

Minutes of the General Government and Public Safety Committee meeting Monday, April 10, 2017.

The meeting was called to order by Alderman Wilkins, Chairperson at 7:00 p.m.

I. ATTENDANCE.

Present were, Aldermen, Dick Ward, Landon Magley, Jim Lee, David Wilkins and Jim Lee. Also attending were City Administrator Matt Harline, Police Chief Larry Dudgeon, Fire Chief Denny Rusch, James Smith with the Fireside Guard. Citizens present included; Nicole Hudson, Savannah Rodgers, Brenda Moss, Jordan Cooper, Sierra Whitehead, Clint Baer, Stacy Snyder, Stephen Carper, Logan Feger, Sydney Hudson, Reagan Hudson, and other friends and family of the police dispatchers.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. MAYORAL PROCLAMATIONS

A. NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATIONS WEEK- APRIL 9-15, 2017

Mayor Grenke gave the Proclamation to Honor our Dispatchers. Chief Dudgeon wanted to comment on how exceptional our staff in Dispatch is. Moss wanted to say thank you and the staff from Dispatch all got together for a picture.

IV. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS.

None

V. PUBLIC SAFETY

A. Police Department:

1. *Activity Report:* Wilkins asked if there were any questions or comments on the Activity Report and there were none.

2. *Other:* None

B. Fire Department.

1. *Activity Report:* Wilkins asked if there were any questions or comments on the Activity Report.

Smith asked if the Phillips fire was an electrical fire and Rusch said that was his best guess.

Harline discussed cleaning the water tower and explained how the fire department took the deck gun and used it to clean the water tower. Harline reported that it was not as clean as they were hoping but it did help some. Rusch compared it to going through the automatic car wash in a white car, it was better, but not all the way clean. Harline said they had heavy winds, which made it hard to work but it does look better than before. Harline said that maybe we should get it cleaned professionally and then use the fire department could maintain it in the future to save money. Rusch said that would work. Harline noted that \$5,960.00 is the bid to have it professionally cleaned. The Committee made some suggestions about how the staff could do it ourselves. Harline said we could look at some options. Harline said we have the proof that the concept of cleaning the tower with the deck gun is possible as long as it is more frequent.

2. *Other:* - None

C. Emergency Management.

None.

D. Protective Inspection

1. *Demolition update:* Harline will be sending letters to residential houses that we had previously sent dangerous building notices. Harline said Darren Adams has taken out a demolition permit out for 523 S. Allen but the City gave him six months to demolish it because he does not yet have a good title. Harline said that the Maranatha Baptist Church has lost their standing as a corporation with the State so he would be working with Jim Ausmus to get that reinstated so that we could move forward there. One property on Railroad is down, but we need to proceed with 204 East Railroad. We will also be sending notices to the three commercial properties that would have been included in the grant that they will need to move forward with abatement. Harline stated that there are others that will be looked at after these. Harline noted that there will be a bill from MECO for the work they did on the grant, but we do have a price for demolition of these buildings in case it falls to us.

VI .GENERAL GOVERNMENT AND FINANCE

A. Economic Development.

1. *REDI* Harline reported that he had spoken with Bernie Andrews of REDI about a company that was interested in a location with rail access but the site that met the requirements did not have natural gas and it fell through.

2. Chamber of Commerce

Harline stated that there will be a meeting April 11, 2017 at noon.

B. Park Board

Wilkins asked if there were any questions or comments on the meeting minutes.

1. *Fireworks:* Harline stated that Erle Bennett wants to get a bid on fireworks to see if we can get a better price. Harline added that he had sent him names and numbers of several companies that other cities have used, J & M being one of them. Grenke asked about in the future years. Rusch said they have use J & M for years and have been happy.

C. Cemetery Report

None

D. Tree Board Report

1. *Arbor Day report:* Grenke reported that he had participated and that all of the fourth graders got a pine tree to plant. The turnout was good.

E. Library Board

Harline noted that he is going to talk to the Library Board about their water bill. Grenke noted that the 3D printer is up and running and Jack Meyer has written a grant to receive this.

F. March 2017 Financial Statements

Harline said this includes all of the revenues and expenditures for Fiscal Year 2017 but some things will change slightly after the audit. Harline said hopefully Dollar Tree and the new Dollar General will help out with sales tax revenue because shopping local is important.

G. Bills over \$1,250 = \$228,821.61

No comments made.

H. Other General Government.

1. *Agenda Reports:* Harline is working with Phyllis Brown in the office to see which reports take the most time and which do not, even if it is a lot of cut and paste. Harline is asking which reports are the most important and how often they are seen. Which are most valuable to the meetings? Are attaching the reports quarterly something that might work instead of monthly? Wilkins would like to think about it and discuss it later.

2. *Comprehensive Plan Update:* Harline said surveys had been sent out with the utility bills in the mail this month and also electronically. Harline said that he has noticed that in the electronic surveys we see more neutral or no opinion responses.

VII. Other

1. Preliminary draft for step increases for professional certifications

Harline said the first draft of an idea is in the memo included in the packet. Harline noted that it discusses the pay increases given based on length of service and poses the question if the employees that achieve professional certification should be compensated with faster progression through the steps. The example Harline gave of promotion for a Grade increase was the Water Trainee advances to Water Operator and Apprentice Linemen advancing to Linemen. Harline noted that the sewer and water department had several required certifications and they were seeking some tangible reward for achieving those certifications. Harline noted that the street department has an optional training program through MODOT called the "Roads Scholar program," Electric has the MPUA training program, and the Police have required training and the dispatch staff has to have MULES training. Harline wants to encourage training and asked the Aldermen for permission to look into this more and they agreed.

VIII. AS MAY RISE.

Grenke said he has spoken with a couple of landlords about inspection for rentals and they said that they should not all be held accountable for a few landlords being slumlords. Harline said in Moberly the landlords like the fact that the City inspections create a record that a dwelling was acceptable at one point and gives them so protection as an official record. Harline said you can provide housing at a lower cost if you don't have much invested in it. Harline said we have the legal authority to establish a minimal level of livability but we would have to include owner occupied property as well. Lee asked about houses that are sold "as is". Harline said you can sell it; after you fix you just have to get the occupancy before anyone lives in it. Grenke said one of the landlords asked who would be held accountable for \$30 cost to inspect. Harline said it would be the owner. Harline suggested that it would not be bad to eventually have our own inspector.

VIII. ADJOURN.

Magley, made a motion to adjourn the Committee meeting, Ward seconded the motion which was then approved by unanimous voice vote at 7:44 p.m.