

TUESDAY, AUGUST 04, 2020
BOARD OF ALDERMEN MINUTES
7:00 P.M.

Mayor Sullivan called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on August 04, 2020 at 5275 W Red Tail Drive, Ashland, Mo.

Alderman Bradford 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, Stephanie Bell-here
Ward Three: Rick Lewis-here, Jeff Sapp-here

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

Mayor Sullivan presented the minutes of July 21, 2020 Board meeting for consideration. Alderman Bradford made motion and seconded by Alderman Sapp to approve the minutes as presented. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Motion carried.

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

Mayor Sullivan reported the next item under scheduled public comments is Chad Martin, Director of Emergency Management and Christopher Kelley, Deputy Director of Emergency Management.

Chad Martin, Director of Emergency Management stated he was unable to attend the meeting the Board adopted him as the City's Emergency Management Director and wanted to formally introduce his self. He also introduced Chris Kelley as Deputy Directory of Emergency Management.

Chris Kelley gave a brief bio and stated he enjoys being a public servant and giving back to the community. He discussed the FEMA open application for public assistance for Covid-19. He stated they are also working on placing an additional warning siren east of Moser's Grocery Store.

Chad Martin discussed the Cares Act application process for community impacts due to Covid-19.

Mayor Sullivan stated the next item on the agenda is the Tax Levy Public Hearing. He called for staff comments. Tony St Romaine, City Administrator stated the tax levy is same as last year (0.248) and is the maximum allowed without voter approval. Mayor Sullivan called for comments from the public (via Zoom since we had no public present). No one wished to speak.

The City Clerk presented Council Bill No. 2020-028 for consideration. Alderman Sapp made motion and seconded by Alderman Lewis to take up Council Bill No. 2020-028, an ordinance establishing the property tax rate for the City of Ashland for the year 2020 and amending Chapter 5; Tax Rates: Appendix A-1 of the Ashland Municipal Code. First reading by title only. Mayor Sullivan called for staff comments. Tony St. Romaine, City Administrator stated this is ordinance is to approve the tax rate. Mayor Sullivan

called for public comments. Mayor Sullivan called for questions or comments from the Board. Alderwoman Bell asked what similar size town's tax rates were. Tony St. Romaine stated he would put together a report with that information for the next meeting. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderwoman Bell-aye, Alderwoman Martin-aye, Alderman Bradford-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye, Alderman Lewis-aye, Alderwoman Old-aye. Motion carried.

The City Clerk presented Council Bill No. 2020-029 for consideration. Alderman Sapp made motion and seconded by Alderman Lewis to take up Council Bill No. 2020-029, an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to execute a subdivision warranty agreement for Liberty Point Plat 1. First reading by title only. Mayor Sullivan called for the staff report. Tony St. Romaine, City Administrator reported this subdivision infrastructure is completed with no deficiencies found and recommended we approve this to begin the three-year warranty period. He informed the Board in the next couple of months we would have additional subdivisions we will need to the warranty agreement on once their deficiencies are corrected. Mayor Sullivan called for public comments. Mayor Sullivan called for comments and questions from the Board. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderman Bradford-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye, Alderman Lewis-aye, Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderwoman Bell-aye, Alderwoman Martin-aye. Motion carried.

The City Clerk presented Ordinance No. 1307 for consideration. Alderwoman Old made motion and seconded by Alderman Sapp to take up Ordinance No. 1307, an ordinance authorizing the appropriation of funds to certain accounts within the fiscal year 2021 Budget. Mayor Sullivan called for the staff report. Tony St. Romaine, City Administrator stated this is a transfer of funds to allow for the purchase of radar units. Gabe Edwards, Police Chief reported they had cushion in the salary line item of the budget due to staffing and was in need to replace the radar units. He stated this is enough to replace five units and he plans on purchasing the additional three during budget amendments or in next year's budget. Mayor Sullivan called for comments and questions from the Board. Mayor Sullivan called for public comment. Mayor Sullivan called for the vote. Alderwoman Martin-aye, Alderwoman Old-aye, Alderman Bradford-aye, Alderman Sapp-aye, Alderman Lewis-aye, Alderwoman Bell-aye. Motion carried.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Sullivan stated he is pleased with the support and appreciation the Police Department is receiving. He stated speeding is ongoing complaints from residents. He reported complaints on Peterson Lane from construction workers in South Wind Subdivision. He stated this is a safety concern for the children. He stated no speed limit signs coming off South Henry Clay onto Peterson Lane. He stated the East Red Tail speed bump meeting will be tomorrow night at 7:00 p.m. and Alderwoman Old, Alderwoman Bell and Alderman Sapp will attend. They discussed having a police officer and possibly safety cones since they would meeting on the street. He stated the residents are not in agreement but the City will need to make a decision. He stated that him and Tony received face book messages on tall grass in Liberty Landing Subdivision. He thanked Chief Edwards, the ambulance and fire department for the birthday parade for a little boy. Mayor Sullivan stated he received the minutes from the Pool research committee and stated he is not ready to say if he is in favor of the City taking over the pool or not. He stated he wants the Board to continue to look at alternatives and future needs.

