty (60) days to conduct a soil survey. Kelley went on to say that this is the beginning stage of a project to upgrade the electrical switch station located on the Northeast portion of Spirit of ’76 Park along East Street. Discussion was held. Alderwoman Lee moved to allow the City

Administrator Joe Kelley to sign the agreement with Empire, seconded by Alderman Beckley.

Motion passed.

- **Pool/Park Update.** Kelley reported that a meeting was held on February 28th with Westport Pools to discuss the pool renovation project. After discussions, and to have the pool facilities ready for the 2023 season, it was determined that closing the pool would be the best option for the 2022 season. Ashley Ragsdale, pool manager, questioned why the pool needed to be close for the whole season. Discussion was held. Alderman Phillips moved to officially shutdown the pool and related facilities for the 2022 season, seconded by Alderwoman Gramm.

Motion passed.

Kelley also updated the Board that the City has received a Letter Agreement for Professional Services from Olsson Engineering for the Spirit of '75 Park Phase One Expansion. Kelley went on to say the agreement has been forwarded to legal counsel for review and an ordinance will be brought back to the next meeting.

- **Parks Committee.** Kelley requested to set a meeting with the Parks Committee to discuss the Golf Course. Discussion was held. Meeting is set for March 14, 2022 at 6:00 pm at City Hall.

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 February 2022 and March 2022, and she gave a breakdown of the added Anderson Engineering bill, to the Board for approval. Alderwoman Gramm moved to approve payment of the bills over \$5,000.00, seconded by Alderman Fairchild.

Motion passed.

Director of Public Works

Mr. Davis held discussion on the following items:

- Davis requested approval to Allen "Warren" Merrifield for the part-time cleaning and MARC position, pending the outcome of background and drug screening. Discussion was held. Alderman Fairchild moved to hire Warren Merrifield for part-time cleaning and MARC, seconded by Alderman Beckley.

Motion passed.

- Davis also requested approval to hire Aaron Bush for the full-time public works laborer position, pending the outcome of background and drug screening. Discussion was held. Alderman Fairchild moved to hire Aaron Bush as a full-time public works laborer, seconded by Alderwoman Gramm

Motion passed.

Code Enforcement

Mr. Moore held discussion on the following items:

- **February 2022 Permit Report.** Moore presented the Permit Report for February 2022 and requested any questions or discussion. None brought forth.
- **Planning & Zoning Report.** Moore gave an update on the Planning & Zoning Commission meeting on March 1, 2022, where the Moor Ranch Estates subdivision was discussed.

Police

Chief Hubert held discussion on the following items:

- **Statistics for January 2022.** Huber presented the statistics for January 2022 to the Board for review and requested any discussion. None brought forth.
- **Permission to Purchase Patrol Vehicles.** Hubert requested approval to purchase two budgeted patrol cars. Hubert stated he received two quotes for 2022 Ford Interceptors. The first was the State bid from Joe Machen's Ford, Columbia, MO for \$35,285.00 each, or \$70,570.00 total. The second quote was from Jimmy Michel Motors, Aurora, MO for \$36,295.00 each or \$72,590.00 total. Discussion was held. Alderman Fairchild moved to accept the bid from Jimmy Michel Motors for \$72,590.00, seconded by Alderwoman Lee.

Motion passed.

- **Employment.** Hubert also requested approval to hire Richard Wilcox as a full-time patrol officer. Mr. Wilcox currently work for the Lawrence County Sheriffs Department. Discussion was held. Alderman Phillips moved to hire Richard Wilcox for the Police Department, seconded by Alderman Fairchild.

Motion passed.

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.

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 7:54 p.m.

Acting Board President, Lowell Phillips

Date

Minutes Approved Tuesday, March 22, 2022

Melissa Aduddle, City Clerk

Date