



Minutes of the General Government and Public Safety Committee meeting of Monday, September 10, 2012.

The meeting was called to order by Alderman Wilkins at about 7:15 p.m. Present were Mayor Grenke, Aldermen Simmons, Angell, Magley, Sanders, and Bormann. Also attending were Lynn Behrns, Police Chief Bob Bias, Fire Chief Denny Rusch, and James Smith.

Comments from Citizens

None

Economic Development

Ginny Zoellers will be attending the regular Board meeting. An agenda for the Chamber's next meeting was provided.

Simmons reported on the last CREDI meeting. The guest speaker had been Ed Sigmund of the Mid-MO Regional Planning Commission. Sigmund suggested that CREDI may want to sharpen its focus.

Progress on the Enhanced Enterprise Zone project is slow. The draft Memorandum of Understanding with Boone County is still being refined, so an approving ordinance and amendments to the Abatement ordinance are on hold.

Park Department

The Park Board will meeting next week, and minutes from the August meetings were in the Committee agenda packet.

Cemetery Advisory Committee

No written report. Behrns noted the death of Minnie Simmons, who had been on the committee for many years, until she was replaced by her daughter.

Tree Board

No formal report.

Library Board

No formal report was made, but minutes and an agenda for the next meeting were presented in the Committee packet. The packet also contained a full copy of the Library District audit for the last fiscal year.

Finance

Financial statements for August had not been provided until Monday morning, and many aldermen had not had a chance to examine them. Staff is still debugging small formatting problems from the new software. Behrns said that expenditures wear near targets and revenues somewhat above targets, as the City nears mid-year.

Bills over \$1,250

Committee received a preliminary list of bills over \$1,250. Members had questions concerning several items. Payments were made to several ready-mix concrete vendors, because reimbursement to participants in the sidewalk replacement program, City work on the Miles Street Ditch (with pumper use) and separate use of flowable fill for utility patches. S & D Auto Repairs had a bill representing



smaller repairs to several patrol cars according to Bias. The bill from Luebbert Engineering was a progress payment and includes surveying work. Behrns noted that Christine should be presenting rough designs soon, and will be looking for City and industry input on several matters.

Other

Behrns gave a report on the potential for video taping City meetings. He said that the method used by the schools was reserved for sports and not available to the City. The method used by the City of Mexico seemed a good template for Centralia.

During the committee meeting, Angell and Mayor were able to easily go online and view a past Mexico Council meeting from You Tube. It came across with a good quality picture. Committee discussed estimates of annual ongoing costs. There was a consensus that if we record Board meetings, committee meetings and Planning and Zoning Commission meetings should also be recorded. Mexico's web site has direct links to the You Tube files. They have an opinion stating that the videos are records, but not permanent records. Their camera goes direct to a recorder hard drive. When the drive is full, it will write over the older meetings. No one is sure how long the You Tube files would be retained. The idea is to keep the videos for two years. Mexico edits the video to eliminate time before the meetings and recesses. They add labels to further identify the time and type of the meeting. They have a counter which indicates about 30 people view the meetings each month. Mexico's installation cost over \$7,000. Behrns thinks that Centralia can do it with city labor for less. Behrns hopes to work with Alderman Wilkins to set up a test for a month. The cost for labor to edit and label need not be a cash outlay. Maybe we can use dispatchers on the swing shift to edit and download. No license or cost is attached to U-tube. Staff will continue to do research on integration and cost.

City Prosecutor

No report.

Police Department

Bias presented the report of August activities and calls for the Police Department.

Behrns noted a suggestion by Janet Holdeman to add more text to the school zone signs. She thinks that some drivers may think that the 20 miles per hour speed limit only applies during school hours. She believes that adding "at all times" might get more drivers to slow down. Committee members thought present signage was sufficient for the time being. They feel the problem was from drivers, not signs.

Fire Department

Rusch presented a report of August activities of the Fire Department. Committee members thanked him for bring the "new " fire truck to City Hall, so they could look at it.

Responding to a question, Rusch noted that he had just added one new firefighter. Given the categories of recent department calls, he feels that he needs to focus on future candidates with emergency medical skills.

Emergency Management

None



Protective Inspection

Behrns said that the City had now issued permits for 16 new housing units, since the start of the year.

Behrns had nothing new to report on responses to dangerous structure and nuisance notices.

Other General Government

Behrns distributed excerpts from the City Code concerning the location of street lights.

As May Arise

Behrns told Magley that he did not know why the street sweeper was at the repair shop.

Magley questioned why the City had continued to rent a tracked skid loader. Behrns said he wished it had already been returned. On the other hand it was specifically need for the ditch project. Our wheeled loader is too wide for the portion adjoining Leabrook and was primary intended for Electric Department use.

Behrns again said that he had received no response from Clifford de la Rosa.

Behrns said that Forrest Chevrolet had not yet executed the deed to return the 20-foot portion of Rollins Street which had previously been vacated to them.

Simmons asked about an occurrence of a young person driving a golf cart after dark. Bias said that this was not legal. Drivers of low speed vehicles must be licensed and should have lights for use after sundown. Bias said that the Police had made contact in several such instances. Committee suggested that a Guard story might be appropriate. Behrns will add information on the topic to the spring newsletter.

Mayor reminded those present of the Chamber's BBQ event on October 19 and 20.

The Mayor and two aldermen will miss the next Board meeting to attend the annual conference of the Missouri Municipal League. The Board should still be able to muster a quorum.

The Committee then adjourned at about 8:12 p.m.