

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

Mayor Leathers called the meeting to order. Aldermen present: Debbie Martin, Curtis Holt, Sam Black, Warren Graddy, and Jeff Bouse. Alderman absent: Kevin Copling. Public Works Director present, Craig Bouse. Police Chief present: Doug Shelton.

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

**Police Station Discussion:** Mayor Leathers did a recap of what was discussed at the last meeting and stated that he sent out an email as well. He stated he Police Committee had met and did their homework and pick Arch Elgin for the engineering services on the project and this council is to look at if taking a deeper dive in other locations is necessary.

Alderman Bouse, who serves on the Police Committee would like to move forward with seeing what the cost of retrofitting the Lange building would be and then if the city does that they will have to look at what the cost would be associated with rehabbing and expanding City Hall and leave City Hall here. Alderman Black agrees.

Police Chief Shelton stated he has not spoken to Archer recently, however, he knows that Archer can look at their square footage and note that they may not need all the square footage they have now but could be redesigned. Shelton went on to describe the problems they have with their building to include holes and cracks in the structure. He stated the biggest problem is the security. His concerns with the Lange building are that it will cost more in the long run as they will need a court room in which the police use as a training facility.

Alderman Martin agrees with Alderman Bouse and that her first choice is the Lange building. She stated that most municipalities use the court and council chambers as one in the same. Martin has stated the city will have to sell the idea of a new police station to the public as most do not think it is needed. Martin does not want to use the 5 acres by Walmart as it is the last piece of land for growth that the city has.

Police Chief Shelton stated they do need more room for evidence. Alderman Martin inquired on what kind of evidence and is there verification since there are differences of opinion with legal minded people. Mayor Leathers stated that a police station is needed. Captain B. Scharfenberg stated that evidence is disposed of all the time. They have to send a request to destroy.

Alderman Holt stated that they are all good ideas and that a police station is needed; however is it something that the city can afford. He spoke with Alderman Copling who has a lot of questions to ask and he would like to see a full council here. Mayor Leathers stated that Archer wanted to look into giving some hard numbers and that is what they wanted to start to do and the city needs to give them a direction and see what is feasible. Alderman Black mentioned that when the Lange building was looked at, there only possibilities for it. Mayor Leathers stated that

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we know the cost if comparing to Owensville. Leathers also stated the council agreed on the RFQ for Police Station.

Alderman Bouse stated that moving the City Hall would be a hard sell to the public as there was a meeting in the past on it. Mayor Leathers stated that the council can have Archer look at City Hall and make use of better space.

Rodney Neff stated that the EOC building has lead paint and asebestos tile which is a problem. In addition, they are running out of room. He is concerned with the cost associated with that. Mayor Leathers stated that will be a separate issue.

Alderman Graddy stated that there has been an approval on Archer to look into the Police station and is curious why we are not moving forward. Alderman Martin does not recall ever approving that there is going to be a new police station. She recalled when the RFQ were done the council saying that it was only to get plans done, nothing permanent was established or money involved. Martin wants to know when did the council come up with the decision to come up to do this. Alderman Graddy stated this is the third term they have discussed the deterioration of the police building.

Mayor Leathers stated that going out for RFQ and approving was the assumption that they were moving forward with the police project and Archer is only presenting the scope at this point. They will present the contract at the next meeting. Graddy says to stay the status quo and move forward. Alderman Martin stated that if the council stays the status quo then a police station is approve and there are other properties to consider.

Mayor Leathers stated that the RFQ is for the police station and there can be another RFQ to include City Hall or other property if that is what the council wants. The council can make a motion to cancel the current RFQ and then get another RFQ for police/City hall if the council would like. Alderman Black does not see an issue with adding the back space of City hall to the contract since everyone agrees the back space is not utilized.

City Clerk Nash stated that she agrees the need for a new police station; however, the several meeting of discussion that Alderman Graddy referred to regarding the police station always included a police station/City Hall. In addition, she has sent emails asking for aldermen to take a look at the lack of ergonomic working conditions, and several safety and security issues and not one person has responded to her. She stated that Archer only looked at the structure of the back portion of City Hall and did not come through the working area to look at these concerns. Nash thinks it fiscally makes sense to have City Hall and Police station together. Alderman Bouse stated that the Police do not want City Hall in their building. Mayor Leathers stated that they all agree that money needs to be put in this building.

Alderman Martin stated the bottom line is the financial aspect. There is a sewer project hat needs to be done and nothing is happening. Mayor Leathers stated we will not know until Archer can come in and do their work.

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Alderman Graddy asked what the council is approving tonight. Alderman Black is wanting to present a contract at the next meeting. Mayor Leathers stated all the council needs to do is approve a contract.

Mayor Leathers was approached by people in the grocery store inquiring why city employees do not have to abide by the mask rule when entering a building. Mayor Leathers wants to remind all employees to keep their masks on.

**Motion by Graddy, seconded by Black, to adjourn. Vote: Five ayes. Copling – absent.**

Christine Nash, City Clerk