

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CUBA, MISSOURI**  
**TUESDAY – NOVEMBER 21, 2017 – 6:00 P.M. – CUBA CITY HALL COUNCIL ROOM**

Mayor Mortimeyer called the meeting to order. Aldermen present: Kevin Copling, Nancy Montgomery, Don Mizell, Warren Graddy, Cody Leathers, and Jeff Bouse. City attorney present: Lance Thurman. Police Chief present: Paul Crow. Public Works Director present, Bob Baldwin.

Mayor Mortimeyer asked to add 7A to the agenda for Airport furnace bids. **Motion by Mizell, seconded by Bouse, to approve the agenda with the addition of 7A. Vote: All ayes.**

Mayor Mortimeyer announced that as of last Wednesday, the old Mepco building was donated to the City of Cuba. He thanked the Nick Sanazaro and Carolyn Sanazaro and the entire Sanazaro family for this generous gift. They asked for it to be a City of Cuba complex, with city offices.

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Montgomery, to approve the regular meeting minutes of November 7, 2017. Vote: All ayes.**

**Citizens participation:** Mr. Gordon Kitson addressed the council expressing his interest in setting up a Christmas tree by Recklein. He would ask the city to put lights on the tree. He would then put an ad in the newspaper to have all the citizens come and put one ornament on the tree for each child, then have a tree lighting ceremony on December 17. He would like to have a Santa Claus there, and have businesses donate candy to give to the kids that night. Alderman Montgomery asked where he would get the lights. Kitson stated he would like to city to get the lights. Mayor Mortimeyer stated that there is already a tree at Recklein. Alderman Leathers stated that if there is a tree there, we can make the 17<sup>th</sup> a formal ceremony. Mr. Kitson would be in charge of getting it organized. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Graddy, to give permission to Gordon Kitson to have a tree lighting ceremony on December 17<sup>th</sup> at Recklein. Vote: All ayes.**

Mr. Dan Eidson of 505 Kidwell announced that he spent the last several days writing a statement for the council, however, he came to the conclusion that he is being ignored on the animal control topic that has been brought up for the past three months. He applauded Missy Mullally in finding homes for animals that are unwanted, etc but he has accused her of fraud and nobody has looked into it. He states that in 2010 the city was paying a full time AC officer \$30,000 annually to show up and clean cages, feed and water, patrol the city and answer calls, even after hours. Eidson went on to say that currently there is a new division that is wildly manned with plenty of labor, and cannot get them to answer after hour calls for an aggressive animal in his neighborhood. Eidson would like for someone to explain where he fails to understand why the city is not addressing this. He asked if he was wrong when he says there is fraud in paying people to take dogs from out of city limits. Alderman Montgomery asked where all the complaints are coming from? She has had zero complaints. Eidson asked about how many times the council has been made aware of the feral cats? He states this is the third time he has brought this up. The PD is not equipped or trained for feral cats/animals. Eidson was told by an officer that they can put a dog down if they feel threatened. Eidson asked why the AC officers couldn't carry a pager for after hours. Alderman Copling told Eidson that his requests haven't gone unnoticed. Alderman Copling said he

talked to Chief Crow regarding the feral cats, and the animals found on the road. AC officer have cell phones. Crow told him if he needs an AC officer they will call them out. Alderman Montgomery echoed that Crow can call out an AC officer if he deems necessary. She states that Edison complains, she listens and it's getting tiring. She states that the city has a program that works. The feral cat situation is under control. The city has no written complaints. Edison asked if writing a complaint is what it takes to have action taken. Alderman Montgomery stated that the person that was the AC officer is not longer doing it and has charges against that person. Mayor Mortimeyer stated that the discussion needs to end on the past. Police Chief Crow stated he talked to the officer who responded to the aggressive animal situation that Mr. Eidson is speaking of and the officer stated that by the time he got there, the dog was back at his residence and he gave the owner a verbal warning. They haven't received another complaint there. Alderman Copling thanked Mr. Eidson for addressing the council and he apologized for being cut off at the last meeting. Mayor Mortimeyer asked Mr. Eidson if he is asking why the city doesn't have 24/7 animal coverage since we now have four employee's, and back in 2010 we only had one. Mr. Eidson stated that they should be able to answer an animal call. Alderman Montgomery stated that the AC officers work under the Police Dept. Mayor Mortimeyer stated that they no longer do. Mr. Eidson suggested to the guidance of Animal Control under the Police Dept. He stated a person was paid before and spent countless hours re-homing animals and did not have the support monetarily or the council support that Ms. Mullally has. Eidson stated this employee was weary of putting down animals, so he would take some to St. Louis to re-home. Attorney Thurman interjected that this is a matter that can't be discussed unless we are in executive session. This council is aware of an agreement with former council. Mr. Eidson stated he does not know what else to do and that nobody can tell him it's not fraudulent by way of being a pet project bringing in pets from around the county and nobody wants to stop that. It is the tax payers money that pays the salaries of the people taking care of the animals. Alderman Leathers stated that everyone can argue on how tax money is being spent. Leathers has listened to everyone arguments and takes them into consideration. Mayor Mortimeyer asked that the council look into this. He stated that Mr. Eidson made some valid points. Alderman Copling asked that an Animal Control Committee meeting and Police Committee meetings be called to get this taken care of. Mr. Eidson closed by saying he is not trying to stop Ms. Mullally from doing anything with animals, but who is paying for it.

