

Minutes of the General Government and Public Safety Committee meeting of Monday, November 9, 2015.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, David Wilkins at 7:00 p.m. Present also were Aldermen Dick Ward, Andrea Vollrath, Jim Lee and Don Bormann. Also attending were City Administrator Matt Harline, Fire Chief Denny Rusch, James Smith of the Fireside Guard. Mayor Tim Grenke, Alderman Landon Magley and Police Chief Larry Dudgeon arrived later.

Those present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Comments from Citizens – None.

Police Department

Wilkins asked if there were any questions and there were none. Harline noted that Chief Dudgeon would be arriving late as he was participating in an awards presentation at the School Board meeting.

Fire Department

Wilkins asked if there were any questions or comments. Bormann noted the large number of alarm calls. Rusch noted that sometimes it is the beeping of an alarm that made as the battery was dying. Rusch noted that they did the Halloween candy handout on Saturday, not Friday when the Chamber did it. Chief Rusch said that next year they might do there Trick-or-Treat on Monday at 2:00 with the Chamber because they saw a lot kids from out of town on Saturday night.

Emergency Management – None.

Protective Inspection

Update on 110-114 East Railroad Street: Harline stated the City staff and staff at the Boone County Resource Management have agreed to allow Clifford De La Rosa to reopen the permit that was closed in November 2005 for lack of activity. Harline added that the building code at the time stated that activity had to continue and an inspection must take place every six-months and since no inspections had been requested the permit was closed. Harline said that De La Rosa had been told at trial that since the Centralia City Code did not specify a time that a building permit closed he was told it was evergreen. Harline stated that in the letter that he sent to De La Rosa in September, he made it clear that De La Rosa could reopen the permit and continue under the code that was in place at the time of his original 2004 building permit. Harline said he sent a new letter restating that the permit needed to be reopened and that if it was not, the permit would be considered closed and the City could proceed with declaring the building a dangerous building. Harline added that this second letter was sent registered mail. Harline noted that the County suggested having the building condemned by the Fire Marshall. Rusch suggested that the City contact the State Fire Marshall since the City has never attempted to assert that authority. Harline said that the City would continue to pursue the rehabilitation or demolition of the building.

Rusch left for an emergency call.

Economic Development

CREDI Wilkins noted that the minutes from the last meeting were in the packet.

Grenke and Magley arrived.

Feasibility Study Update Harline stated that Growth Services Group had begun their work. Harline said he was preparing a list of people for interviews, which are critical to the process. He said that once the report is in hand then we would hope to proceed toward a ribbon cutting.

Park Department

Refinancing/Pool Renovations Status – IDA Board Meeting Harline explained that the City had accepted the proposal of Central Bank of Boone County but due to the nature of the proposal, it required a third party intermediary to accept the loan. The bank did not have structure that would work so the City would utilize the Industrial Development Authority (IDA). Harline said that the IDA would lease the recreation facility and the IDA would use that as collateral for the loan which they would use to do the improvements to the pool. The IDA would lease the Rec Center back to the City to operate. Harline said that the documents were being drawn up and the IDA Board of Directors will meet next Monday (November 16) prior to the Board's meeting and approve them. Harline said that the Board would then approve similar agreements to complete the deal. Harline reported that some demolition work was already underway.

Chief Dudgeon arrived.

Cemetery Advisory Committee - No report.

Tree Board

No report.

Library Board

Wilkins noted that there was an agenda and minutes in the packet. Harline reported that they were considering a bond issue either as a City or Library bond issue but had not decided what projects they wanted to pursue or which type of financing they wanted to use. Harline noted that the bond issue would be a topic of discussion at the meeting.

Finance

Financial statements for October were in the agenda packet. Harline said sales tax and utility fees were in line with the budget pretty well. Harline noted that the tipping fee in Columbia had been increased to to \$44/ton. Harline said that he may want to bring other options to the Committee for tipping fee including Love's Transfer station east of Mexico. There was a brief discussion about the other options.

Bills over \$1,250

Committee received a preliminary list of bills over \$1,250.

Other General Government

Retreat items Harline asked if December 12th late morning to early afternoon would work as a date for retreat for everyone. There was general agreement that time would work.

As May Arise

Wilkins noted that there were three months' worth of activity reports and that he found them useful.

Grenke noted that he and Alderman Magley and Chief Dudgeon had attended a very nice ceremony honoring those that had saved a little girl's life at the Chester Boren Middle School.

Magley asked about the status of the survey. Harline replied that the City had received about 180 surveys on paper and about a dozen on line. Harline stated he planned to have results ready by next Monday's meeting.

Harline stated in response to a question from Grenke that we do have a start date for the boring and that is November 30th. Harline added that the deadline to avoid additional costs from Kansas City Southern was December 10th and he felt they could complete the project before then. In answer to a question from Magley, Harline stated that he was not worried about frozen ground being a problem since most of the boring would be ten feet underground.

Grenke noted that he had held a Coffee with the Mayor the past Saturday and passed on some service requests. He added that State Representative Caleb Rowden had attended as well.

Magley noted that the street cut on the 600 block of Green Street had not yet been repaired to City standard with concrete.

Vollrath made a motion to adjourn the Committee meeting. Ward seconded the motion which was then approved by unanimous voice vote. The Committee then adjourned at 7:41 p.m.