

Minutes approved Tuesday, October 13, 2020

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, MISSOURI ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2020.

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Mount Vernon, Missouri met in a regular scheduled meeting, at the regular place of meeting, 319 E Dallas Street, on Tuesday, September 22, 2020 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 William Petrus, Jr., Treasurer Shari Weldy, Director of Public Works Joe Kelley, Code Enforcement Officer Terry Moore, Chief of Police David Hubert, City Clerk Shannon Neely, and Deputy 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. Alderman Phillips made the motion, seconded by Alderman Nelson to approve the agenda with the following correction:

- City Clerk: Add: Request to Approve Executive Session Minutes.

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

Presentation of Minutes

Mayor Haymes presented the minutes from the Special Executive Session Board of Aldermen meeting held on Tuesday, September 8, 2020 to the Board for approval. Alderman Phillips made the motion, seconded by Alderwoman Lee to approve the Special Session minutes with no corrections.

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

Mayor Haymes presented the minutes from the Board of Aldermen meeting held on Tuesday, September 8, 2020 to the Board for approval. Alderman Beckley made the motion, seconded by Alderman Phillips to approve the minutes with the following correction:

- In Presentation of Minutes, change Alderwoman Phillips to Alderwoman McElveen.

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

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.

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Ordinance

Bill No. 2020-021 re: an Ordinance authorizing execution of a contract by and between the City of Mount Vernon, Missouri and Anderson Engineering, Inc. for engineering services related to construction of new bathroom at Spirit of '76 Park was read twice, by title only, with the following roll call votes recorded:

First Reading:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Second Reading

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Bill No. 2020-021 was declared passed and sent to the Mayor for signature. Bill No. 2020-021 thus became Ordinance Number 14.324.

Bill No. 2020-022 re: an Ordinance amending the Mount Vernon Municipal Code at Section 125.290, regarding municipal court costs, was read twice, by title only, with the following roll call votes recorded:

First Reading:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Second Reading

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Bill No. 2020-022 was declared passed and sent to the Mayor for signature. Bill No. 2020-022 thus became Ordinance Number 1.283.

Bill No. 2020-023 re: an Ordinance amending the Mount Vernon Municipal Code at Chapter 720, regarding sewer use and pretreatment, was read twice, by title only, with the following roll call votes recorded:

First Reading:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

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Second Reading

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Bill No. 2020-023 was declared passed and sent to the Mayor for signature. Bill No. 2020-023 thus became Ordinance Number 13.112.

Department Reports

City Administrator

Mr. Springer held discussion on the following items:

- **Number Seven (7) Well.** Springer reported the starter on Well Seven went out. The cost of the replacement starter is \$5,390.00. A vote was taken via email on September 17, 2020 to approve purchase of the replacement starter. Springer requested a motion to ratify the email approval. Alderman Phillips made the motion, seconded by Alderwoman Lee to approve purchase of the replacement starter for \$5,390.00, which will ratify the email vote to approve. With all present members voting in favor, Mayor Haymes declared the motion approved.
- **Air Conditioning Unit – City Hall.** Springer updated the Board that the air conditioning unit at City Hall has a compressor with three (3) broken reed valves and one (1) broken piston rod. The cost to replace the compressor is \$18,450.00. A vote was taken via email on September 18, 2020 to approve purchase of the replacement compressor. Springer requested a motion to ratify the email approval. Alderman Phillips made the motion, seconded by Alderwoman McElveen to approve purchase of the replacement starter for \$18,450.00, which will ratify the email vote to approve. With all present members voting in favor, Mayor Haymes declared the motion approved.
- **Skate Park.** Springer requested approval from the Board for Anderson Engineering to do compaction tests on the fill dirt used in the basin at Gibbs Park before the preliminary rough grading can be started. The cost for the tests is \$3,500.00. Discussion was held. Alderwoman Lee made the motion, seconded by Alderman Beckley to approve compaction tests to be completed by Anderson Engineering for \$3,500.00. With all present members voting in favor, Mayor Haymes declared the motion approved. Springer also informed the Board that two bids were received for the preliminary rough grading. The bids received were from K & B Equipment for \$8,150.00 and the other from Hillhouse Services for \$6,375.00. Discussion was held. Alderman Fairchild made the motion, seconded by Alderwoman McElveen to approve the bid from Hillhouse Services for \$6,375.00, for the preliminary dirt work at Gibbs Park, after the compaction tests are completed. With all present members voting in favor, Mayor Haymes declared the motion approved.
- **Committee Meetings.** Springer stated that the Parks & Recreation Committee, Public Works Committee, and Personnel Committee needed to schedule meetings to discuss the 2021 Budget. Discussion was held.
- **Other Items of Discussion.** MoDOT said that the type of sign the City wanted to put for the “Welcome to Mount Vernon” sign would not be approved. The only kind of sign that can be placed there is a billboard sign since it can be seen from the interstate. There is an

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exception for an on-site retail sign, but the City is not a retail business. 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 report to the Board for approval. Alderwoman Lee made the motion, seconded by Alderwoman Gramm to approve bills over \$5,000.00 for September as presented. With all present members voting in favor, Mayor Haymes declared the motion approved.
- **Treasurer Report - August 2020.** Weldy presented the Treasurer Report and asked if there were any questions before requesting approval of the report. None brought forth. Alderwoman Lee made the motion, seconded by Alderman Beckley to approve the Treasurer Report for August. With all present members voting in favor, Mayor Haymes declared the motion approved.
- **Bad Debt – Letters Sent Out.** Weldy informed the Board that letters for bad debt had been sent out. In the letters that were sent out, the total bad debt was \$55,753.35. Discussion was held.

Director of Public Works

Mr. Kelley held discussion on the following item:

- **Other Items of Discussion.** Kelley requested any discussion or questions the Board might have for his department, noting the sewer use and pretreatment information were discussed when the Ordinance was being addressed. Kelley also mentioned that a blower had gone out in a sludge tank at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, and a motor in one of the ditches had gone out as well. Discussion was held.

Code Enforcement

Mr. Moore held discussion on the following items:

- **Planning & Zoning Report.** Moore presented the Planning & Zoning Report and requested any discussion. None brought forth.
- **Other Items of Discussion.** Moore stated he had talked to Brian Barker and Barker said he had found keys to some of the vehicles and would be getting them moved. Moore also reported Barker said there is a man coming out at the end of the month to do some demo and reclaim the wood. Discussion was held.

Police

Mr. Hubert held discussion on the following items:

- **Statistics for August 2020.** Hubert presented the Statistical Report for August and requested any discussion. None brought forth.
- **Request to move James Meyers from probation to full-time.** Hubert reported James Meyers has met or exceeded all expectations during his probation, and requested to move him to full-time. Discussion was held. Alderwoman McElveen made the motion, seconded by Alderman Phillips to move James Meyers from probationary to a full-time

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

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.

Closed Session

Alderman Phillips made a motion, seconded by Alderwoman Thrasher to adjourn to close a portion of the meeting pursuant to RSMo § 610.021(1) Litigation. The following roll call vote was recorded:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion approved. Meeting adjourned for closed session at 7:29 p.m.

Reconvene

Meeting reconvened at 7:58 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.

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 7:59 p.m.

Jason Haymes, Mayor

Date

Melissa Aduddle, Deputy City Clerk

Date