**Animal Control Report – Ms. Missy Mullally:** Ms. Mullally was hoping to share the mural artwork for the Animal Control building, however, the artist was not able to attend. Ms. Mullally stated the Animal Control building will be closed on Thursday, but staff would be taking care of the animals. They will reopen on Friday. Alderman Mizell announced that Bossa Stahl resigned due to attending school. They all appreciated her dedication. Mizell would like to look into advertising for her replacement. **Motion by Montgomery, seconded by Leathers, to place an ad for and ACO in the newspaper and bring a recommendation to the council for replacement. Vote: All ayes.**

**Public Works Director Report – Mr. Bob Baldwin:** Mr. Baldwin stated that Adam Staples has been working for the city in a part time capacity since May; however, he is still working part time in the Water Department and has asked that he go from \$8/hr to \$10/hr as other part-timers. He does carry a pager. **Motion by Copling, seconded by Bouse, to raise the hourly salary of Adam Staples to \$10/hr. Roll**

**call vote: Copling –yes, Montgomery –yes, Mizell –yes, Graddy –yes, Leathers –yes, and Bouse –yes.**

**Police Chief Report – Chief Paul Crow:** Police Chief Crow announced a swearing in ceremony for the Youth Court on Dec 19 at 6 pm at the KC Hall. He invited everyone.

**Health Insurance Bids:** City Clerk Nash stated that health insurance brokers are solicited every three years. Our current broker (until 2018) solicited carriers and our current carrier, Coventry only went up 3.9%, which is very low. Nash budgeted a 15% increase. **Motion by Montgomery, seconded by Mizell, to approve the current carrier of Coventry increase of 3.9%. Vote: All ayes.**

**Airport Furnace Bids:** Alderman Mizell recommended to take the bid from the lowest local company, Custom Sheet Metal for \$3,297. **Motion by Montgomery, seconded by Graddy, to approve the airport furnace bid of \$3,297 from Custom Sheet Metal. Vote: All ayes.**

**Motion by Mizell, seconded by Graddy, to have the first reading of Bill No. 1825 by caption only. Vote: All ayes.** City Clerk Nash read Bill No. 1825 – An ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of Cuba, Missouri, on behalf of said city, to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Cuba Development Group to establish terms and conditions relating to the Osage Trail Legacy project. **Motion by Copling, seconded by Graddy, to approve the first reading of Bill No. 1825. Roll call vote: Copling –yes, Montgomery –yes, Mizell –yes, Graddy – yes, Leathers –yes, and Bouse –yes. Motion by Montgomery, seconded by Leathers, to have the second reading of Bill No. 1825 by caption only. Vote: All ayes.** City Clerk Nash read Bill No. 1825 a second time. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Copling, to approve the second reading of Bill No. 1825. Roll call vote: Bouse –yes, Leathers –yes, Graddy –yes, Mizell – yes, Montgomery –yes, and Copling –yes.** Mayor Mortimeyer declared Bill No. 1825 becomes Special Ordinance No. 688 this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November 2017.

**Bills to be paid:** Alderman Graddy inquired on the bill for PJ Myers on the Main St project as it was \$4,000 over bid. PW Director Baldwin stated that there was additional footage than what was original contracted for. They had to raise the hydrants and excavate under that. The additional cost was unforeseen. **Motion by Graddy, seconded by Montgomery, to pay the bills as presented. Vote: All ayes.**

Mayor Mortimeyer announced that through negotiations with our consultant, the natural gas will be lowered to \$1/cf for residential customers. This will begin with the next bill and at least continue through April 2018. City Clerk Nash asked if that included the city fees and transportation. Natural Gas supervisor Jimmy Happel said that it did.

Alderman Copling asked about the water basin retention project. PW Director Baldwin stated that the boxes will be completed on Nov 27 by Murdon.

Alderman Montgomery passed out pictures with addresses on nuisances around town to be taken care of,

Alderman Mizell thanked Baldwin and the electric crew for their tireless efforts to get the electric back on after the semi went through a residential area and tore down lines.

Alderman Graddy echoed the sentiments to the crew.

Alderman Leathers reminded us all that we all have opinions and have the right to speak on our behalf.

Alderman Bouse stated that he gets tired of being thrown under the bus when an Animal Control issue is brought up. He hears complaints on Animal Control. In the past when he worked here is when Paul Crow wrote a false police report. He is tired of people calling him names, and that he didn't do the things he was accused of. He believes if he got his day in court the people would have heard the truth. He doesn't fuel Dan Eidson, he believes the city needs to listen to him. Crow told Bouse that if he had two AC officers on his quad the city would not have this problem. Bouse says that is the solution. Attorney Thurman stated that this matter is a discussion for executive session so that the entire council can be reminded of the settlement with the case. He strongly suggests for no one to comment on the matter again until there is an executive session on the subject.

**Motion by Graddy, seconded by Mizell, to adjourn. Vote: All ayes.**

Christine Nash, City Clerk