

APRIL 06, 2021
BOARD OF ALDERMEN MINUTES
7:00 P.M.

Mayor Sullivan called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on April 06, 2021 via zoom.

Mayor Sullivan reminded everyone we use zoom as the official meeting and we will not be seeing any other social media comments or questions. He stated the comments referred at the last meeting about political candidates was iffy and we need to be careful with comments of this nature. He stated we need to discuss city business and that alone. He stated that Alderman Lewis will not be here tonight and our thoughts and prayers are with him in recovering from surgery. He stated the surgery went well. Mayor Sullivan stated the polls closed at 7:00 p.m. tonight and he hoped everyone went out to vote today. He asked the Board to remember Alderman Lewis in our thoughts and prayers and to Dorise Slinker as he lost his father this evening.

Mayor Sullivan gave the invocation.

Mayor Sullivan led in the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Sullivan called the roll:

Ward One: Nathan Volkart-here, Bryan Bradford-here
Ward Two: Melissa Old-here, Stephanie Bell-here
Ward Three: Rick Lewis-absent, Jeff Sapp-here

Staff Present: Darla Sapp, City Clerk, Jeff Kays, City Attorney, Dan Vande Voorde, Building Inspector, Lelande Rehard, Assistant City Administrator, James Creel, Public Works Director, Tony St. Romaine, City Administrator and Chief Edwards.

Mayor Sullivan presented the minutes of the March 11 & March 16, 2021 Board meeting for consideration. Alderman Sapp made motion to approve the minutes with the amendment of the spelling of Chris Sanders be changed to Chris Sander on the March 11 meeting minutes. Alderwoman Old seconded the motion. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Motion carried.

Mayor Sullivan presented the agenda for adjustments. Being none, he called for the motion to approve the agenda. Alderman Sapp made motion and seconded by Alderman Volkart to approve the agenda as presented. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Motion carried.

Mayor Sullivan presented the re-appointment of Marcy Wood to serve on the Parks & Recreation Board. Alderman Sapp made motion and seconded by Alderwoman Old to re-appoint Marcy Wood to the Parks and Recreation Board. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderman Bradford-(technology problems no vote), Alderman Volkart-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye, Alderwoman Bell-aye, Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderman Lewis-absent. Motion carried.

Mayor Sullivan presented the re-appointment of Amy Banning to serve on the Parks and Recreation Board. Alderman Sapp made motion and seconded by Alderwoman Old to re-appoint Amy Banning to the Parks & Recreation Board. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderman Bradford-aye, Alderman Volkart-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye, Alderwoman Bell-aye, Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderman Lewis-absent. Motion carried.

Mayor Sullivan presented the re-appointment of Marsha Lessley to the serve on the Parks and Recreation Board. Alderman Sapp made motion and seconded by Alderwoman Old to re-appoint Marsha Lessley to serve on the Parks & Recreation Board. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderwoman Bell-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye, Alderman Volkart-aye, Alderman Bradford-aye, Alderman Lewis-absent. Motion carried.

Mayor Sullivan reported there are no scheduled comments. He reminded everyone that if you wish to have a scheduled comment it needs to be in writing to the City Clerk on the Wednesday prior to the Board meeting. He stated zoom is the primary way of communication for this meeting. He stated this is on face-book but it is not part of the official meeting. He stated there is opportunity for the public to speak on items on the agenda.

Mayor Sullivan opened the Public Hearing on the Budget & Capital Improvement Plan. Mayor Sullivan called for the staff report. Tony St. Romaine, City Administrator reported the two documents are fairly large and he explained the Capital Improvement Plan being a long term planning document and it changes. He stated it is an unfunded document but lists out the priority projects. He gave an overview of the budget packet and detailed budget message with the projects that have been completed. He stated covid did not impact our sales tax revenue. Mayor Sullivan stated Jon Sanders will share his presentation then he would open it up for public comment.

