

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 03, 2019  
BOARD OF ALDERMEN MINUTES  
7:00 P.M.

Mayor Rhorer called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on September 03, 2019 at 815 East Broadway, Ashland, Missouri.

Mayor Rhorer led in the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Rhorer called the roll:

Ward One: Leslie Martin-here, Danny Clay-absent  
Ward Two: Jesse Bronson-here, Richard Sullivan-here  
Ward Three: Rick Lewis-here, Jeff Sapp-here

Staff Present: Darla Sapp, City Clerk, Lyn Woolford, Police Chief, Tony St. Romaine, Interim City Administrator, James Creel, Public Works Director and Shelley Martin, Treasurer/Deputy City Clerk.

Mayor Rhorer presented the agenda of September 03, 2019 for consideration. Alderman Sapp made motion and seconded by Alderman Bronson to approve the agenda with the amendment of Ordinance No. 1267 which states it is an ordinance amending Section 19.1200; Regulate and Reduce Excessive Noise and Preserve the Peace and Quiet should be amended to "Ordinance No. 1267, an ordinance to amend Schedule 1; posted speed limits of Chapter 20, Traffic Code of the City of Ashland." Mayor Rhorer called for the vote with the amended agenda. Alderman Lewis-aye, Alderman Bronson-aye, Alderwoman Martin-aye, Alderman Sullivan-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye, Alderman Clay-absent. Motion carried.

Mayor Rhorer presented the minutes of August 20, 2019 Board meeting for consideration. Alderman Bronson made motion and seconded by Alderman Sapp to approve the minutes as presented. Mayor Rhorer called for the vote. Alderman Sapp-aye, Alderman Sullivan-aye, Alderwoman Martin-aye, Alderman Lewis-aye, Alderman Bronson-aye, Alderman Clay-absent. Motion carried.

Mayor Rhorer asked anyone wishing to appear before the Board to come to the podium and state their name and place of residence on any subject. He stated this is the only public speaking portion of the meeting. No one came forward.

Mayor Rhorer presented Council Bill. No. 2019-037 for consideration. Alderman Bronson made motion and seconded by Alderman Sapp to take up an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a cooperative agreement to partner with Southern Boone School District in the cost sharing of repairs made to Henry Clay Blvd and driveway/sidewalk of the elementary school. First reading by title only. Mayor Rhorer called for questions or comments. Alderman Lewis clarified the cost share. Mayor Rhorer called for the vote. Alderman Sapp-aye, Alderman Sullivan-aye, Alderwoman Martin-aye, Alderman Lewis-aye, Alderman Bronson-aye, Alderman Clay-absent. Motion carried.

Mayor Rhorer presented Ordinance No. 1267 for consideration. Alderman Bronson made motion and seconded by Alderman Sapp to take up Ordinance No. 1267, an ordinance to amend Schedule I. posted speed limits of Chapter 20; Traffic Code of the City of Ashland. Mayor Rhorer called for questions or comments. He reported this is in the Cartwright development. Lyn Woolford, Police Chief reported this is in a commercial area. Mayor Rhorer called for the vote. Alderman Sapp-aye, Alderman Sullivan-aye, Alderwoman Martin-aye, Alderman Lewis-aye, Alderman Bronson-aye, Alderman Clay-absent. Motion carried.

Mayor Rhorer presented Ordinance No. 1268 for consideration. Alderman Bronson made motion and seconded by Alderman Sapp to take up Ordinance No. 1268, an ordinance approving the final minor replat of Douglas Subdivision Plat No. 3. Mayor Rhorer called for questions or comments. Alderman Sapp reported this is the second reading and has been through Planning and Zoning Commission and recommended for approval. He stated this is two lots they wish to make into one lot. Mayor Rhorer called for the vote. Alderman Lewis-aye, Alderman Bronson-aye, Alderwoman Martin-aye, Alderman Sullivan-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye, Alderman Clay-absent. Motion carried.

Mayor Rhorer presented a Resolution adopting a policy/procedure on defacing or damaging Public property. Alderman Bronson made motion and seconded by Alderman Sapp to approve the Resolution adopting a policy/procedure on defacing or damaging Public property. Mayor Rhorer called for questions or comments. Mayor Rhorer called for the vote. Alderwoman Martin-aye, Alderman Sullivan-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye, Alderman Lewis-aye, Alderman Bronson-aye, Alderman Clay-absent. Motion carried.

#### Mayor's Report:

Mayor Rhorer stated he has had the chance to talk with Tony St. Romaine and he felt he is the smartest City Administrator we have ever had. He is a great addition to the city staff.

#### City Administrator's Report:

Tony St. Romaine, Interim City Administrator stated he had several items to go over with the Board to get their consensus on so he knows rather to move forward or stop on a project. He informed the Board of the cyber attack and the media doing a story on this. He thanked Shelley Martin for working with Midwest Computech on this issue in his absence. He informed the Board no data was lost and no utility accounts were stolen. Tony St. Romaine stated we would be looking at things we could do differently to keep this from happening in the future.

