

Minutes of the General Government and Public Safety Committee meeting of Monday, July 14, 2014.

The meeting was called to order by Alderman Wilkins at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Grenke, Aldermen Magley, Vollrath, Lee, and Ward. Also attending were Lynn Behrns, Matt Harline, Gabe Martinez, DeAnna Trass, and James Smith. Alderman Bormann and Fire Chief Rusch arrived about five minutes into the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

Those present participated in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Comments from Citizens

None

Informational Presentation

DeAnna Trass, Director of the Mid-Missouri Solid Waste Management District, had been invited by Mayor Grenke, who serves on the District Board. She made a presentation on the history and purpose of her agency

The District uses fees collected from landfills by the state to support local efforts to reduce solid waste by educating the public and promoting recycling. It supports training, community collections, and sometimes helps with equipment acquisition. There were recent collections in Columbia and then Centralia. The later served the City, north Boone County, and Audrain County. We received more than 100 tons of tires and thirty tons of electronic waste (computers, monitors, etc.) Three semi-trucks were needed to remove the piles of tires taken in. Trass told Lee that, depending on condition, electronic items are refurbished, scrapped out for parts, or forwarded to vendors for more complete recycling of materials. Because of a good fund balance, the District was able to provide the Centralia collection without a charge to citizens (the more usual practice.) She told Ward that the District tries to scatter collections sites and rotate around its eight member counties. Collections are usually organized for a two-county area about every two to two and a half years.

Mayor Grenke and Trass thanked Forrest Chevrolet for the use of their old business property as a collection site. It proved to be a great location for the project.

City Prosecutor

No report. Mayor Grenke said he will try again to arrange a time for April Wilson to appear in person.

Police Department

Chief Dudgeon was not present, but had supplied a Police Department activity report for June. Aldermen noted that incident report numbers were again up a bit over last year.

Fire Department

Fire Chief Rusch presented a report of June department activities.

The Fire Department was thanked for the smooth operation of the July 4th fireworks display. The event had no issues, except for some comments about the volume of the patriotic music near the shelter houses.

Rusch is researching online to find a used extrication tool. Presently his department only has a glorified hydraulic jack that does not fit their needs. County fire truck has such tools, but is not always able to quickly respond. Rusch's biggest

problem is getting photos and descriptions of the condition of tools offered for sale. The item is budgeted at \$8,000, but Rusch is most concerned about operability and quality.

Emergency Management

Behrns reported on a request from the Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission to participate in an updating of the Boone County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Centralia is not vulnerable to every type of hazard discussed in the plan, but several are relevant. Behrns said the participation was painless. Bormann moved and Magley seconded to direct Behrns to prepare an appropriate resolution for the City to participate in this round of planning and to designate incoming administrator Harline to be the City's liaison. All members present voted in favor and the motion passed. Resolution will be on July 21 Board Agenda.

Protective Inspection

Nothing significant to report.

Economic Development

Gabe Martinez made a report about CREDI activities. After the resignation of Mark Rodgers as director, the CREDI board has engaged in some reflection. They may decide to secure administrative services and let leadership actions come from board members, including several new officers. David Wilkins has been elected Vice-president. Lorry Myers will be both Secretary and Treasurer. Matt Smith is on to represent the School District. Don Bormann remains the Chamber of Commerce representative. Damon Reynolds and Emily Clarke are also new members. CREDI's focus will include continued efforts to encourage new employees of local businesses to become City residents. They will try for an organizational fund-raiser in January or February, with perhaps a State-of-the City theme.

Committee members and Martinez discussed the upcoming Civil War Reenactment. A steering group was finally able to stage a fund-raising event on the Battle site without being rained out. Lee said there were more than 200 attendees, plus 35 volunteer hosts and a band. The organizers may want to repeat the concert annually in order to have enough funding to support official re-enactments every three or four years.

Park Department

Park Board agendas and minutes for past meetings were in the Committee agenda packet.

Cemetery Advisory Committee

No written report. Behrns noted that Midland GIS has made progress in joining the old and new part of the cemetery data base. The Cemetery Sexton will eventually have one data base, although the accuracy in the older, southern four cemetery sections will not be as great as those laid out in more recent times. A Midland representative will make a presentation on Wednesday to show Phyllis Brown and Harline the remaining issues. Behrns suggest that Bormann's intern attend and discuss the create of emergency planning layers. However, Bormann said the intern was told not available this week. Behrns will arrange with Ethan Herbek about the need to reschedule.

Tree Board

No written report. Mayor Grenke is awaiting an answer on whether Jeff Breedlove would be willing to serve another term on the Board.

Staff told James Smith that the Tree Board has at least an advisory capacity of concerning trees in City parks, even though they are not in street rights-of-way. Earl Bennett has already been talking to James Lee about replacing older, dying trees.

The Tree Board can look into possible grant funding for the replacements. Lee said that potential future damage from emerald ash borers may not be as great as previously thought. This has been a concern because Centralia has so many old ash trees

Library Board

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

Finance

Financial statements for June were in the agenda packet. Behrns said he had little to note in the latest operating statement. Receipts of sales taxes in July are high and will lift revenues for the first third of the fiscal year above target. Behrns has learned that Boone County transportation grants will exceed budgeted amounts. A report of preliminary assessed valuations is in and indicates property taxes will also be higher than expectations (barring tax protests)

Bills over \$1,250

Committee received a preliminary list of bills over \$1,250. Behrns said that he did not believe an APAC representative had made it up to review some small problems on the Wesley Street overlay.

Other

Behrns described a situation at Albert's Shoe Repair. Steve Albert is ready to enlarge his building toward the alley, but recent surveying work for the adjacent property have highlighted that his building runs slightly over a property line and on part of the City's parking lot. Before Albert starts construction, Behrns suggests a deed to convey a few inches of property to Albert. Behrns noted that this will just be a recognition of facts on the ground; the building is where it has been for about a hundred years. Bormann said surveyors are aware of old discrepancies of both dimensions and angles. (The lots are not exactly parallel to the railroad lines, as they are supposed to be.) Behrns will have a legal description and deed prepared to convey the sliver of property to Albert. An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to sign the deed will be placed on the next Board agenda.

As May Arise

Behrns reported that the Street Department had somewhat underestimated cost of replacing the old recycling trailer. The new trailer will require heavier-duty axles. The low price was from Hughes Brothers for \$2,950, and Street Foreman Hoffman requested an additional \$150 for drop axles to facilitate easier unloading. Lee moved that City make the requested purchase. Bormann seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion, except Alderman Magley, who objected to the addition of the drop axles. The motion was passed.

Committee discussed a problem with plastic bags and regular trash contaminating materials at the in-town brush pit. Magley suggested supplying a trash can on-site. Few other good solutions present themselves. A sign at the site has become illegible. Behrns was directed to see that the Street Department repaints the sign, perhaps relocated it and adding stronger language.

Committee adjourned about 8:00 p.m.