Jon Sanders, Treasurer gave a power point presentation of the budget estimated revenues and expenditures. He stated they are planning on hiring additional personnel in various departments, some new vehicles and equipment, and acquiring a new software system. He stated there are also plans for upgrading the park system. He discussed the street department projects planned and equipment needs. Jon Sanders gave an overview of the water enterprise fund and valve and hydrant replacement, GIS mapping, tower maintenance and using a portion of that fund for the City Hall building. He highlighted the sewer budget and plans for rehabbing sewer mains and manholes, rebuild Eastside lift station and GIS mapping. He stated this is the last year of the contract with Alliance Water Resources and we can outsource it or City can hire our own personnel. Alderwoman Old stated there was an error in the projected revenue/expenditures. Jon Sanders gave an overview of the capital fund and the projected expenditures coming out of it. The Board asked various questions throughout the presentation. Lelande Rehard, Assistant City Administrator and Tony St. Romaine, City Administrator encouraged the Board to read the summary pages of both documents.

Mayor Sullivan presented Council Bill No. 2021-016, an ordinance adopting the fiscal year 2022 Capital Improvement Plan for the City of Ashland. Alderman Sapp made motion and seconded by Alderwoman Bell to take up Council Bill No. 2021-016, an ordinance adopting the fiscal year 2022 Capital Improvement Plan for the City of Ashland. Mayor Sullivan called for a staff report. Mayor Sullivan called for comments from the public. Mayor Sullivan called for comments or questions from the Board. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderman Bradford-aye, Alderman Volkart-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye, Alderwoman Bell-aye, Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderman Lewis-absent. Motion carried.

Mayor Sullivan presented Council Bill No. 2021-017, an ordinance adopting an annual Budget for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2021 and appropriating funds pursuant thereto. Alderman Sapp made motion and seconded by Alderwoman Old to take up Council Bill No. 2021-017, an ordinance adopting an annual budget for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2021 and appropriating funds pursuant thereto. Mayor Sullivan called for the staff report. Tony St. Romaine stated we went over this in the budget hearing and this is the first reading of the budget and second reading will be on April 20, 2021. Mayor Sullivan called for public comment. Mayor Sullivan called for Board comments. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderwoman Bell-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye, Alderman Volkart-aye, Alderman Bradford-aye, Alderman Lewis-absent. Motion carried.

Mayor Sullivan presented Council Bill No. 2021-018, an ordinance amending Chapter 14, Sewer, Water & Solid Waste. Alderman Sapp made motion and seconded by Alderman Bradford to take up Council Bill No. 2021-018, an ordinance amending Chapter 14, Sewer, Water & Solid Waste. Mayor Sullivan called for the staff report. Lelande Rehard, Assistant City Administrator thanked Carrie Fischer for her work on this policy document and code changes. He stated one change is the lawn irrigation meter and how it is handled after construction of the home. He stated this is not installed by the staff but by the irrigation or plumbing company. He stated the other change is changing the wording from disconnect fee to final notice fee. He stated this is more transparent. Mayor Sullivan called for comments from the public. Mayor Sullivan called for the questions or comments from the Board. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderwoman Bell-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye, Alderman Volkart-aye, Alderman Bradford-aye, Alderman Lewis-absent. Motion carried.

Mayor Sullivan presented Council Bill No. 2021-019, an ordinance authorizing the City of Ashland, Missouri to enter in a lease purchase transaction for the purpose of financing the acquisition and improvement of a building; and authorizing certain documents and actions in connection therewith. Alderman Sapp made motion and seconded by Alderwoman Old to take up Council Bill No. 2021-019, an ordinance authorizing the City of Ashland, Missouri to enter in a lease purchase transaction for the purpose of financing the acquisition and improvement of a building; and authorizing certain documents and actions in connection therewith. Mayor Sullivan called for the staff report. Tony St. Romaine, City Administrator explained this is for the financing of 101 W. Broadway. He thanked Steve Goehl, D.A. Davidson and David Martin of Gilmore & Bell for helping with this financing. He stated they are present to answer any questions as well. He stated they solicited for formal proposals a couple of weeks and the best proposal came from Central Bank of Boone County. He stated there are two rates, one tax exempt for 2.9 percent and taxable for 3.5%. He stated that is for the portion that is rental to Callaway Bank. He stated the final reading of this will be at the next meeting and the closing date of April 30, 2021. He stated they would notify the USDA that we are no longer interested in pursuing financing from them. He stated it has been weeks and we have not heard from them. Mayor Sullivan called for questions from the Board. Alderwoman Old questioned the financing being a lease/lease back. David Martin from Gilmore & Bell explained how the financing worked. Tony St. Romaine, City Administrator informed the Board we have the ability to pay against this at any time. He stated the plan is when the property where the police department is at sells we pay that towards this. Alderwoman Old questioned if the bank or the City would pick a new tenant if Callaway Bank was to move? David Martin stated the City would. Mayor Sullivan asked the question if the City needed to utilize the space where the Callaway Bank is currently at in the future would the interest rate change to the tax exempt rate. David Gilmore stated that with the lease you would not be able to switch back and forth but could refinance. He stated they would need to evaluate the costs associated with that. Steve Goehl, D.A. Davidson stated the USDA is good to work with but it does take a lot of time due to the guidelines from Washington. He informed the Board all four local banks responded to this. He stated this is good interest rate and you do have an opportunity to pay down without being penalized. Mayor Sullivan called for comments from the public. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderwoman Bell-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye, Alderman Volkart-aye, Alderman Bradford-aye, Alderman Lewis-absent. Motion carried.