He informed the Board that he would like to submit a TEAP grant to make the connection of Industrial Drive and Perry Avenue to deal with the issue with Lakeview Estates. He stated the grant is due September 20 and is a 50/50 match. He stated this would get the engineering in place for when we would extend north and attach to Industrial Drive. He asked if the Board any objections. He stated the Mid-Mo Regional Planning Commission would be doing the grant application. The Board agreed it made sense to them.

Tony St. Romaine discussed issues with the park, first being the tennis courts. He stated he looked at the tennis courts and has met with the Columbia Parks & Recreation and they have a vendor coming to Columbia to repair their tennis courts. He stated he shared his pictures with them and they said some of their tennis courts are in worse shape. He stated the United States Tennis Club has a 50/50 matching grant for repair of the courts and a 100 percent to restripe the courts. He felt for a few thousand dollars we get the people playing tennis again. He asked if Board wished to pursue the grant and get the courts repaired. The Board felt this was a good solution. The second item was building a bathroom on the north side of the City park close to the ballfields. James Creel, Public Works Director stated he looked at the existing bathrooms and felt those could be renovated and get in good operation easily with minimal costs. He stated the Board approved \$10,000.00 for engineering plans for a new bathroom. He stated the City of Columbia had a template for bathrooms for the City parks. He stated there is a prefab bathroom with costs starting at \$17,000.00 to \$40,000.00 dollars. Depending how many stalls you have. He stated the City could run the water and pad. Alderman Bronson stated that made sense so the \$10,000.00 could be used for the actual build and not for engineering. James Creel, Public Works Supervisor stated they can do the site prep because it just requires a gravel pad is what it is set on. He stated they deliver and hook up. Tony St. Romaine stated he met with Tracy Banning, Park Board president last week and felt it was a productive meeting and heard some of the projects the Parks and Recreation had in mind. Tracy Banning was in attendance at the meeting tonight. He stated the capital improvement plans to building the park back up again. The Board discussed the time frame in getting the prefab bathroom. James Creel, Public Works

Director stated it would take around two month after being ordered. Ernie Wren stated he felt the Parks and Recreation would be in favor of renovating the existing bathrooms to become A.D.A compliant and adding the prefab bathroom to the park. Mayor Rhorer felt this should be taken back to the Park and Recreation Board and see what direction they want to go. The grant from the Lions Club was discussed as well as applying for additional grants.

He stated he is looking into the City's purchasing and contract for services procedures. He stated he has put out request for proposal's for real estate brokerage services in the new format he wishes to use. He stated those are to be presented to the Board at a future meeting.

Tony St. Romaine stated the City does not have a purchase order policy and procedure. He stated we can purchase, through Summit, a module that that would have terms and conditions for the vendor. He stated we currently use what comes from the vendors for goods and services. Shelley Martin, Treasurer reported the module is \$3,200.00. Tony St. Romaine reported he is going to schedule a demo on that module. He stated it should allow to check funds using a requisition so you know if the funds are available.

He informed the Board the next Planning and Zoning Commission meeting is September 10 and they will have a work session at 6:00 p.m. prior to the regular meeting. He stated the goal is to meet to go over work product for the comprehensive plan. He stated they have reviewed a couple phases and they need to go over the critical issues report from June. Alderman Sapp stated they normally have the meeting at Central Bank. Tony St. Romaine stated we need audio visual so we may need to move the meeting to a new location.

He informed the Board that on September 26 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. there will be a Public meeting on the Henry Clay Blvd. round-a-bout at the middle school gymnasium to discuss the design. He stated this is in the early design phase and there are easements and right of way issues. He stated acquisition of right of way could be issues affecting four businesses.

Tony St. Romaine discussed the existing city website and needs to undergo branding. He suggested we change the domain name from ashlandmo.us to a standard domain, ashlandmo.gov. He stated he has prepared a letter to acquire that domain. He stated we would be looking at redesigning the website. He stated he did not know if the existing vendor would be a good source. He stated he would be looking at options. He stated the new domain would allow the existing website to be used while the new website is being constructed.

He reported he just started reviewing the contract on the waste water treatment facility with McClanahan Construction but it looks like it is supposed to be complete by December 20. He plans on meeting with the project manager on this project. He stated it looks like there is a \$400.00 per day penalty for each day it is not completed. He stated he will update the Board in a couple of weeks.

