

## **Minutes of the General Government and Public Safety Committee meeting of Monday, March 14, 2016.**

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

### I. ATTENDANCE.

Present also were Mayor Tim Grenke, Aldermen Landon Magley, Dick Ward, David Wilkins Jim Lee and Don Bormann. Also attending were City Administrator Matt Harline, Fire Chief Denny Rusch, Police Chief Larry Dudgeon, Jessica Orsini, and James Smith of the Fireside Guard. Terry Cassil and Daniel De La Rosa arrived late.

### II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Those present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### III. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS.

#### IV. PUBLIC SAFETY.

##### Police Department

*Activity Report:* Wilkins noted that the report was in the packet and asked if there were any questions or comments on the Activity Report. Chief Dudgeon thanked Mr. Wilkins for his assistance with some computer works that they had done.

*Budget Requests:* Harline noted that it may be necessary to adopt the budget at a recessed meeting on March 28<sup>th</sup> as the final version was still not complete. Harline said that late negotiations with the union and a delay in getting the chart of accounts conversions were partially responsible for the late completion of the budget.

*Other:* Chief Dudgeon noted that he had taken possession of a 2016 Chevrolet Cruze from Forrest Chevrolet on a free lease. Chief Dudgeon said that he was grateful for the car and he would find a use for it adding that he would probably sell the 2007 Chevrolet Impala and put the car he had been driving back into the fleet. Chief Dudgeon noted that the car was white and had no advertising on it. He replied to a question from Bormann that it does not have a "police package."

##### Fire Department.

*Activity Report:* Wilkins asked if there were any questions or comments on the Activity Report. Mayor Grenke asked about the progress on the fire truck and Fire Chief Denny Rusch noted that there was a website where you could watch the progress of the assembly. Wilkins asked what a KED-board was. Chief Rusch replied that it was like a back board except that it can slide underneath you in a car as you might need during an accident.

*Budget Requests:* Harline noted that there was no really big changes. Harline noted that there were two new firefighters coming on staff and the City would need to purchase equipment for them but there was sufficient funds even this year to cover that.

##### Emergency Management.

*Introduction of Terry Cassil:* Cassil introduced himself as the incoming Emergency Management Director (EMD) for Boone County and would like Centralia to name him as the EMD for the City as well. Cassil explained that he had served for 21 years on the Columbia Fire Department and then some time as Chief of Operations for the State Emergency Management Agency. Cassil reported that he would get access to the newly constructed Boone County Emergency Management Center in early June, start moving people in in August

and then there would be a grand opening on Sunday, September 11 and the Board was all invited to attend. Cassil explained that in the office would be him, Deputy EMD and the rest of his staff. Cassil reported that he would like to see if he could get grant funds to install gates to close roads that frequently flood. Cassil asked for questions. Harline thank Cassil for getting to Centralia so quickly from Hallsville and that the City had officially appointed him as EMD for Centralia on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Harline handed Cassil the completed form. Cassil spoke briefly about the County taking over the maintenance of the City's sirens. Cassil said that the County was working with the Rave electronic notification system as was Stephens College, the Columbia Public School District and the University of Missouri. Lee asked about the existing Nixel service. Cassil reported that this would replace Nixel and explained the limitations of Nixel.

#### Protective Inspection.

Mayor Grenke noted that the old Maranatha Baptist Church was showing signs of the walls sagging and falling down. Harline said that he was aware of the state of disrepair and that one limitation was the ownership of that building. Grenke added that the door was standing open.

### V.GENERAL GOVERNMENT AND FINANCE.

#### Economic Development.

Wilkins noted that there were minutes from the CREDI meeting. Wilkins asked about the status of the hotel project. Bormann and Harline said that it was moving forward but that at this point the City, CREDI and the Chamber were merely in a support role as the group of interested investors looked at the options.

#### Park Board

Wilkins noted that Park Board meeting minutes were in the packet.

*Pool improvements update:* Harline reported that he had spoken recently with Boone County Resource Management (BCRM) on the plans submitted by Reinhardt and BCRM wants to see some changes made. Harline said that the Park Board had an aggressive schedule and to keep on that schedule, Engineering Surveys and Services would inspect the footers and foundation. Harline stated that eventually they would stop the progress if the plans did not conform to the code. Bormann and Grenke asked about the timeline and Harline said that they hoped to open by Memorial Day. Lee asked if there was an additional charge for Engineering Surveys and Services and Harline replied that there would be.

