

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CUBA, MISSOURI**  
**TUESDAY – SEPTEMBER 21, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.**  
**CUBA CITY HALL COUNCIL ROOM**

Mayor Leathers called the meeting to order. Aldermen present: Kevin Copling, Sam Black, Dave Honea, Curtis Holt, Jeff Bouse. Aldermen absent: Warren Graddy. Public Works Director present: Craig Bouse. Police Captain present: Ben Scharfenberg. City attorney present: Lance Thurman.

Mayor Leathers added line item 7.5 Park Board Recommendations to the agenda. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Honea, to approve the agenda. All ayes. Graddy absent.**

**Motion by Holt, seconded by Honea, to approve the regular meeting minutes from September 7, 2021. All ayes. Graddy absent. Bouse and Black abstain.**

**Motion by Holt, seconded by Honea, to approve the executive session meeting minutes from September 7, 2021. All ayes. Graddy absent. Bouse and Black abstain.**

**Motion by Holt, seconded by Bouse, to pay bills as presented. All ayes. Graddy absent.**

**Citizens Participation:**

Mr. Jeremiah Wilson with Covenant Praise Church of God announced that they are having a Block Party on October 9, 2021 at the Sports Complex from 5-9 p.m. This is a great event that other churches and organizations help with to bless the community. Mr. Wilson asked for permission from the council for a firework show at the end of the event that will be set off by Steven Bridgeman who is affiliated with Sho-time Pyrotechnics. Mr. Wilson has contacted his insurance company for the policy needed and will get to City Hall once available. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Black, to allow the firework show providing the insurance is received. All ayes. Graddy absent.**

Ms. Linda Plank with Cuba Food Pantry requested the closing of a block on Filmore Street for an hour on the third Tuesday of each month for food handouts. The request will include placing cones on Route 66 side and the Spencer side of Filmore Street. Police Captain Scharfenberg did not see any problems with the request. Ms. Plank stated that people would still be able to get to the daycare if necessary. **Motion by Black, seconded by Bouse, to close the block of Filmore Street from 10:30 a.m. to noon the third Tuesday of each month. All ayes. Graddy absent.**

Dr. Sean Siebert thanked the Mayor, the council, PWD Bouse, the street department, SRO's, and other agencies for helping with the street congestion behind the school. Many worked together to help with a solution and wanted to publicly thank all.

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**Bereavement time discussion:** Mayor Leathers stated that the bereavement time discussion was tabled from last meeting and listed off the family members currently in the policy and asked the council if there was any discussion to include aunts and uncles. Most surrounding towns do not include aunts and uncles, but there was one surrounding town that included extended family members to get one day off instead of the three days for immediate family. Council was not interested in making any changes to the current policy.

**Part time help/Mayor days discussion:** Mayor Leathers stated it was questioned about part time employees being paid for a Mayor day. He explained that is a day that as the Mayor, he has the authority to grant time off at his discretion for full time employees while still being paid. A part time employee is only paid for hours worked and can only work up to 1499 hours to not be considered full time and having to be offered retirement. Part time employees are not paid for holidays either. If paying part time employees is considered, it would include any summer help, pool employees, animal control employees, and Visitor Center employees possibly being paid for hours they were not scheduled to work and could be costly. Copling thinks part time help should be paid as well and if not, then maybe a floating day off. Mayor Leathers asked who would fill part time schedules if there are floating days off. Honea agreed, as part time employees are for filling the slots and they should not be paid for hours not worked. Bouse does not want to make changes. Part time employees know there is not holiday pay for vacation time. Copling decided to leave policy alone. Mayor Leathers stated there would be no changes made.

### **Natural Gas Supervisor Report:**

Jim Happel, Natural Gas Supervisor stated to the council that he has placed them on a waiting list to get materials for the piping projects. Due to a product shortage, no large projects will be able to be done until next summer. Their department can sustain with the taps, but are having problems getting meters as they could be up to 10 weeks out. The pipe cost has increased as well as the shipping and handling. Mayor Leathers asked Mr. Happel to keep in touch with Comptroller Christine Nash for budget purposes.

Mr. Happel presented a bid from KGM for a meter set and volume corrector for \$4153.66. **Motion by Holt, seconded by Bouse to approve the bid. All ayes. Graddy absent.**

### **Park Board Recommendations:**

Park board would like to fix the fencing at the Sports Complex on field #2. The bid from All-Type Fence is for \$4660. The park board recommendation is to move \$1160 from Patti Jo's playground budget and move to the Sports Complex budget. **Motion by Black, seconded by Bouse, to approve the recommendation of moving \$1160 from Patti Jo's to Sports Complex budget. All ayes. Graddy absent.**

Park board would like to recommend adding and updating Hood Park playground with new equipment and pea gravel. The park board recommends moving \$20,000 from Tangle Creek budget and moving it

