

TUESDAY, JULY 07, 2020
BOARD OF ALDERMEN MINUTES
7:00 P.M.

Mayor Sullivan called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on July 07, 2020 at 5275 W Red Tail Drive, Ashland, Mo.

Pastor Atkins gave the invocation.

Mayor Sullivan led in the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Sullivan called the roll:

Ward One: Leslie Martin-here, Bryan Bradford-here
Ward Two: Melissa Old-here, vacant seat
Ward Three: Rick Lewis-here, Jeff Sapp-here

Staff Present: Darla Sapp, City Clerk, Tony St. Romaine, City Administrator, Jeff Kays, City Attorney and Gabe Edwards, Police Chief.

Mayor Sullivan presented the minutes of June 17, 2020 Board meeting for consideration. Alderman Bradford made motion and seconded by Alderman Sapp to approve the minutes as presented. Mayor Rhorer called for the vote. Motion carried.

Mayor Sullivan presented the agenda of July 07, 2020 for approval or adjustment. Alderman Sapp made motion and seconded by Alderman Bradford to approve the agenda as presented. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderman Bradford-aye, Alderman Lewis-aye, Alderwoman Martin-aye, Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye. Motion carried.

Mayor Sullivan presented the appointment of Stephanie Bell-Ward Two Alderwoman with the confirmation from the Board. Alderman Lewis made motion and seconded by Alderman Sapp to approve the appointment of Stephanie Bell as Ward Two Alderwoman. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderman Bradford-aye, Alderman Lewis-aye, Alderwoman Martin-aye, Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye. Motion carried.

The City Clerk swore Stephanie Bell as Ward Two Alderwoman in to office.

Alderwoman Bell took her seat at the table.

Mayor Sullivan presented the appointment of Dorise Slinker to the Planning and Zoning Commission with the confirmation of the Board. Alderman Sapp made motion and seconded by Alderman Bradford to approve the appointment of Dorise Slinker to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Mr. Slinker stated he also applied to serve on the Parks and Recreation Board. Tony St. Romaine stated that Board is currently full. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderwoman Bell-aye, Alderman Bradford-aye, Alderman Lewis-aye, Alderwoman Martin-aye, Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye. Motion carried.

Mayor Sullivan reported the next item on the agenda is appointments to the pool research and recommendation committee. Mayor Sullivan gave an update of the history of the pool and agreement with the City of Ashland to supplement the Optimist Club up to \$3,000.00 a season to help offset the loss of money of the swimming pool. He stated that Tony St. Romaine and he have met with the Optimist about this and the future of the pool as the community continues to grow. He stated we need a recommendation

going forward because of the age of the pool, condition and size of the pool. He stated there is also a lot of deferred maintenance to the pool and it leaks. He stated it is a community benefit so we need to form this committee so they can report back to the Board of Aldermen with a recommendation.

Mayor Sullivan made the following appointments:

Alderman Bradford-take the lead and organize the committee and make reservations to meeting place.

Community Representative-Dorise Slinker

Optimist Club-Missy Bonderer

YMCA- Kip Batye

Parks and Recreation-Tracy Banning

Mayor Sullivan stated the committee would give us options for the future and see where it goes.

Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderman Sapp-aye, Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderwoman Martin-aye, Alderman Lewis-aye, Alderman Bradford-aye, Alderwoman Bell-aye. Motion carried.

Mayor Sullivan reported the next item is scheduled public comments. Tony St. Romaine, City Administrator stated this portion is for Public Comments for items not listed on the agenda. He stated an email must be submitted to the City Clerk the Wednesday prior to the meeting. He stated they would be allowed up to 5 minutes to speak. He stated that after the agenda items there would be a place for a public comment. He stated there is also a section for general comments at the end of the meeting.