Mayor Sullivan presented Ordinance No. 1340, an ordinance approving the final plat for Smith & Lane Subdivision for consideration. Alderman Sapp made motion and seconded by Alderman Volkart to take up for consideration Ordinance No. 1340, an ordinance approving the final plat for Smith & Lane Subdivision for consideration. Mayor Sullivan called for the staff report. Tony St. Romaine, City Administrator reported that the Planning and Zoning recommended approval. Alderman Sapp stated the only item discussed was the access of the back lot from the alley way. He stated they will come off of Hickam Alley. He stated this is the second reading. Mayor Sullivan called for comments from the public. Mayor Sullivan called for questions or comments from the Board. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderman Bradford-aye,

Alderman Volkart-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye, Alderwoman Bell-aye, Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderman Lewis-absent. Motion carried.

Mayor Sullivan presented a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Community Pool Agreement with the Ashland Optimist Club. Alderman Sapp made motion and seconded by Alderman Bradford to take up for consideration a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Community Pool Agreement with the Ashland Optimist Club. Mayor Sullivan called for the staff report. Lelande Rehard, Assistant City Administrator gave a highlight of the community pool agreement. He stated we will maintain the \$3,000 to be paid before April 30 of each year for capital expenditures, waive the city utility fees and at the end of year after they submit a written report of the revenues and expenditures we would subsidize the operational expenses about revenues up to \$3000.00. He stated this is a three year contract. He stated they reviewed a pool assessment that was done in 2011 that revealed the pool was close to the end of its life. Mayor Sullivan called for public comment. Mayor Sullivan called for questions or comments from the Board. Alderman Sapp thanked the Assistant City Administrator for going back and re-negotiating a much better contract. Alderman Volkart stated he felt this was a good compromise. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderwoman Bell-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye, Alderman Volkart-aye, Alderman Bradford-aye, Alderman Lewis-absent. Motion carried.

Mayor Sullivan presented a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with McConnell & Associates for the Ashland Community Park Tennis Court repair project. Alderman Sapp made motion and seconded by Alderwoman Bell to take up for consideration a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with McConnell & Associates for the Ashland Community Park Tennis Court repair project. Mayor Sullivan called for the staff report. Tony St. Romaine, City Administrator reported when he started in 2019 they wanted to close the tennis courts due to safety hazard. He stated he is glad to get this project done this summer. He stated we did not get the grant for this project. Mayor Sullivan called for public comment. Mayor Sullivan called for questions or comments from the Board. Alderwoman Old stated the Park Board did discuss and recommend approval of this project. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderman Bradford-aye, Alderman Volkart-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye, Alderwoman Bell-aye, Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderman Lewis-absent. Motion carried.