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to Hood Park budget. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Copling, to approve the recommendation of moving \$20,000 from Tangle Creed to Hood Park budget. All ayes. Graddy absent.**

Jeannie Woolsey resigned from the Park board and they thanked her for her dedication and hard work serving the board. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Black, to accept the resignation of Jeannie Woolsey. All ayes. Graddy absent.**

**Public Works Director report:**

PWD Bouse presented bids for playground equipment

Bluegrass \$20,222

Miracle Recreation Equipment \$27,935.75

Note: These two bids were presented together as they are not for the same items

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Copling, to approve the bid from Bluegrass for \$20,222 and Miracle Recreation Equipment for \$27,935.75. All ayes. Graddy absent.**

PWD Bouse presented the fall clean-up October 4th-15th at the Animal Control Shelter. Dumpsters are provided for the citizens inside city limits. Items not accepted: oil, batteries, appliances, tires, hazardous waste materials, lumber, and paint. You may be asked to show proof of residency within city limits with drivers license or utility bill. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Black, to approve the fall clean-up. All ayes. Graddy absent.**

PWD Bouse presented two bids for a generator at the Sports Complex. This generator operates the well and needs to be replaced and not rebuilt. It is not a budgeted item, but with being an emergency capital improvement funds or the possible water increase can be used.

Mike's \$43,490.28

Mike's \$53,410.43

The difference in these bids are the manufacturers.

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Black, to approve the bid from Mike's for \$43,490.28. All ayes. Graddy absent.**

PWD Bouse stated that the DAV pavilion was broke into. Repairs need to be made and will come from the park fund.

Lumber \$379

Insulation \$376

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Copling, to approve the lumber and insulation repair for \$755. All ayes. Graddy absent.**

PWD Bouse stated that the sift station behind the school quit and needs to be replaced and presented a bid for a new one.

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The Pump Shop           \$4310

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Honea, to approve the bid from The Pump shop for \$4310. All ayes. Graddy absent.**

PWD Bouse presented the council with a bid to pre-buy salt for the street department.

Oakley Fertilizer       \$6150

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Holt, to approve the bid from Oakley Fertilizer for \$6150. All ayes. Graddy absent.**

PWD Bouse stated that the transformers were ordered for the 7200 circuit and hoping to get by late November. The tree trimming should be done in that area by this time. Black asked how many transformers were ordered and what percentage of the project will be completed. PWD Bouse stated that 30 were ordered and it will complete a quarter of the project. To complete the whole project will take 4-5 years. Mayor Leathers asked if former electric supervisor Bob Bowen will be assisting with the project. PWD Bouse replied yes. Mayor Leathers stated that anything being done ahead of time will help the project start once the transformers are in.

PWD Bouse presented the Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) plan from Environmental Compliance Solutions (ECS) for \$3850 that was tabled the last council meeting for the electric committee to meet. This is a plan for oil removal in the substation. Comptroller Nash clarified that they do a yearly audit and this is their recommendation. The electric committee met and does recommend. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Holt, to approve the SPCC plan for \$3850. All ayes. Graddy absent.**

The electric committee met and recommended moving Andrew McGinnis to second in command of the electric department. This move will be retroacted July 1, 2021. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Copling, to move Andrew McGinnis to second in command retroacted July 1, 2021. All ayes. Graddy absent.**

PWD Bouse would like to get the ball rolling with the water looping project by starting on easements, DNR permits, and engineering that could cost up to \$50,000 this budget year. It was asked if this is an immediate need and PWD Bouse replied that yes, the water flow is weak at the new industrial park and Medow's subdivision. Mayor Leathers clarified that there would be no groundbreaking, just working to get the permit process, easements, and engineering worked on to be ready to start at the beginning of the next budget year. Copling stated that there was a water/sewer committee meeting discussion and recommendation for the \$50,000 to get some things started. Copling thinks this is very important for water pressure, and fire protection when the new plant starts and would like to start now. Comptroller Nash stated that capital improvement funds can be used for this. **Motion by Copling, seconded by Bouse, to allow PWD Bouse to start working on DNR permits, easements, and engineering. All ayes. Graddy absent.**

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Thurman stated that Archer Engineering met on site to view the retention pond and gave their opinion to PWD Bouse, Copling, and himself and will present a proposed plan and cost estimate to the council at the next council meeting. Also, will meet in executive session for real estate.

Copling asked PWD Bouse about the cuts in the street by Casey's and if it will be repaired. PWD Bouse stated that it will be paved.

Mayor Leathers asked about the plan to widen Beldon Street. PWD Bouse stated that yes, the street is going to be widened by the curb at Casey's.

Honea thanked the PWD Bouse and the street department for working on Dorf Street.

**Police Chief Report:**

Police Captain Scharfenberg stated that Robbie Yates has submitted his resignation with his last day of work being 9/24/21. **Motion by Black, seconded by Honea, to accept the resignation of Robbie Yates. 4 ayes. 1 nay. Graddy absent.**

Police Captain Scharfenberg reported on the nuisance complaints.