The City Clerk presented Council Bill No. 2020-024 for consideration. Alderman Lewis made motion and seconded by Alderwoman Old to take up Council Bill No. 2020-024, an ordinance approving the final plat for Turner Avenue Estates Plat 2. First reading by title only. Mayor Sullivan called for questions or comments. Tony St. Romaine stated we had the first reading at the last meeting but it was presented and not voted on. He stated in a 4th class city you have to have a motion and second. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderman Lewis-aye, Alderman Bradford-aye, Alderwoman Bell-aye, Alderwoman Martin-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye. Motion carried.

The City Clerk presented Council Bill No. 2020-025 for consideration. Alderman Bradford made motion and seconded by Alderman Sapp to take up Council Bill No. 2020-025, an ordinance approving the final plat for Middleton Crossing Plat 5. First reading by title only. Mayor Sullivan called for questions or comments. Tony St Romaine stated this was introduced at the last meeting but we did not vote on it. He stated the rules of 4th class cities it has to be voted on. He stated that was an Administration error. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderwoman Bell-aye, Alderman Bradford-aye, Alderman Lewis-aye, Alderwoman Martin-aye, Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye. Motion carried.

The City Clerk presented Council Bill No. 2020-026 for consideration. Alderman Sapp made motion and seconded by Alderman Bradford to take up Council Bill No. 2020-026, an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a road relinquishment agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission. Mayor Sullivan called for questions or comments. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderman Sapp-aye, Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderwoman Martin-aye, Alderman Lewis-aye, Alderman Bradford-aye, Alderwoman Bell-aye. Motion carried.

The City Clerk presented Ordinance No. 1304 for consideration. Alderman Bradford made motion and seconded by Alderman Sapp to take up Ordinance No.1304, an ordinance approving the final plat for Turner Avenue Estates Plat 2. Mayor Sullivan called for questions or comments. Alderman Sapp stated the Planning and Zoning recommended approval of this. Alderman Lewis questioned if this was the pocket park off of North Henry Clay? Mayor Sullivan stated we have been working on this for six months. He stated we had this for sale for several months with little interest in it. He stated they offered this to the

adjoining property owners if they would cover the cost for surveying. He stated because of the size of lot and setbacks it made it an unbuildable lot. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderman Sapp-aye, Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderwoman Martin-aye, Alderman Lewis-aye, Alderman Bradford-aye, Alderwoman Bell-aye. Motion carried.

The City Clerk presented Ordinance No. 1305 for consideration. Alderman Lewis made motion and seconded by Alderman Bradford to take up Ordinance No. 1305, an ordinance approving the final plat for Middleton Crossing Plat 5. Mayor Sullivan called for public comment. Chris Sanders, Engineer with McClure stated this is the left over portion of Middleton Crossing from 2000. He stated this tract of land has a drainage way through it. He stated Mr. Nahler is interested in this and dividing this into two home sites. He stated one site would be accessed off of Norma Lane and the other off of East Liberty Lane beside the last duplex. He stated the Planning and Zoning Commission and the review engineering firm approved this contingent upon the variance be granted on the turn around requirement, due to the proximately of the end of Norma Lane cul-de-sac that is not possible to construct. He stated Norma Lane was built in 1968 and has been a dead end for 50 years. Tony St Romaine, stated that Allstate Consultants noted Chapter 12.210.3 would require a cul-de-sac and is an undue burden to the last person that builds even if it would possible to construct. He stated the Board has the authority to approve the variance or we could set up a Board of Adjustment Board since it not been active for two years. Alderman Sapp stated the topography is not conducive to put in a turn around and he felt the last builder should not bear responsibility of this. He stated we do not currently have an active Board of Adjustment and his recommendation is to move forward and grant waiver ourselves. Alderwoman Bell asked if we have heard from any of the property owners on this. Alderman Lewis stated not so much from Norma Lane but flooding issues from the creek that runs through this property. He stated that the stormwater area would require large rock to not allow the past problems to occur. Alderman Sapp stated we contract with CL Richardson Construction to clean out the Liberty Lane drainage culvert because it was silted in. He stated it seems to be working fine now. Chris Sanders stated a drainage study and improvements need to be made. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderwoman Bell-aye, Alderman Bradford-aye, Alderman Lewis-aye, Alderwoman Martin-aye, Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye. Motion carried.

