

## **Minutes of the General Government and Public Safety Committee meeting of Monday, January 11, 2016.**

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

Those present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Grenke spoke about Larry Reichert who passed away recently. Grenke noted that that he had worked with Reinhardt Construction but he was really impressed with his service to the Patriot Guard and the Honor Flight. He asked that those present observe a moment of silence, and those present did so.

Comments from Citizens – None.

### Police Department

Wilkins asked if there were any questions and there were none.

### Fire Department

Wilkins asked if there were any questions or comments on the Activity Report. Wilkins noted that there were annual numbers included as well. Bormann noted that one area jumped out at you (EMS calls). Grenke asked how many bags we gave out this year 1,250 or 1,260. He said that they might need to fill 1,300 bags next year. Rusch said that the chassis for the fire truck might been in this week.

Emergency Management – None.

### Protective Inspection

Harline reported that we ended up with 23 permit applications for single family dwellings which was down from 28 the year before but looks like our best two years in a long time.

### Economic Development

*CREDI* Wilkins noted that there were minutes from the last meeting in the packet. Harline said that the City would be purchasing a table at the event on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. The City would cover the cost for Alderman but spouses/guests would have to pay their share of the table which would be \$37.50. Smith asked if either of the two economic development organizations were looking for a new physician for Centralia. Harline said that he had asked around, with physicians and the single practitioner's office was a dying breed.

*Feasibility Study Update* Harline stated that Growth Services Group would be making a presentation at the next Board meeting with a public open house before the meeting at 6:30 p.m. Harline stated that they would then make a short presentation at the official Board meeting. Harline said that presentation would have the guts of the study, and then the final report would incorporate final numbers and be sent shortly after.

Harline noted that the City had received a building permit application for a new Dollar General at the intersection of Hwy 124 and Hwy 22.

#### Park Department

*Pool refinancing update* Harline reported that Westport Pools was making progress on the renovations to the pool and the first bills have come through for the IDA to pay. Harline said that he believes we are still on track to be open by Memorial Day.

#### Cemetery Advisory Committee –

Harline said that a copy of the donation letter from the Truman Cooley estate is in the packet. Harline explained that he wanted to acknowledge publicly the receipt of the donation in the amount of \$30,000.

Tree Board – Wilkins noted that there was no report. Grenke stated that he had signed the annual request for the City to be recognized as a “Tree City” again. Grenke added that he spoke to John Kottwitz about the idea of holding a Tree Board meeting in anticipation of Arbor Day activities in April.

#### Library Board

Wilkins noted that there was an agenda and minutes in the packet. Harline acknowledged that Laurie Grimes was here to discuss the possibility of the City adding the Library Director to the City’s health insurance and to discuss progress on hiring a new director. Bormann asked how this would affect us. Harline said that he assumed that the library would cover that expense. Harline noted that adding one more person might push us over the limit for the Affordable Care Act major employer category. Grimes greeted the Committee and said that the Library could not afford to pay the cost of the health insurance so it would only work if the City could afford to cover the additional cost. Grimes stated that they had received fifteen resumes and were working toward setting up interviews. Grimes said she understood that Raven Harline had been appointed to the Board and noted that the passing of Larry Reichert opened an additional seat. Grimes stated that the Library Board would look for volunteers to fill the position. Grimes added that until the Library built up their reserves they couldn’t consider adding the cost of health insurance.

#### Finance

Financial statements for December were in the agenda packet. Harline said that next month would contain information and discussion about the budget.

#### Bills over \$1,250

Wilkins noted that the Committee received a preliminary list of bills over \$1,250. Wilkins noted the large refund payment for a water bill. Harline noted that there was a problem with programming and accounting for the multiplier on the new water meter at the Intermediate School.

#### Other General Government

*Ballot language for the Vehicle Sales Tax issue* Harline explained that the Board approved language for a ballot issue for a vehicle sales tax using the language recommended by the MML (Mo Municipal League). Harline said that with the language we adopted a voter would have to vote “No” to approve the reinstatement of the tax. Harline reported that Boone County and Hallsville were likely to adopt ballot language where a voter would have to vote “Yes” to approve the reinstatement of the tax. Bormann noted that would be confusing. Orsini asked if she understood correctly that there was a penalty if the City put this on the ballot in November. Harline said that there would be a significant cost to the City to put this on the ballot in August or November. Orsini said that she felt that the

additional voter turnout would warrant moving the election to November. Bormann noted that it makes sense to do it at the same time as the County and if it failed we would have the option of putting it before the voters again if we went for an election in April. Harline said that he would try and get cost estimates. Harline asked if anyone wanted to make a motion to draft the ordinance overturning the previous ordinance. Bormann said that he did not think a motion was necessary. Harline asked if anyone objected and there was no reply from the Committee.

*Energy Savings Project preliminary assessment:* Harline reported that Greg Modlish would be coming back with a report in February to present three potential projects for energy saving projects that would be funded by energy cost savings paying off bonds. Harline stated that the first project was replacing street lights with LED lights. Harline explained that the biggest gain. The second project which would include replacing the water meters with a net potential savings of \$1 million dollars over the course of 20 years if the current meters have lost a certain level of accuracy. The third project, Harline said, was to do upgrades to lighting and heating in City Hall. Harline said that a presentation would be made at the meeting of February 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### Other

*2015 Citizen Survey Results:* Harline said that the Final Report was complete and was generally positive except for sidewalks, storm water and nuisance abatement. Harline reported that more people replied this year (202 versus 122 for last year). Harline noted that they already discussed some of this at the retreat and one of the ideas was to go out for bids on sidewalk repairs both for city projects and to be available to citizens repairing their sidewalk. Harline said the report would be made widely available.

#### As May Arise

Harline reported that there will be two change orders on the Board agenda next week. One is an additional \$17,000 or so for the flagmen which we knew would be coming. The other change order is a \$2,500 deduct because we agreed to do the landscaping.

Grenke noted that there would a meeting on Monday as the 18<sup>th</sup> was a state holiday but not a City holiday.

Wilkins noted that there will be a meeting of the Technology Committee on the 21<sup>st</sup> at 4:00 p.m. Harline said that he has draft RFPs for a phone system and one for IT service to be reviewed.

Chief Dudgeon reported on blackout day for JV and varsity basketball games on the upcoming Friday.

**Grenke made a motion to adjourn the Committee meeting. Lee seconded the motion which was then approved by unanimous voice vote. The Committee then adjourned at 7:47 p.m.**