

MARCH 01, 2022
BOARD OF ALDERMEN MINUTES
7:00 P.M.

Mayor Sullivan called the regular meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. on March 01, 2022 at 101 West Broadway.

Mayor Sullivan gave the invocation.

Mayor Sullivan led in the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Sullivan called the roll:

Ward One: Nathan Volkart-here, Jean Selby-absent
Ward Two: Melissa Old-here, Stephanie Bell-here
Ward Three: Rick Lewis-here, Dorise Slinker-here

Staff Present: Darla Sapp, City Clerk, Gabe Edwards, Police Chief, James Creel, Public Works Director, Kyle Michel, City Administrator, Nathan Nickolaus, City Attorney, Shelley Martin, Treasurer and John Conway, City Engineer.

Mayor Sullivan presented the minutes of the February 15, 2022 Board meeting for consideration. Alderwoman Old made motion to approve the minutes as presented. Alderman Slinker seconded the motion. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Motion carried.

Mayor Sullivan presented the agenda for consideration. Alderwoman Old made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Alderman Lewis seconded the motion. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Motion carried.

Mayor Sullivan stated there are no scheduled public comments. He stated as a reminder if you want to speak on an item that is not listed on the agenda you must request in writing to the City Clerk the Wednesday prior to the meeting. He stated there is a public speaking portion at the end of the meeting.

Mayor Sullivan presented Council Bill No. 2022-005, an ordinance to amend Chapter 2 as it pertains to compensation of the Mayor. Alderman Slinker recused himself from the meeting as he is a candidate for Mayor. Alderwoman Old made motion and seconded by Alderman Lewis to take up for consideration Council Bill No. 2022-005, an ordinance to amend Chapter 2 as it pertains to compensation of the Mayor. Mayor Sullivan stated he is the one that asked this to be put on the agenda. Alderman Lewis gave the history of why this ordinance was initially passed was because the Mayor was acting in the roll of City Administrator and it took him away from his regular job, which caused a financial burden on him. He stated his thoughts personally is to get rid of this expense. He stated at the candidate training session the candidates is aware this stipend may go away. Mayor Sullivan called for comments or questions from the Board. Alderwoman Old questioned if it was normal for a community of our size to pay a stipend. Nathan Nickolaus, City Attorney, reported most Cities compensate the Mayor and Council members. He stated traditionally the Mayor gets more compensation than the Aldermen. The Board discussed the stipend for the Mayor and the possibility of the Board of Aldermen. Nathan Nickolaus stated if we add a stipend to the Aldermen the newly elected officials will get the stipend but the others have to wait another year. It was discussed in a small community the Mayor does a lot of extra duties. Mayor Sullivan called for comments from the public. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderman Volkart-aye, Alderwoman Bell-aye, Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderman Lewis-aye, Alderwoman Selby-absent. Motion carried.

Alderman Slinker returned to the Board table.

Mayor Sullivan presented Ordinance No. 1392, an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a wastewater operations and maintenance agreement with Boone County Regional Sewer District. Alderwoman Old made motion and seconded by Alderman Slinker to take up for consideration Ordinance No. 1392, an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a wastewater operations and maintenance agreement with Boone County Regional Sewer District. Mayor Sullivan called for the staff report. John Conway, City Engineer, stated there are no changes from the staff report that was given at the last meeting. Meeting. Nathan Nickolaus, City Attorney stated this contract will begin June 1, 2022 since we need to give 90 days' written notice to Alliance Water Resources. Alderman Lewis asked if Alliance Water Resource has been notified of this. Nathan Nickolaus, City Attorney, reported they have been notified. Mayor Sullivan called for questions or comments from the Board. Alderwoman Old questioned if they would have an employee working 40 hours per week on site. It was reported they would have and they would be working with our employees in training them. Mayor Sullivan called for public comments. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderman Slinker-aye, Alderman Lewis-aye, Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderwoman Bell-aye, Alderman Volkart-aye, Alderwoman Selby-absent. Motion carried.

Mayor Sullivan presented Ordinance No. 1393, an ordinance adopting the revised Personnel Manual. Alderwoman Old made motion and seconded by Alderwoman Bell to take up for consideration Ordinance No. 1393, an ordinance adopting the revised Personnel Manual. Mayor Sullivan called for the staff report. Kyle Michel, City Administrator, stated the only change was the addition of Juneteenth to the holidays. He stated Tony St. Romaine recommended adding this paid holiday. Kyle Michel, City Administrator stated the City currently has eight paid holidays. He stated this is a state and federal holiday as well. Mayor Sullivan called for comments from the public. Mayor Sullivan called for questions or comments from the Board. It was stated there is still some errors in the table of contents. Alderman Lewis questioned the discount with the YMCA. Shelley Martin, City Treasurer, stated there is a 25 percent discount for city staff. She stated she received clarification that the Police Department gets free full access but regular employees have to pay the additional fee. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderman Volkart-aye, Alderwoman Bell-aye, Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderman Lewis-aye, Alderman Slinker-aye, Alderwoman Selby-absent. Motion carried.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Sullivan stated he had no report.