The City Clerk presented a resolution committing the City of Ashland to the revitalization and financial responsibilities outlined the Missouri Main Street Program's Community Empowerment Grant. Alderman Sapp made motion and seconded by Alderman Bradford to take up for consideration the resolution committing the City of Ashland to the revitalization responsibilities and financial responsibilities outlined the Missouri Main Street Program's Community Empowerment Grant. Mayor Sullivan called for questions or comments. Tony St. Romaine, City Administrator reported the Board of Aldermen approved a beautification task force and they have been meeting for over six months and the task force felt we need to apply for the Missouri Main Street Program. He stated it would be a 60/40 match. He stated before we could apply they had to approve a letter of intent. He stated we did receive approval and this is part of the grant application. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderman Sapp-aye, Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderwoman Martin-aye, Alderman Lewis-aye, Alderman Bradford-aye, Alderwoman Bell-aye. Motion carried.

The City Clerk presented a resolution adopting a leak adjustment policy. Mayor Sullivan called for public comments. Derek McCubbin stated that Tony St. Romaine did his background work and he felt the adjustment to the sewer portion for actual water leaks was appropriate. Mayor Sullivan gave some background information since we had new members on the Board. He stated they have been approached from the Senior Center on a toilet stool leaking, a resident on Goldeneye Court leak in their pool causing them to have fill it up again and the leak under the house on Main Street that had a \$3,500.00 bill. He stated we did away with the leak adjustment policy several years ago and he wanted to revisit this policy. He stated the City Administrator has researched this and put together a new leak adjustment policy for the Board to consider. He stated it is for the sewer portion only and for what is a leak in the water line.

Tony St. Romaine, City Administrator stated the Board asked him to re-visit the policy. He stated the new policy would require a significant increase in their monthly bill. Due to a water leak they may complete the utility adjustment form describing the reason for their request. He stated only one adjustment per year would be permitted. He stated the request must include a detailed explanation of the reason for the request, water leak under house, and have documentation showing that the repairs have been made. He stated this policy allows him the authority to adjust the sewer charge up to a maximum amount of \$800.00. He stated no adjustment would be made to the bill for water services. Tony St. Romaine stated in order for an adjustment to be considered the customers billed sewer charges must be a minimum of \$100.00 over the average of the three months' prior bills for the account. He stated the City Administrator or designee would review the request and determine if the adjustment is warranted and to what extent an adjustment will be made. He stated if the customer believes the adjustment offered or denial of any adjustment is acceptable, the customer can appeal the decision to the Board of Aldermen. He stated a running toilet is not considered a leak. Alderman Lewis stated so if the requested adjustment was over \$800.00 they could apply to the Board of Aldermen for consideration. Alderman Sapp stated if the issue of the leak contributed to sewer plant the sewer fees should apply. He stated we should reach out to other parties affected by water leaks and he recommended making this retroactive to January 1, 2020 to be considered. Tony St. Romaine stated if we go back to January then the bills been paid that we would have to put credit on the account. Alderman Sapp stated we do allow for separate water meter for irrigation that the sewer is not charged on.

Alderman Sapp made a recommendation to amend the resolution adopting the leak adjustment policy and make it retroactive as of January 1 2020. Alderman Bradford seconded the motion. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderwoman Bell-abstained, Alderman Bradford-aye, Alderman Lewis-aye, Alderwoman Martin-aye, Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye. Motion carried.

Alderman Sapp made motion and seconded by Alderman Old to take up for consideration the resolution adopting a leak adjustment policy. Mayor Sullivan called for questions or comments. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Motion carried.

