

**Minutes of the General Government and Public Safety Committee meeting of Tuesday November 12, 2013.**

The meeting was called to order by Alderman Wilkins at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Grenke, Aldermen Magley, Bormann, and Lee. Also attending were Lynn Behrns, Police Chief Larry Dudgeon, Fire Chief Denny Rusch, and James Smith.

Those present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Comments from Citizens

No comments.

Economic Development

A report was received in the form of the minutes from the last CREDI meeting were submitted. CREDI is hosting a Social event this evening. The Mayor and others had attended the first portion before leaving for the Committee meeting. At the Social, the new CREDI director, Mike Rodgers, was presented. Behrns will be introducing him to Bernie Andrews and Mike Brooks with REDI and will be enrolling him into access for the eCivis data base.

Behrns has been asked informally for City help with next Fall's Civil War Re-enactment. Unless the Board objects, Behrns would be willing to extend some assistance of city employees and equipment. He hopes that the Police will be able to help, although most of the event will be held outside of the City near the Centralia Battlefield. He noted that the City may be asked for a financial contribution and this could be considered during budget preparations.

Behrns reported talks with a potential new industry which is looking at sites in Centralia. The firm would need access to rail, particularly the COLT tracks. The most likely sites would need to be zoned from B-2 to M-1 or would need to be annexed. The most likely site already has the utilities needed for the firm. If a site is finalized, the firm will be reliant on grant funding from several governmental agencies. It would be desirable for the land to be held by a government or not-for-profit entity. The Aldermen will need to quickly meet with representatives of the firm. A special or recessed meeting for Wednesday night would be desirable. Part of the meeting may need to be Closed because of discussion of land purchases or leasing and because some of the presentation could contain information about proprietary technological process.

Park Department

The Park Board minutes for the October meeting were in the Committee agenda packet.

Cemetery Advisory Committee

No report.

Tree Board

No report.

Library Board

Minutes and agenda for the Library Board were included in the agenda packet.

Finance

Financial statements for October were in the agenda packet. Committee had no questions.

Bills over \$1,250

Committee received a preliminary list of bills over \$1,250. They had no immediate questions

Other

Behrns said he had received fixed prices from United Health Care for employee health insurance. They seem better than the quote from Anthem Blue Cross contingent on the City renewing one month early. (That would have about an 8% increase from the present rate.) There are UHC plans that are acceptable that are less than the current plan. The schedule of deductibles, out-of-pocket maximums, coinsurances are similar, but not directly comparable. Rates for Coventry and Anthem for ACA compliant plans are still pending.

City Prosecutor

No report.

Fire Department

Fire Chief Rusch presented a report of October activities of the Fire Department. Rusch said that the department was still responding to a large number of medical calls.

Rusch is starting to ask for quotes for candy, fruit, and safety literature for the Christmas Day handouts by the department.

Police Department

Police Chief Dudgeon presented a Police Department activity report for October, Committee members had no questions.

Dudgeon said that work is proceeding on organizing the Christmas parades. The evening tractor parade is adopting a new route for better organization and progress.

Emergency Management

Behrns said he had received a DVD of the new, revised Boone County Emergency Operations Plan, which he will be reviewing in the near future.

Protective Inspection

No Report

Other

Behrns said that the Planning and Zoning Commission has approved the final plat for the Southwest Country Estates Plat 3 Subdivision. They have recommended that it be approved by ordinance of the Board of Aldermen, subject to receipt of an acceptable improvement guarantee for sidewalks for the 14 new lots. After the plat is recorded, the developers will convey the sanitary sewer installed for this plat and the City can accept it by ordinance in December.

As May Arise

Behrns initiated discussions about the process of selecting the next City Administrator. Behrns expects to retire on July 31, 2014. He distributed a list of factors to be considered by the Board, pamphlets from the New Jersey Municipal League and the International City Management Association,

and two possible time lines for the process. One of the time lines would set out benchmarks for the Board if they handle the complete recruitment process. The other would set out a possible schedule if the Board were to hire a search firm for all or part of the process. The choice is one of the first decisions for the Board to make. Behrns will ask for direction at the regular Board meeting.

Bormann moved that the Committee recess until 7:00 on Wednesday, November 13. Lee seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor and the motion carried.

At about 7:45, the Committee then recessed.