*Park Budget:* Wilkins noted that it was included in the packet. Harline said that the Park was very conservative in their projections of sales tax. Harline noted that the sales tax had slowed in the last few months. Harline noted that the pool might never be self-sufficient but it was doing much better. Harline noted that all of the expenses for concessions will be budgeted in the pool and the park concessions will be recorded there to be more efficient.

#### Cemetery Advisory Committee.

No report.

#### Tree Board.

Grenke noted that he would be joining the fourth grade classes at Centralia Intermediate School on April 1<sup>st</sup> to celebrate Arbor Day and he will be reading a proclamation.

#### Library Board

Wilkins noted that there were minutes and an agenda in packet. Harline noted that the Library had selected a new Director but he could not remember his name.

### Finance

Financial statements for February 2016, were in the agenda packet. Harline said that property tax was doing very nicely and most of the increase is in the library district as well, but he had revised his projections for sales tax downward. Harline said that if we don't match the huge month we had in March 2015, we will end up short of last year's revenues for sales tax. Harline noted that there was new retail on the way.

### Bills over \$1,250

Wilkins noted that the Committee received a preliminary list of bills over \$1,250, equal to \$282,446.45 on page 91 of the packet.

### Other General Government

*General Government Budget Request:* Harline said a draft of the budget was included in the packet but an update with complete numbers would be available soon.

*Revised fireworks ordinance:* Wilkins noted the memo in the packet on the revised fireworks ordinance. Chief Dudgeon asked about the upshot of the request. Harline stated the memo includes the language he would put in a new ordinance unless feedback from the Committee suggested differently. Harline spoke about a City permit for fireworks and the amount Centralia might charge. Bormann asked what Boone County required adding that the City can't charge much more or no one would set up a stand in the City. Chief Dudgeon asked why the New Year's part was added. Grenke noted that many people like to shoot off fireworks at New Years. Lee, Magley and Bormann said that they did not see any need to change the rules regarding what was allowed to be discharged in the City. Chief Dudgeon noted that they got lots of calls about fireworks. Magley said that he didn't see a need to allow sales in the winter. Chief Dudgeon stated that he didn't see value in changing the rules about what or when fireworks could be used in the City. Bormann and Wilkins said that the signage requirement should note that there are fireworks that can be sold but not used within the City.

Magley asked about private displays of fireworks as had happened when streets in Cobblestone subdivision were closed. Chief Dudgeon said that he can't enforce anything outside of the City limits. Harline noted that individuals cannot shut down City streets. Lee noted that the City had restrictions to Class C or "Consumer Fireworks." Harline noted that display fireworks required permission of the Board of Aldermen by resolution.

Harline asked what the pleasure of the Committee was in regard to the date to cut off sales. After discussion the Committee agreed to go with the State regulations – July 10<sup>th</sup>. Harline asked if the Committee wanted to lengthen the time use of fireworks was allowed. Bormann and others said that they did not want the use restrictions relaxed. Bormann said that he felt on the other things we should follow the County closely because the main reason to change anything was to try to capture some of the sales tax so any restrictions tighter than the County's would undermine that.

### VI. OTHER.

Harline said that the reason he had put the closed meeting item on the agenda so that the Board could discuss the proposed wage increases and promotions as allowed for under State Law.

### VII. CLOSED MEETING

**Bormann made a motion the meeting, the Board of Aldermen go into closed session and possibly hold a closed vote, for the purpose of such closed session and closed vote shall be, as provided for under Section 610.021(3) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri for hiring, firing, disciplining or promoting of particular employees by a public governmental body. Vollrath seconded the motion, the ayes and nays were recorded: Aye: Magley, Ward, Vollrath, Bormann, Lee, Grenke, and Wilkins. Nay: None. No abstentions and none absent.**

The Board entered into closed session at 8:05 p.m...

The Board discussed the wage increases for cost of livings and non-mandatory grade and position promotions. The Board also discussed the evaluation of the City Administrator, the City Attorney and the Police Chief. No vote was taken.

**The Board voted at 8:59 p.m. to return to open session on a motion that was made by Ward and seconded by Lee. The ayes and nays were recorded: Aye: Magley, Ward, Vollrath, Bormann, Lee, Grenke, and Wilkins. Nay: None. No abstentions and none absent.**

Wilkins called the meeting back to order at 9:02 p.m.

VIII. AS MAY RISE.  
None.

IX. ADJOURN.  
**Magley made a motion to adjourn the Committee meeting. Vollrath seconded the motion which was then approved by unanimous voice vote at 9:03 p.m.**