



Board of Aldermen - Regular Meeting

Minutes

Monday, September 18, 2023 at 7:30 pm

CENTRALIA CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

114 S. Rollins Street, Centralia, MO 65240

1. CALL TO ORDER

Minutes:

Mayor Cox called the meeting to order at 6:51 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Minutes:

Aldermen Lonnie Cox, Robert Hudson, Harold Deckerd, Don Rodgers, and Landon Magley answered roll call. Alderman David Wilkins was absent.

Others present: Public Works & Utilities Director Matt Rusch, City Administrator Tara Strain, City Clerk Marilyn Dick, City Attorney Cydney Mayfield, Police Chief Harlan Hatton. Citizens present: Linda Bormann, James Smith with the Centralia Fireside Guard.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Minutes:

Mayor Cox led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Minutes:

Mayor Cox opened the floor for Comments from Citizens at 6:52 pm. Hearing no comments, the section was closed at 6:52 pm.

5. BARTLETT & WEST REPORTS

a. 2023-09-18-WTP Monthly Report

b. 2023-09-18-WWTP Monthly Report

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Approved as a group unless separated by request of one or more Aldermen. (Motion)

Minutes:

Alderman Deckerd made a motion to approve the consent agenda as published. Alderman Rodgers seconded the motion. On a call by the Mayor for ayes and nays the motion carried unanimously. Vote results: Aye 5; Nay 0; Absent 1.

a. Board of Aldermen Meeting Minutes

b. Collector's Report

c. Activity Reports

7. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE OVER \$1,250

Minutes:

Alderman Hudson made a motion to approve the accounts payable over \$1250, for a total of \$880,789.92. Alderman Deckerd seconded the motion. On a call by the Mayor for ayes and nays the motion carried unanimously.

Vote results: Aye 5; Nay 0; Absent 1.

ACTION AGENDA

8. FINANCE

a. City of Centralia WTP - Pay Request Form 13

Minutes:

Alderman Hudson made a motion to approve WTP pay request #13, for a total of \$1017.00. Alderman Deckerd seconded the motion. On a call by the Mayor for Ayes and Nays the motion carried unanimously.

Vote results: Aye 5; Nay 0; Absent 1.

b. Centralia WW Reimbursement Request #16 (labeled as #15 for DNR)

Minutes:

WW pay request #16 (labeled as #15 for DNR) was presented for discussion. The total fees of \$280,031.13 consisted of \$14,033.28 administrative fees, \$181,442.25 Remsel Excavating, and \$84,555.60 Martin General Contractors. Alderman Magley abstained from any discussion or vote. Alderman Hudson made a motion to approve WW pay request #16 (labeled as #15 for DNR) for a total of \$280,031.13. Alderman Rodgers seconded the motion. On a call by the Mayor for Ayes and Nays the motion carried. Vote results: Aye 4; Nay 0; Abstain 1 (Magley); Absent 1.

OLD BUSINESS

9. Discussion to create a sub-committee to improve occupancy ordinance

(MOTION)

Minutes:

Attorney Mayfield led discussion regarding the creation of a new sub-committee to provide input on the extensive revision of the city's occupancy ordinance. Mayfield requested a maximum of 3 board members meet to provide insight on the changes being requested. Aldermen Hudson, Deckerd, and Rodgers volunteered to serve on this sub-committee. Alderman Hudson made a motion to approve the creation of a sub-committee to improve the occupancy ordinance. Alderman Magley seconded the motion. On a call by the Mayor for Ayes and Nays the motion carried unanimously.

Vote results: Aye 5; Nay 0; Absent 1.

NEW BUSINESS

10. MAYOR

a. Appointments - Appoint Kristen Varags to finish Larry Dorman's term on Centralia Library Board

Minutes:

Alderman Hudson made a motion to approve the appointment of Kristen Varags to the Centralia Library Board, to complete the term formerly held by Larry Dorman, to expire in 2025. Alderman Deckerd seconded the motion. On a call by the Mayor for Ayes and Nays the motion carried unanimously. Vote results: Aye 5; Nay 0; Absent 1.

11. CITY ADMINISTRATOR

a. Monthly Report

Minutes:

City Administrator Strain reported that four abatement letters were mailed out; three certified letters have been returned as being served. A tentative hearing is scheduled for October 30.

Four RFP are currently active: rug services, park tree trimming, city IT services, and trash services. A city tree trimming RFP will be drafted soon.

12. CITY ATTORNEY

Minutes:

Attorney Mayfield stated she will keep the Board updated on the possible hearing regarding dangerous buildings in the city, and will notify the Board members of their roles in the hearing.

The next legislative session begins next month, and pre-filing of bills will begin soon. Mayfield will advise the Board of any bills that could impact municipalities.

13. CITY CLERK

Minutes:

City Clerk Marilyn Dick asked the Board for approval to offer city employees an incentive to participate in an upcoming Mirra sponsored health screening. In recent years employees were granted 4 hours of vacation time as an incentive to participate. Discussion was held and it was determined that the item will be placed on the agenda for the October Board meeting, for a proposed motion.

CLOSED SESSION*

*During the meeting, the Board of Aldermen may elect to go into closed session and hold a closed vote, and the purpose of such closed session and closed vote shall be:

1. As provided for under Section 610.021 (1) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri for legal actions, causes of action or litigation involving a public governmental body and any confidential or privileged communications between a public governmental body or its representatives and its attorneys;
2. As provided for under Section 610.021 (2) Leasing, purchase, or sale of real estate by a public governmental body where public knowledge of the transaction might adversely affect the legal consideration;

14. CLOSED SESSION

(MOTION)

Minutes:

Alderman Hudson moved the Board of Aldermen of the City of Centralia, Missouri hold a closed meeting and a closed vote, and the specific reason for closing the meeting and having a closed vote was: 1. As provided for under Section 610.021 (1) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri for legal actions, causes of action or litigation involving a public governmental body and any confidential or privileged communications between a public governmental body or its representatives and its attorneys. 2. As provided for under Section 610.021 (2) Leasing, purchase, or sale of real estate by a public governmental body where public knowledge of the transaction might adversely affect the legal consideration; therefore. Alderman Hudson asked that this motion be adopted by roll call vote. The motion was seconded by Alderman Deckerd The motion passed with the following vote. Aldermen voting FOR: Hudson, Cox, Rodgers, Deckerd, and, Magley. Voting AGAINST: None. Absent: Wilkins. The meeting went into closed session at 7:15 p.m.

15. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

(MOTION)

Minutes:

During closed session, only legal and real estate matters were discussed, and no vote was taken. Alderman Hudson made a motion to return to open session. Alderman Rodgers seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following vote. Aldermen voting FOR: Hudson, Cox, Magley, Rodgers, Deckerd. Voting AGAINST: None. Absent: Wilkins. The meeting returned to open session at 7:25 pm.

RESUME REGULAR SESSION

16. AS MAY ARISE

Minutes:

Alderman Rodgers requested a financial overview of the WW and WTP projects, to review the total expenditures and/or bond balances. Administrator Strain will prepare the reports.

17. ADJOURN

Minutes:

There being no further business to discuss, Alderman Deckerd made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Alderman Hudson seconded the motion. On a call by the Mayor for Ayes and Nays the motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 pm.