

Minutes of the General Government and Public Safety Committee of Monday, December 8, 2014.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wilkins at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Grenke, Aldermen Magley, Ward, Vollrath, Wilkins, Bormann, and Lee; also attending were City Administrator Matt Harline, Gabe Martinez, Police Chief Dudgeon and James Smith of the Centralia Fireside Guard.

Those present participated in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

None.

PUBLIC SAFETY

City Prosecutor

No report.

Police Department

Wilkins asked for comments and questions about the Activity Report and there were none. Dudgeon stated that we will be over 6,000 incidents at the end of the year which is quite a bit ahead of where we were last year. Chief Dudgeon announced that he was prepared to fill the part-time position that was open. Dudgeon reported that he wants to fill the position with Dave Davenport at the next meeting. Dudgeon reported that Davenport is from Centralia and a full-time employee at the license bureau in Columbia.

Fire Department

None. Wilkins noted that there was no report in the packet and that Chief Rusch was not present. Harline noted that the packet is usually sent out by Phyllis Brown, and she was off today (Monday, December 8). Harline speculated that since the report is typically emailed to Phyllis on Monday, it is possible the report is sitting in her email. Harline said that the packet would be updated with the report included and that in the future the report is sent to multiple email addresses. Wilkins suggested that they could copy the Chairman of the Committee.

Emergency Management

Harline reported that the second meeting of the Boone County Hazard Mitigation Plan update group is on Tuesday. Harline note that we have been asked to report on what services Centralia provides and explained a little bit more about the process.

Protective Inspection

Harline reported there were 38 houses for sale and many lots for sale. Harline added that we have received 28 applications for single-family homes, many of those are sold before they are built. Harline added that he does not think there is any crisis with a low housing stock available.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT & FINANCE

Economic Development

Gabe Martinez, President of the CREDI Board reported that they were working hard on the January Fundraiser on the 17th at Nic and Noah's. Martinez noted half of the tables are sold already. They are working with the Columbia dinner train to get customers to return to Centralia for shopping. Martinez reported that John Best who operates America's Best motel in Shelbina spoke at the last meeting and gave guidance on how to make a hotel successful in Centralia.

Wilkins suggested that the City could purchase a table at the CREDI fundraiser on January 17. Bormann and Lee reported that they would be attending the event at other tables. Harline said that he thought that it would be good to support CREDI and that if the City had trouble filling the table the City Clerk and Police Chief could attend, or spouses could attend, but they would have to reimburse the City.

Park Board

Wilkins noted that the minutes from the November meeting and the Agenda for the December meeting were included in the packet. Harline reported that the signs are ordered for Janey Enlow Drive and there will be two even though it is a one-way street. Harline noted that it will be an official street in the Boone County 911 system.

Cemetery Report

Wilkins noted that there was no report in the packet. Harline noted that the Committee had discussed months ago the possibility of going out for proposals on mowing at the cemetery, and possibly have the Parks Department submit a proposal. Harline noted that Phyllis Brown who is the Sexton has said they do a good job but not perfect. Wilkins asked when the contract was up. Harline replied that it has been three years since the contract was last awarded and the contract. Harline could not remember exactly when the full third year was finished but the contract would renew each year unless one party gave notice. Harline said that Brown would be calling a meeting of the Cemetery Board to discuss the subject.

Tree Board Report

No report.

Library Board

The Chairman noted that the minutes and agenda for the next meeting were in the packet. Harline noted that he made a presentation at the last meeting and the Library Board endorsed the Safe Routes to Schools grant.

September Financial Statements

Harline noted that the City continues to see good numbers for sales tax revenues. Harline noted that we should be receiving a \$23,000 one-time settlement with CenturyLink for taxes due. Harline noted that there was going to be an 8% increase in the cost to the City for health insurance. Smith asked when the last time the City went out for formal bids for health insurance. Harline thought it was three or four years ago. Smith alleged that it had been many years. Bormann said he thought it had been recent. Harline noted that Anthem provides options every year.

Bills over \$1,250

The Committee reviewed the bills without comment. Harline noted that one bill paid for a replacement of the City Clerk's computer. Harline noted that when the Clerk's computer went down it required a lot of extra effort on the staff's part to get meters read and bills out.

Other General Government

Harline informed the Council that the last time the City Code had been updated online and in the code books was two years ago. Harline stated that he rarely used the book, preferring to use the online version instead. The current software format of the online edition of General Code, who bought Sullivan Publishing, is going away. Harline reported that he felt that Municipal Code should be allowed to compete for our business since we have to make a decision about new service. Harline reviewed the features and proposals from General Code and Muni

Code. Harline said he would send the Board a couple of sites from each service to look at and he would provide additional information and possibly he could get representatives of each company to address the Board. Either way Harline said he felt we needed to choose one of the options.

Harline reported that the City had received the final bill on the City Hall repairs. Watkins Roofing came in at budget. Harline said he thought the repairs made a difference but he said he saw some of the white coating coming off but he would look in to that.

Harline said that the City has informed CenturyLink that the City would be switching phone service over. Harline said it would happen soon but he needed to schedule that carefully as there would be a very brief interruption in phone service. After the phone service is switched Harline said he can resume looking for a new phone system. Once the Internet service is switched over, the City will be able to finally offer the promised online credit card payment option. He noted that there was a request to add a cell phone line for the corporal in the Police Department and possibly smart phones for the Water, Electric and Street Department Supervisors.

OTHER

None.

AS MAY ARISE

Harline noted that there will be a Central Region meeting of the Missouri Municipal League in Sedalia on Wednesday January 21st. Harline asked that they notify the City Clerk if they plan to attend.

ADJOURN

Bormann made a motion to adjourn that was seconded by Vollrath which was approved by unanimous voice vote at 7:39pm.

G:\City of Centralia\Council\working folder - 3rd Board of Alderman Meeting\Min - GG&PSC 12082014.docx