

Minutes of the meeting of the General Government and Public Safety Committee of the City of Centralia of Monday, February 9, 2015.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wilkins at 7:00 p.m. Present were Aldermen Magley, Ward, Vollrath, Wilkins, Bormann, and Lee; also attending were City Administrator Matt Harline, Gabe Martinez, Police Chief Dudgeon, Fire Chief Denny Rusch 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

Activity Report

Wilkins asked for comments and questions about the report and there were none.

Other

Chief Dudgeon reported that he was going to swear in a new officer named Tarwater at the Board of Aldermen meeting. Chief noted that he had done a training ride-along and he seemed like he was going to fit it well.

Fire Department

Annual and monthly Activity Reports

Wilkins asked for questions or comments and noted the number of EMS calls. Chiefs Rusch and Dudgeon noted that there had been a very high number of calls and more in February. Dudgeon added that the police and fire departments worked well together during the accident when a utility pole had been knocked down. Rusch noted that the power outage knocked out the power to the garage door which took a little extra time to respond. Harline noted that almost everyone had their power restored within 90 minutes but it took until about 9:30 to have power restored to the buildings immediately next to the pole. Wilkins noted that the police server backup failed.

Emergency Management

Harline reported that he planned to attend a training on rail car accidents.

Protective Inspection

Harline reported that he counted 37 houses available for sale at the end of January.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT & FINANCE

Economic Development

Gabe Martinez reported that the fundraiser on Saturday, January 17, 2015 raised about \$3,000. Martinez stated that CREDI had responded to a call from Bernie Andrews of REDI and we are on the prospect list for an auto manufacturer that needed to rent an existing building and we have one that fits their description. At the next meeting Andrews and Stacey Button the newly hired President of REDI will be attending the next CREDI meeting on February 24th. Martinez reported that he will be taking Andrews and Button on a tour of Centralia. Bormann asked if funding was included for CREDI in the next budget and Harline answered it is.

Park Board

Wilkins noted that there is agenda and minutes from the January meetings in the packet. Harline explained that the Park Board intended to adopt their budget at the next meeting in time for the City budget process.

Cemetery Report

Wilkins asked for the Cemetery report. Harline noted that a draft Request for Bids was included in the packet including a draft contract and bid form. Harline said that the goal was to get the request out later in the week so that the Committee could approve the best bid at the March meeting and the contract could be approved at the March Board of Aldermen meeting. Harline asked if the Committee had any comments or questions.

Tree Board Report

Wilkins asked for comments and questions about the report and there were none.

Library Board

Wilkins noted that the agenda for tomorrow's meeting (Tuesday, February 10) is in the packet. Wilkins asked for comments and questions about the report and there were none.

January Financial Statements & Bills over \$1,250

Harline noted that electric power revenue and power purchases are both under budget so he feels that the net will be as good or better than budgeted. Harline added that the Water department revenues are the lowest and they may come in at only 95% and they have more fixed costs but he is not concerned, yet.

Wilkins noted that there was rather short list of bills over \$1,250 and asked for comments and questions and there were none.

Other General Government

Wilkins asked for comments and questions about the report and there were none. Harline noted that he had included a City Administrator's report and asked if the Committee liked it. Wilkins stated that he didn't think it was a bad idea at all.

OTHER

Further Preliminary Budget Discussions

Harline said that he still did not have the costs for lining storm water culverts and so he would like to delay the discussion.

Selection Process for the Consultant on the Jefferson Street Sidewalk Project.

Harline explained the MODOT rules for hiring a consulting engineer. Harline noted that he included a memo in the packet that explained why he preferred selecting firms off the On-Call Consultant list. Even the shorter process requires the City to develop criteria and evaluate based on those criteria Harline noted. Harline said he felt Luebbert Engineering, the consultant we used to develop the grant, would do fine job but he preferred to avoid the longer process. Bormann explained that Luebbert only needed to take the LPA training to be fully certified and he preferred that we go through the longer process so Luebbert would be eligible to bid because she was most familiar with the process. Harline said if one aldermen prefers the longer process and there were no other opinions he was happy to develop a full RFP. Harline said he would ask Mayor Grenke to appoint a committee. Magley replied that he would be willing to serve when Harline asked.

AS MAY ARISE

Wilkins asked for any additional items and there were none.

ADJOURN

Vollrath made a motion to adjourn that was seconded by Magley and approved by unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm.

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