

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CUBA, MISSOURI
TUESDAY- NOVEMBER 17, 2020 – 6:00 P.M.
CUBA CITY HALL COUNCIL ROOM**

President of the Board Black called the meeting to order. Aldermen present: Kevin Copling (6:07p.m.), Debbie Martin, Curtis Holt, Warren Graddy and Jeff Bouse. Mayor Leathers absent. Public Works Director present, Craig Bouse. City Attorney present: Lance Thurman. Police Chief present: Doug Shelton. Police Captain Ben Scharfenberg present.

Motion by Holt, seconded by Martin, to approve the agenda as written. Vote: Five ayes. Copling – absent.

Motion by Martin, seconded by Holt, to approve the regular meeting minutes of November 05, 2020. Vote: Four ayes. Copling – absent. Bouse – abstain.

Motion by Martin, seconded by Holt, to approve the executive session meeting minutes of November 05, 2020. Vote: Four ayes. Copling – absent. Bouse – abstain.

Citizens participation: None.

Emergency Preparedness Director Report: Mr. Rodney Neff has been in conversations with the Crawford County Health Department, and Governor Parsons will not do a mask mandate for the state and is putting the responsibility on the counties and municipalities. Neff stated that the virus is hitting the county hard right now. Some city and county offices are closing their doors. Mr. Neff recommends that the city put procedures in place as they did in the spring. Close lobby's and split department shifts. Dr. Sean Siebert (audience) interjected that he and Craig Bouse went to a County Health Department meeting for governmental entities and they are subject to different criteria per the CDC guidelines. City Clerk Nash stated that she spoke with the Health Department as well and the essential workers criteria implies the essential duties, i.e. a water main break, or any type of an emergency. These workers would be called in for that essential duty contingent upon not having any Covid symptoms, do a temperature check, wear a mask at all times; and then return to quarantine after the task.

Alderman Copling arrives at 6:07 p.m.

Alderman Martin is not in favor of returning to what the city did to prevent Covid spread in the spring. She stated that employees were paid full time for half of the work. Martin mentioned that if employees wanted to work from home, they could use their vacation time. She stated that it is a financial burden. City Clerk Nash disagreed, stating that those measure are preventative in nature for an entire employee quarantine or outbreak. Nash states that the epidemic is a global pandemic and it is not an every day occurrence, and when her office split shifts they take home computers and bring work home to complete and still are in communications via email and cell phones. As for public work employee's, they are home and should be on call at a moment's notice. They should not be going anywhere. Alderman Black inquired of utilities could be turned on and off from a laptop. Nash stated that they could, and that paperwork does need to be completed to turn on and off utilities. However, by having split shifts, City Hall is never closed.

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Attorney Thurman stated that the city cannot force employees to use their vacation time when they are on call, and by being at home, they are essentially on call. In addition, if they are working half time, employees cannot receive unemployment. Employees are still covered as full-time employees on benefits and all. Thurman continued that an ordinance was passed for the Mayor to make emergency decisions during the pandemic.

Motion by Copling, seconded by Holt, to split the department shifts. Discussion about adding police hazard pay again. ***Copling withdrew his first and Holt withdrew the second. Motion by Copling, seconded by Holt, to split the department shifts and pay police officers \$2/hour worked extra as hazard pay.** Discussion: Alderman Holt asked if they could add employees are required to wear masks. Attorney stated that could be brought as motion next or just require per the mayor. Alderman Black suggested to have employees work 10 or 12 hour days for three days and a Saturday. **Roll call vote: Copling – yes, Martin - no, Black – no, Holt -yes, Graddy – no, Bouse -yes. President of the Board Black – No.**

Alderman Copling asked why Black voted no. Alderman Black stated that he is not opposed to doing something; as in splitting shifts but increasing the manhours. Alderman Martin asked Public Works Director Bouse if the Public Works employees are wearing masks, and socially distancing, washing hands and staying away from the public? Public Works Director Bouse stated they had a discussion Friday, and they are a lot better. They are supposed to stay home if they are sick and only one to a truck or if two are in a truck, wear a mask. Black stated to reiterate daily. They all agreed to leave it along. Public Works Director stated they have 6 men out this week.