Tony St. Romaine discussed the location purchased for the new City Hall as well as the bids. He stated he has looked at this site and talked with the architect and stated he did not feel the design of the building or the site location was a long term solution. He stated we needed to think more long term. He stated the bid came in at 1.7 million with a stick built, not metal built building. He stated the size would be adequate for existing staff but not for much growth. He stated the conference room holds 100 people but the parking will be only accommodate 38 vehicles. He stated he would like to consider rejecting all the bids at this point. He stated he thinks we should consider a new site. He stated this could be discussed in closed session since it deals with land acquisition. He stated we could possibly get a developer to donate a piece of property and with a different design of building. Tony St. Romaine stated he is working with Shelley to see what we can afford. He stated we are not going to have a new City hall for a couple of years. He felt we could recoup our investment of the existing site and felt it would be good for retail. The Board discussed this and was in favor of exploring other options. Mayor Rhorer stated we need to schedule a closed session

for the next Board of Aldermen meeting. He discussed the existing City Hall is on a lease that is up in April. He stated he received new lease options from current the landlord and felt they were too high and we would not even consider that to renew the lease at that price.

He discussed in the comp plan notes and discussing with Board members and other stake holders the critical need for downtown beautification. He discussed using incentives such as a community development district or Tax Increment Financing for downtown beautification. He discussed how Columbia did this in their downtown district. He explained how these work. Lyn Woolford, Police Chief reported he talked with Ameren a couple of years ago and it would be 1 million dollars to get the overhead replaced with an additional cost to each property owner for connection. The Board discussed this and grants for beautification for downtown districts. The Board was open to looking into more information on this.

Tony St. Romaine discussed other incentives such as Chapter 100, abatement of taxes to attract businesses to Ashland. He stated we need to look at the tool box because 90 percent of our citizens leave Ashland every day because there is no employment opportunities. He stated he felt we had to establish incentives to attract businesses. The Board was open to this but wished to include the fire district and school because they would also be affected by these abatements.

Police Chief's monthly report:

Chief Woolford, Police Chief reported he attended a DNR event on the City's State Revolving Funds for the sewer plant. He said they went over the cities process and how we got this done, the financing through state revolving fund versus private funding. He stated the event went well.

He reported the roof at the Police Department is leaking and they received an analysis from TruSon's on the repair. He stated this is a rubber roof and we need to get approximately a 15' by 15' area repaired. He stated they have put a temporary fix for now. He stated he got a bid for repair for \$2,200.00 and Tony St. Romaine, City Administrator has authorized the repair. He stated it would come out of capital expenditures and no budget amendment was needed.

Chief Woolford reported they have been two officers short for about two and half months. He stated one is still in training and he will have another officer starting tomorrow. He reported that Andrew Worrall has accepted the School Resource Officer position. He stated he would be fully staffed with a total of eight officers.

Chief Woolford stated with the ransomware attack he was afraid his records system TAC 10 would not function. He stated that it did. Shelley Martin, City Treasurer stated Midwest Computech cleaned our network and server. She stated that it locked us up but we did not lose data or have any data breeched. Chief Woolford stated they would be moving to the County wide system in October. He stated we would still have TAC 10 for the older records since those do not transfer over to the new system.

He handed out an example sheet that shows basic event listing of the police department by the day, time and location.

Chief Woolford stated the amount of traffic is higher at the schools this year. He stated the walking school bus had a large amount of children walking this morning.

City Attorney's Report:

Jeff Kays, City Attorney had no report.

Board of Aldermen's Reports:

Alderman Lewis reported the only thing he had was incorrect reporting in the local paper on the construction noise ordinance passing to change the time to 6:00 a.m. He stated that it was voted down. Chief Woolford reported he has notified his Officers of this.

Alderman Lewis asked for an update on the Main Street sidewalk project. Don Jenkins reported he attends the meetings in case a question comes up. He reported the curb and gutter and asphalt will be done this week and begin at 7:00 a.m.

Alderman Bronson questioned the park pond pump. James Creel reported he has met with the Conservation Department and they took samples of the water and believes it will be fine for the winter. He stated there may be grants for the replacement of the pump.

Alderman Bronson reported at Sarah and Middleton at the end of the bridge the road, curb and gutter and driveway is falling apart.

Alderman Bronson reported grass clippings on his street where he lives again. He stated he took a leaf blower and blew the grass clippings off the roadway.

Alderman Bronson reported the walking school bus started today. He encouraged the Board members to participate.

Alderman Sapp stated he has gotten a couple of complaints on grass and leaves at the corner of Morgan Drive and Henry Clay Blvd. He reported grass as high as his knees on Meadow Lane where the duplex burned down. He stated there is still standing water and it is a mosquito pit in that area.

Alderman Sullivan reported grass clippings at 400 and 404 Renee. He stated there is a couple of empty lots that need to be mowed this year as well. He stated that facebook has been active reference park board and Board of Aldermen.

Mayor Rhorer reported the Alliance Water Resource operations report was on the agenda. Tony St. Romaine stated he wanted to make the Board aware of the report. He stated the effluent b.o.d levels are above the limits and have been. He stated they are aware we are building a wastewater treatment facility and doing the best we can.

Alderman Bronson made motion and seconded by Alderman Sapp to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Rhorer called for the vote. Alderman Lewis-aye, Alderman Bronson-aye, Alderwoman Martin-aye, Alderman Sullivan-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye, Alderman Clay-absent. Motion carried.

Darla Sapp, City Clerk

Gene Rhorer, Mayor