The City Clerk presented a resolution of intent to award the contract to Fisher Grading, LLC for the Sarah Drive Bridge Replacement Project. Alderman Sapp made motion and seconded by Alderwoman Old to take up for consideration a resolution of intent to award the contract to Fisher Grading LLC. Mayor Sullivan called for questions or comments. Tony St Romaine, City Administrator reported the bids were opened on July 1 and our engineering company, Allstate Consultants recommended the low bid from Fisher Grading. Alderman Bradford questioned the bid process. Tony St. Romaine explained this was engineered by Allstate Consultants, we advertised for bids and the City opened the bids at City Hall. He stated that Allstate provided the bid tab and checked numbers and made a recommendation based on the low bid. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderwoman Bell-aye, Alderman Bradford-aye, Alderman Lewis-aye, Alderwoman Martin-aye, Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye. Motion carried.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Sullivan informed the public that the Board of Aldermen will be using iPads and it will help streamline paper. He stated the Police Chief's report needs to be returned to the City Clerk for disposal. He asked that the Board bear with him as he gets use to the Alderwoman and Alderman. He stated we would work through the restructure of the agenda. He thanked everyone for the participation in the 4th of July parade. He stated it was a great success. He stated the health department had major issues with us having the parade but Tony St. Romaine, City Administrator was able to submit a plan and get it approved. He thanked Pastor Atkins and the Walk of Faith Church for the July 4th event. He stated we would work on improving the parade next year. He reminded the Board of the ribbon cutting on the wastewater treatment plant on Thursday. He stated the MML elected official conference training is in the packet and asked the Board try to attend. Mayor Sullivan discussed the speed bump and no parking on East Red Tail Drive and

how it has turned into a bigger conflicting issue. He stated they have received e-mails and post on face book about this. He stated they would set a time to meet with property owners and people that travel the roadway to hopefully get a consensus. They discussed the 150 feet distance is a little too much and prevents parking in front of several homes. He asked Alderwoman Bell and Alderwoman Old to attend this meeting, since it is in their Ward.

Mayor Sullivan thanked Alderwoman Bell for agreeing to serve out of Jesse Bronson's term. He thanked Gabe Edwards for serving as Police Chief and Terry Toalson for stepping up and serving as interim Police Chief. He stated Terry Toalson has taken another position and has given his notice and his last day is on July 14, 2020. He thanked him for his service to our community.

City Administrator's Report:

Tony St. Romaine, City Administrator, explained his monthly report format to the new members. He stated this list is priorities from the Board and can be changed. He updated the Board on the Comprehensive plan public hearing scheduled for tomorrow night at 7:00 p.m. He stated once that is approved it will come to the Board of Aldermen for final adoption. He stated the Downtown Beautification grant is due July 16. He stated we have applied for three different grant applications for the main city park. He stated they include stormwater improvements, restrooms and ballfield improvements for the main park. He stated he is going to advertise in the second quarter for a plan reviewer. He updated the Board on the recycling lot construction. He stated that we hired Jeff Hawkins to the water department. He explained we now have a public works position open. He reminded everyone of the ribbon cutting for the wastewater plant on Thursday at 10:00 a.m. He stated we have requested proposals to do code revisions in the Planning and Zoning and stormwater Chapters. He stated he has advertised for the Assistant City Administrator position and have been receiving a lot of qualified candidates and a selection committee would be appointed at the next board meeting.

City Attorney's Report:

Jeff Kays reported under the nuisance ordinance, the tall weeds and grass is declared punishable per day that the violation exists. Mayor Sullivan reported he has been seeing complaints on ordinances not being followed. He stated that if the ordinance is not been enforced does it need to be on the books. Alderman Bradford stated in his hometown if it the property did not get mowed the city mowed it then added it to their property taxes. The Board discussed this process. Tony St. Romaine stated in Columbia they hired summer help that did the weed/tall grass code enforcement. He stated it is mostly complaint driven.

Police Chief's Monthly report

Chief Edwards discussed the code enforcement violations and enforcement. Tony St. Romaine stated it has been complaint driven. He stated a letter is sent out first regarding the violation with a date to come into compliance. If it is not taken care of then the officer goes out and writes a citation for the violation. Mayor Sullivan stated we have an ordinance and wants the community to look great.