Mayor Sullivan reported the next item on the agenda is a leak adjustment. Mayor Sullivan called for a staff report. Alderman Sapp made motion and seconded by Alderman Bradford to grant the leak adjustment. Lelande Rehard, Assistant City Administrator reported he was on vacation and did not include a cover memo on this request. Carrie Fischer, Administrative Assistant reported this is an adjustment for the sewer portion. She stated a pipe ruptured in the basement. Lelande Rehard stated that this can be administratively approved if the amount is under \$800.00. He gave an overview of the leak adjustment policy. Alderwoman Bell asked for an annual report of leak adjustments that were approved. Alderwoman Old asked if we received proof this was fixed. Carrie Fischer stated it has been scheduled for repair but not fixed yet. Tony St. Romaine stated they can only get 1 leak adjustment per year. Alderman Volkart questioned the late charges. It was reported they would acquire late fees after 5 p.m. on the 15th of April if not paid. Mayor Sullivan stated we can take the vote with condition he provides proof it has been repaired by the 15th at 5:00 p.m. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote with the condition noted. Alderman Bradford-aye, Alderman Volkart-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye, Alderwoman Bell-no, Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderman Lewis-absent. Motion carried.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Sullivan thanked everyone for their participation in Richard Rabbit Easter event. He stated he received a complaint on the deterioration of the pedestrian trail on Henry Clay Blvd. He stated he received some concern on Sue Drive utility locations.

City Administrator's Report:

Tony St. Romaine, City Administrator he stated the closing of the new City Hall/Police Department will be closed by April 30, 2021. He stated they continue to work with the local architect and it is in the final stages of planning. He stated they are working on an access control system for the new building with a company out of St. Louis, Mo. He stated the schedule is to get the bid specifications and plans out in early May and bid awarded in June. He stated he hopes this will be less than a six month project. He informed the Board there was a sewer pump issue at the park and Lelande Rehard, Assistant City Administrator had to authorize an emergency repair of \$10,000.00. He stated they have discussed having replacement pumps on hand in this budget. He stated this pump station is the oldest pump and needs to be replaced or taken off line.

City Attorney's Report:

Jeff Kays, City Attorney had no report. Mayor Sullivan reported at our next meeting we will be appointing a new city attorney but Mr. Kays would be staying on as City Prosecutor. He stated we will be separating the two appointments as the work load increases. He stated he would be recommending a firm out of Jefferson City that does municipal government.

Police Chiefs monthly Report:

Chief Edwards gave an update on the patrol vehicles and equipment installation. He stated they should be ready by the first of May. He gave an update on his staffing. He discussed speed enforcement in neighborhoods.

Board of Aldermen's Reports:

Alderman Bradford stated he had fun participating in the Richard Rabbit event last weekend. Alderman Bradford expressed concern of the calendar link to the city meetings did not work and that was why he was late in attending the zoom meeting. Tony St. Romaine, City Administrator stated he also sends out an e-mail with the link prior to the meetings. He stated we are having some issues with the new website and we are working on it.

Alderwoman Old stated she has had a couple of phone calls last couple of weeks on parking in front of the fire hydrant on Red Tail Drive. James Creel stated he would get this on his list to paint.

Alderman Sapp stated this was his last full meeting. He stated the curb on Red Tail Drive in front of the fire hydrant needs to be painted red since it is a fire zone. He stated this is immediate towing. He stated he has served for four years and he looks forward to continuing to serve on the Planning and Zoning Commission. He stated whomever is elected as Ward Three Alderperson to feel free to reach out to him anytime. Alderman Sapp stated he did not file for office because he believes in term limits. He stated he is excited to see where the city goes in the future. Mayor Sullivan thanked Alderman Sapp for his service to the City.

Alderman Volkart stated he noticed the foundation recovery guy was over in their neighborhood the other day. James Creel, Public Works Supervisor stated the direction they are going towards is a cost effective repair where they foam jack the concrete. He stated this is foreign to him but felt it was a great spot to test it. He stated they are getting him a cost estimate on this project.

Alderman Volkart stated the new warning siren has been installed in their neighborhood by River City Construction. James Creel, Public Works Supervisor reported the electric is not hooked up yet.

Mayor Sullivan called for additional comments by the public or staff comments.

Mayor Sullivan stated the municipal election has come to a close. He gave a shout out to city staff, elected officials and Boards and Commissions on working as a team. He congratulated the officials that won the election and thanked them for stepping up and running.

Mayor Sullivan called for adjournment.

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

Darla Sapp, City Clerk

Richard Sullivan, Mayor