Alderman Bouse asked Craig Bouse what he feels about splitting shifts. Bouse stated that is the decision of the council. He sees Covid everywhere. Nash stated it is not about getting Covid, it is about caring for the employee's and citizens and taking the proactive measures to keeping our services. She has talked to other businesses in town and the actions they are taking. Nash is concerned there hasn't been any conversations on the emails she has sent out on Covid precautions. Nobody from the council has made conversations with employees to see what they think or what they have going on in their life.

Alderman Copling pleaded to put the split shifts in place for 30 days. President of the Board stated that at the next meeting the Mayor will be out of quarantine, but in the meantime, he will not make any decisions. Alderman Copling asked Alderman Graddy his thoughts on this. Alderman Graddy stated Public Works employees are outside and social distancing. They do not have jobs like the stores where they are close to people. They can wear masks in a truck. Graddy thinks City Hall should be shut down from the public. He stated that if City Clerk Nash thinks they can split the shifts at City Hall he is fine with that because they are in an office. Alderman Bouse agreed that City Hall is an entirely different ballgame and agreed with Graddy. City Clerk Nash did mention for the council to know that there is a possibility of another employee being infected as we are waiting on results. That would, in turn, affect another 6 people for quarantine. Alderman Martin asked if they were wearing a mask. Nash did stated that PW Director Bouse stated he just had that conversation on Friday, and the person waiting on test results was not feeling well on Friday. Alderman Martin stated we cannot shut down, where does it stop. It is not up to Craig or Chris to

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decide. Nash stated that we are your eyes and ears of the daily operations and I would think you would want to know what is going on.

Motion by Copling to have City Hall split shifts... Alderman Graddy stated that a motion is not needed, that the Mayor or Chris can make that determination, so long as they are working. Alderman Copling is worried about the electric dept too. Alderman Graddy asked if the city has mutual aid? Therefore, there is no such thing as not having an electric dept. Rodney Neff stated the mutual aid is a handshake. The surrounding communities would come to the aid if needed. Neff stated that Salam and St. James are the only two cities we have agreements with.

Public Works Director Report: Public Works Director Bouse presented two bids for the transformer at Green Farms LLC:

Sunbelt - \$34,495

Midwest Electric - \$37,250

Motion by Bouse, seconded by Black, to approve the transformer bid from Sunbelt for \$34,495. Vote: All ayes.

Public Works Director Bouse asked to go out for bids for tree trimming in Rutz Subdivision. He stated it would be more of a trench and it has been 10 years since the last time. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Graddy, to approve going out for tree trimming bids for Rutz Subdivision. Vote: All ayes.**

Alderman Copling inquired on the water/sewer project. PW Director Bouse stated that they war working on the water main on Vance and they are still smoking the lines. There is a problem with standpipes. Bouse would like to see an ordinance on the sandpipes as he would like to see them taller. Attorney Thurman stated that if there is a continued problem with the I&I then a policy is necessary on what to do if they get broken; who will pay for it. The committee will look into it.

Alderman Martin inquired on the movement of the splash park. PW Director Bouse stated that the company stated they will be starting in the next few weeks and will have completed by March/April.

Alderman Bouse stated it is a good time to put some employees on a ditch clean out schedule.

Police Chief Report – None.

Motion by Bouse, seconded by Holt, to pay the bills as presented. Vote: All ayes.

Motion by Bouse, seconded by Martin, to have the first reading of Bill No. 1977 by caption only. Vote: All ayes. City Clerk Nash read Bill No. 1977 – An ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of Cuba, Missouri, on behalf of said city, to enter into a contract with AAA Tree Service for tree trimming service. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Graddy, to approve the first reading of Bill No. 1977. Roll call vote: Copling -yes, Martin -yes, Black -yes, Holt -yes, Bouse -yes, Graddy -yes. Motion by Bouse, seconded by Graddy, to have the second reading of Bill No. 1977 by caption only. Vote: All ayes.** City Clerk Nash read Bill No. 1977 a second time. **Motion**

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by Bouse, seconded by Graddy, to approve the second reading of Bill No. 1977. Roll call vote: Graddy -yes, Bouse -yes, Holt -yes, Black -yes, Martin -yes, Copling -yes. President of the Board Black declared Bill No. 1977 becomes Special Ordinance No. 799 this 17th day of November 2020.

Alderman Copling wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Alderman Black announced due to a schedule conflict, the next meeting that was schedule for December 15 has been moved to THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17 at 6 p.m.

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

Christine Nash, City Clerk