Bouse asked about the Hood Park hours and suggested to update the park hours sign.

Mayor Leathers stated that the first reading of Bill No. 2027 was done at the previous meeting for water rate increases. He asked the council to keep in mind while voting, that when working on the budget there was lots of discussion of this rate increase and projects were budgeted around the increase.

Comptroller Nash explained to the council how the water rate increases will affect all users and also included other towns for a comparison. Due to prior discussion regarding industrial users, the committee came up with a different tier for them. There is a need for the increase as water rates have not increased since 2002. With several water/sewer projects happening and operational costs, money is needed as the budget is short. Comptroller Nash also clarified that the budget was completed with the estimated rate increase and if not passed, then the budget will have to be adjusted.

Mayor Leathers stated that he does not like to increase the rates but does support the proposed water rate increase. With the many upcoming projects, old pipe, water line problems, treatment plant problems, and water material rising costs and labor he feels it is time to make to move and pass the increase. Also, with the rate increase that will allow for grant qualifications.

Copling stated that he does not like to increase the water rates either, but there is a need. In order to move forward with the water looping, the possible Ridgetop Farm construction, and all other water projects it is in the city's best interest to raise the water rates.

Mayor Leathers stated that if the water rates bill passes, then a letter will be mailed out to all the citizens and businesses with detailed information with cost examples and the effective date.

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Black stated that they city will still have a lower rate than some surrounding towns and wants the citizens to understand that funds are being pulled from other areas to stay afloat and that is not a good situation to be in.

**Motion by Honea, seconded by Black, to have the second reading of Bill No. 2027 by caption only. All ayes. Graddy absent.** City Clerk Garbo read Bill No. 2027 – An ordinance increasing water fees for water and sanitary services provided by the City of Cuba, Missouri. **Motion by Honea, seconded by Black, to approve the second reading of Bill No. 2027. Roll call vote: Copling-yes, Black-yes, Honea-yes, Holt-yes, Bouse-no. Graddy absent.** Mayor Leathers declared Bill No. 2027 becomes General Ordinance No. 1200 on this 21<sup>st</sup> day of September 2021.

**Motion by Black, seconded by Honea, to have the first reading of Bill No. 2028 by caption only. All ayes. Graddy absent.** City Clerk Garbo read Bill No. 2028 – An ordinance authorizing the City of Cuba, Missouri to join Show Me PACE, pursuant to sections SS 67.2835, Rsmo, the “Property Assessment Clean Energy Act,” And stating the terms under which the City of Cuba, Missouri will conduct activities as a member of such district and authorizing the Mayor of said city to sign and agreement with ShowMe PACE entering the City of Cuba Missouri into said district. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Honea, to approve the first reading of Bill No. 2028. Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Holt-yes, Honea-yes, Black-yes, Copling-yes. Graddy absent. Motion by Bouse, seconded by Black, to have the second reading of Bill No. 2028 by caption only. All ayes. Graddy absent.** City Clerk read Bill No. 2028 a second time. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Honea, to approve the second reading of Bill No. 2028. Roll call vote: Copling-yes, Black-yes, Honea-yes, Holt-yes, Bouse-yes. Graddy absent.** Mayor Leathers declared Bill No. 2028 becomes General Ordinance No. 1201 this 21<sup>st</sup> day of September 2021.

Mayor Leathers expressed thoughts and prayers for Dennis Meiser and family as he was a wonderful generous man who did a lot for the community and will be missed.

Mayor Leathers stated that with the passing of Dennis Meiser of the tourism board and the resignation of Jeannie Woolsey from the park board, there are some open seats. He would like to try a better outreach to fill them and suggested running an ad in the paper to see if there is interest from any and if so, they could fill out a form with their information to be contacted.

Copling stated again that he made a vote he did not like in order to pass the water rate increase. He is aware the citizens will not like the rate increase, but it is best for the city to move forward with all the projects needed.

Honea thanked all city employees for taking care of everything with a smile.

Bouse stated that he is making a formal complaint against the pot/marijuana smell in his neighborhood, Rutz Subdivision. He stated the smell is so bad people can't use their yards and feels the company needs to be help responsible as they promised from the beginning there would not be a smell. Mayor Leathers questioned if it would be a civil suit instead of a nuisance. Thurman stated that if it is affecting

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the town and people are losing values of their homes, then that is separate and a private interest as a civil suit. If it is just about the odor, then can try to treat as a nuisance by sending an officer to determine the issue. Bouse told Police Captain Scharfenberg this is his notice as a nuisance complaint.

Bouse announced his condolences to the Dennis Meiser and Ed Worley families.

**Motion by Honea, seconded by Black, to adjourn.**

Lainie Garbo, City Clerk