Chief Edwards stated this is his first report and is learning what information the Board wants. He gave an overview of felony drug charge case he posted media release on. He stated that previously enforcement on Highway 63 has been off limits but he has lifted that restriction. He stated they have seen 90 and 106 mph with multiple over 100 mph. He stated they are focusing on neighborhood complaints like Peterson Lane and Sarah Drive. He addressed the fireworks complaints on face book. He discussed the patrol vehicles and equipment needs to equip each vehicle properly.

He stated he has promoted Andrew Worrall to step up supervisor. He stated Terry Toalson's last day would be July 14, 2020 after 14 years with the City and total career of 35 years. Chief Edwards stated he has been doing clean up around the police department building and parking lot. He had the parking lot re-stripped and

they removed trees and brush on the backside of the lot. He informed them Officer Worrall did taser training for the department. He stated he would be updating the policy manual. He stated they donated outdated vest to the Law Enforcement Training Academy. He stated he has agreed to provide traffic control at Liberty Lane for school and walking school bus so we don't take a patrol officer off of street. Chief Edwards stated he was not aware of a parking issue on Red Tail Drive. He stated they would be changing the radio unit numbering system. He stated since they have an opening he is going to start recruiting. He stated he is going to have George Roberson recruit with the police academy. He stated the printed report he gave them excluded the pro-active stuff because it would have been 50 to 60 pages. He stated the last page are citations that have been issued since he was appointed. He praised Megan Young and Andrew Worrall and stated he could not do this job without them and the support of every staff member. The Board discussed unmarked patrol car, the need for new radar units and going back to purchasing new patrol vehicles.

Mayor Sullivan expressed appreciation for the community person that fed the police department from Trial Boss BBQ and for backing our police department. Mayor Sullivan questioned the status of the emergency call box for the foyer of the Police Department that was donated from the Columbia Parks and Recreation. Chief Edwards stated he has talked with an individual from CenturyTel today and will be trying to resolve this issue. He commended Chief Edwards for the social media responses on speeding issues.

Board of Aldermen's Reports:

Alderman Sapp asked that on the next couple of agenda's we get the Board of Adjustments re-established.

Alderman Sapp stated he received a complaint on the alarm going off at the sewer plant. He stated he attempted to contact Mr. Creel and Tony St. Romaine and was unable to contact anyone on this matter. He asked for future he get Derek McCubbins phone number.

Derek McCubbin reported this is an alarm on the transfer pump and goes off when the pump flow is higher. He stated they are alerted when this happens. He stated it has to be reset.

Alderman Bradford thanked Dorise Slinker and his boys for the pickup truck at the 4th of July parade and the participants. He informed Chief Edwards he did not vote against Gabe Edwards appointment but it was over the Woolford issue. He also discussed the driveway entrance at Subway being in need of repair.

Alderwoman Bell introduced herself and stated she moved to Ashland in 2017 and enjoys living here. She gave a brief overview of her family, work experience and volunteer committees she is serving on.

Alderman Lewis welcomed Stephanie to the Board. He stated that Stephanie Bell assisted them in interviewing and hiring the City Administrator and was a great help.

Alderwoman Martin stated she was excluded on the e-mail in getting the pictures taken.

Alderwoman Martin stated the Public Works has stepped up to answering citizens concerns. She stated that every other week they are sanitizing the park and suggested the date be noted on the Plexiglas areas so people can see that it is been cleaned.

Mayor Sullivan called for general comments by public, aldermen and staff.

Dorise Slinker presented a promotion from Shoe Carnival for 30% off for the City Wide. He stated he has approval from Hallsville, Mexico and Auxvasse. He stated they do not want anything from us but the flyer posted on the website. He asked the Board to consider this.

Derek McCubbin stated the ribbon cutting at the wastewater treatment plant scheduled for Thursday at 10:00 a.m. and he encouraged the Board and Community to attend.

Mayor Sullivan called for the 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