Administrator's Report:

Kyle Michel, City Administrator gave an overview of meetings he has attended this week. He stated they met with the developers of Middle Creek development and are looking at sewer extension options. He stated he has attended two meetings on Ranken development and the Perry Avenue extension. He stated they would be having a lunch meeting with the school on timing and scheduling of Perry Avenue extension. He stated there would be a ground breaking in the next few months. Kyle Michel, City Administrator informed the Board he has made it around to all departments with the exception of the water department. He stated he has met with the department heads and looked at their facility. He stated he continues in digest and ingest that. He stated he has had two meetings reference the use tax ballot issue and stated we need to start educating the citizens. He informed the Board of the elected officials training on June 9 and 10 in Columbia, Missouri. He asked the Board if they are interested in attending to let us know and we would get them registered.

Alderwoman Bell questioned if the City could discuss the Use Tax information at the Chamber's candidate forum on March 21st. Kyle Michel, City Administrator reported he would check on this. Nathan Nickolaus, stated the Missouri Municipal League has some premade advertisements to use on the Use Tax.

City Attorney's Report:

Nathan Nickolaus had no report.

Police Chief's Monthly Report:

Chief Edwards stated his report was in the packet and contained two months of stats.

Board of Aldermen's Reports:

Alderman Slinker questioned how the farmers market was going to work. Mayor Sullivan stated the contract is in the works and the details have not been worked out yet. Alderman Slinker questioned the snow removal, how much would be charged and if vendors need to have a business license. Mayor Sullivan stated he hoped to present this at the next meeting for first and second reading. He stated the agreement would be with River Region Credit Union, the Y.M.C.A. and the City.

Alderman Slinker questioned the final cost on the roundabout. James Creel, Public Works Director stated the close out is scheduled for Tuesday of next week. He stated they are waiting on street signs and would be working through these issues.

Alderman Slinker questioned if we ever considered installing street cameras on our City streets. Chief Edwards, stated it might be a violation of civil rights plus it would be a cumbersome expense. Nathan Nickolaus, City Attorney stated it might be a question of if it is constituently. James Creel, Public Works Director stated they looked at cameras in the park to curb vandalism. Chief Edwards stated that 4 cameras was around \$8,000.00 plus the annual license fee. The Board discussed this. Alderwoman Bell suggested maybe cameras in high traffic areas but not residential areas.

Alderman Slinker reported an ice cream shop is going to open in July at the old City Hall building.

Mayor Sullivan stated he would like to see a call box in the Community Park that was previously discussed. James Creel, Public Works Director, reported they got one from the Columbia Parks and Recreation to use at the old Police Department building and it was not functional. He stated it was determined there is enough cell phones around. Mayor Sullivan stated for safety issues at the park he would like to see this pursued.

Shelley Martin, Treasurer, suggested they contact the 911 Director and see if they have any grants available for this. Chief Edwards stated he would be interested in a call box outside of the Police Department as well for emergency use.

Mayor Sullivan questioned if the City had a street sweeper. He stated the roundabouts look awful and needs to be swept. James Creel, Public Works Director, stated they have an attachment for the skid loader but it does not clean gutters. He stated it is more used to clean up after a project. The Board discussed purchasing a street sweeper. James Creel, Public Works Director, stated the roundabouts are the States and he would reach out to them about sweeping them.

Alderwoman Bell discussed scheduling a clean-up activity in our community. She stated it would be a family activity. Mayor Sullivan stated he would be in favor of this.

James Creel, Public Works Director, stated they could possibly rent a street sweeper. Nathan Nickolaus, City Attorney, stated there are companies that do this and we could possibly contract this out.

Mayor Sullivan called for additional comments from the public.

Mike Frese, 5775 Charlotte Drive, stated the City has been better than previous but has a lot more room to improve. He expressed concern in the deficit spending. He questioned how much are onetime expenses. He suggested 5 year forecasts should be provided. He questioned moving \$50,000 from the Court Fund to subsidize police expenditures. He stated it should be placed in general fund. He stated a huge turnout at

the April election is expected due to the school board race. He stated he did not feel those people would vote in favor of the use tax. He stated in his opinion the Ashland Betterment Coalition funding for the part-time Director should be eliminated. He stated he did not think that Cape Girardeau and Clinton, Missouri is good comparable cities to Ashland. Those areas have a lot of tourism, is twice as big and have a cool historic downtowns. He stated there should be better idea of some towns we can model after. He felt this \$35,000 could be better allocated. He questioned why the water fund was the piggy bank for funding. Mike Frese questioned some of allocating through budget. He questioned the \$2.00 collection and where that went. He suggested the parks and storm water be separate documents and questioned the reserves.

Mayor Sullivan called for comments or questions from the Board or staff.

Mayor Sullivan stated it is concerning the Board can't speak directly in favor of the use tax. Nathan Nickolaus stated we can educate not advocate.

Mayor Sullivan called for the vote to adjourn the meeting. Alderman Slinker made motion and seconded by Alderman Lewis to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Motion carried.

Darla Sapp, City Clerk

Richard Sullivan, Mayor