City Administrator's Report:

Tony St. Romaine, City Administrator informed the Board the Planning and Zoning Commission held a Public Hearing last night on the Comprehensive Plan update and unanimously approved it. He stated that it would be introduced as a Council Bill at the next Board of Alderperson meeting. He informed the Board of the Downtown Beautification selection committee will be in Ashland tomorrow to hear our presentation and take a tour of the area of where the needs are. He stated he invited select members of the Committee to participate in this. Tony St Romaine asked if any Board members still needed to order cases for the I-pads to please let us know. He reported the Plan reviewer/building inspector position will be posted this week and run until September 04, 2020 or until filled. Tony St. Romaine reported the fence

should be installed at the recycling lot this week. The surveillance cameras are in and signs giving instructions have been ordered. He stated once that is all completed we would be moving the containers over. He stated they would do a press release on this. He stated there would also be signs posted at the recycling lot for illegal dumping/ littering. There was discussion on when the citywide pick up would be. Tony St. Romaine stated the pre-construction meeting for the Sarah Drive Bridge replacement with Fisher Grading would be August 12, 2020. He gave them a short presentation on the new city website. He informed them the code revision selection committee are evaluating the proposals and will be conducting interviews soon. Tony St. Romaine gave an overview of the Ranken Project and financial shortage of 1.7 million dollars. He stated they are looking at other funding options, grants, pledges, fundraisers and investors. He stated there is a September 18 deadline. He stated they have a special meeting with the school board to discuss this. The Ranken project was discussed at great length. Tony St. Romaine reported they received 24 applicants for the Assistant City Administrator position and will be reviewing them and hopefully get a consensus of the top three and proceed to interview. He discussed a citizen satisfaction survey that is not in the budget for this year. He stated it is approximately \$20,000.00. He discussed reviewing the utility policy and procedures for leak adjustments, shut offs and disconnect fees. Tony St. Romaine stated we need to review the agreement with Boone County Road and Bridge on maintenance of roads within the unincorporated areas. He suggested we look at bond amounts for landscaping, sidewalks, etc. He discussed a strategic planning process. He stated that once the census is completed we could see about making the City of Ashland a charter city instead of a 4th class city. He discussed a public works policy and procedure manual and snow removal policy and snow routes. He discussed the overhaul on Henry Clay Blvd. and Broadway overpass and Main Street resurfacing. He stated we need to do a sewer and water rate study since it has not been done for three years.

Mayor Sullivan asked that they pull the policy and procedure policy on the utility shut offs. He stated it has created a hardship for a citizen with health concerns. Mayor Sullivan stated he has received complaints on storm water drainage issue on Sue Drive.

City Attorney's Report:
Jeff Kays was not present.

Police Chief Monthly report

Chief Edwards gave an overview of his report to the Board. He informed the Board that he listed the Crown Vic for sale on govdeals. He informed the Board of the new car computers he purchased. He stated the police building needs a new exterior door. He discussed the new law on parking tickets being assessed the court cost fees. He stated it would make the parking tickets go from \$10.00 to \$88.50 apiece. He stated he would like to have an educational period of a year warning tickets unless the illegal parking is a repeat or safety issue. He gave an overview of the calls for service and they continue to enforce speed on Highway 63.

Alderman Sapp commented he did not have an issue with the Police Department being on Hwy 63. Alderman Sapp questioned call for service at recurring addresses.

Chief Edwards stated they are accepting applications for patrol officers.

Tony St. Romaine, City Administrator reported that DNR would be doing an inspection of the wastewater treatment facility next Thursday.

Board of Aldermen's Reports:

Alderman Sapp discussed the county speed limit on Liberty Lane being too fast for the area. He asked that we contact the County and request this be lowered.

Alderman Lewis questioned whose responsibility it is to mow the ditches. Tony St. Romaine, City Administrator stated basically the property owner is responsible up to the center line to the roadway. He stated it is not the city's responsibility. He stated the tall weeds on Johnson Street at Main Street is making it difficult to see around. The Board discussed the responsibility of tall weeds/grass and sidewalks.

Alderwoman Bell stated she plans on meeting at the Red Tail meeting tomorrow night and asked that the e-mails on the concerns be forwarded to her.

Alderman Bradford stated he asked Tony to look into bonds and grants for swimming pools. He stated the pool research committee met last Thursday night. He stated he contacted the owner of the Subway building reference the empty space. He asked once the recycling containers are moved from the old site what are the plans for that lot. Tony St. Romaine, City Administrator reported the lot has been for sale for the last six months. He stated this could be a great asset and could possibly benefit the downtown district.

Alderman Lewis asked the status of Ashland Commons. Tony St. Romaine stated he has not heard anything new. He stated it is still on hold and we will look at other options for a new City Hall.

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

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