

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CUBA, MISSOURI
TUESDAY – SEPTEMBER 20, 2022 – 6:00 P.M.
CUBA CITY HALL COUNCIL ROOM

Mayor Cody Leathers called the meeting to order. Aldermen present: Kevin Copling, Debbie Martin, Dave Honea, Warren Graddy, Curtis Holt, Jeff Bouse. Police Chief present: Doug Shelton. City Attorney present: Lance Thurman.

Motion by Graddy, seconded by Honea, to approve the agenda. Vote: All ayes.

Citizens Participation:

Crystal Bouse, Rutz Subdivision, addressed the council regarding Halloween asking to have trick or treating on the Saturday prior to Halloween. A benefit is not being out late and then having to get up early for work. This is also a benefit for those that like Halloween and prepare months ahead of time decorating. C.Bouse stated that other towns do this and some businesses also do their trunk or treats on the weekend. Mayor Leathers stated that this has not been done in Cuba before, but has no objections and it would have to be advertised in the paper and online to spread the word. Thurman state the easiest way to allow is to do a resolution informing the public thru an action encouraging the holiday on a certain day. Mayor Leathers recommended extra police care. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Honea, to approve Thurman to draw a resolution to celebrate Halloween trick or treating on October 29, 2022. Vote: All ayes.**

Ronda Harris is addressing the council asking for help regarding the house at 3004 Chestnut. There was a fire in the home in 2009 and there have not been any utilities since then but there has been a man living in the house for the last year and is also pitching tents in the back yard. Harris stated that the city inspector deemed the house not livable, but the man is still in and at the house running a generator seven days a week claiming to work on the house but is not. Bouse recommended calling the police department, Harris stated she had called the chief twice with no call back and had talked to other officers and was told the man can run the generator. Mayor Leathers stated that he can not live in the home with no utilities. Thurman stated that is a dangerous home. Mayor Leathers stated that he will have Bob Baldwin look at the home but Harris stated she had already spoke with him and he did post the home unsafe but there are still tents in the back yard and the generator is running late into the night. Harris and Ben Scharfenberg stated the notice was posted on the home two weeks prior. Mayor Leathers stated that they have to give the appropriate time and then they can hopefully get the issue resolved and he will reach out to Harris with any updates. Harris appreciates any help that can be given.

Motion by Honea, seconded by Bouse, to approve the regular meeting minutes from September 6, 2022. Vote: All ayes. Graddy abstained.

Motion by Bouse, seconded by Honea, to approve the executive session meeting minutes from September 6, 2022. Vote: All ayes. Graddy abstained.

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

Electric Department:

Andy Simpson, Electric Supervisor, presented wire bids to the council.

Anixter \$2952.00

Fletcher-Reinhardt Company \$3036.00

Motion by Honea, seconded by Bouse, to approve the wire bid from Anixter for \$2952.00. Vote: All ayes.

Mayor Leathers stated that he received a correspondence from the Cuba Ball Program that they needed help with the ball lights for league and the electric department helped them that day. Mayor Leathers thanked Andy Simpson and the electric department for a job well done.

Natural Gas:

Jimmy Happel, Natural Gas Supervisor, and Keven Stiles, Natural Gas Consultant, addressed the council to discuss the natural gas prices going forward with how the prices will go and where the city will be at. Stiles stated that he has worked with the City of Cuba since 2006 and gives an update about twice a year. Stiles stated that as of now, nothing has been priced for the upcoming winter season and is not concerned about it. Nothing was priced the prior year until November. Stiles stated that as all are aware, the market has been erratic and higher in natural gas like the gasoline pumps have been. Stiles feels that things are starting to go in our favor in the marketplace and will price more natural gas to not risk the spike like a previous winter. Again, Stiles stated nothing has been priced yet and is not concerned about it. Mayor Leathers stated that he always appreciates the updates as things are getting crazy in the works and thinks the city is in good hands with him. Mayor Leathers asked Stiles to keep them informed. Happel stated that it has been proven that the City of Cuba has more stability than some towns down the line, Mayor Leathers agreed and stated that it was proven in 2021. Thurman stated that the city came out very well in comparison to surrounding cities from the past winter storm. Holt agreed that Stiles does a great job consulting.

Water/Sewer:

Mayor Leathers stated that a committee meeting was had to go over the applicants. Bouse stated that the committee did meet and interviewed three applicants, and after the meeting it was discussed and it was agreed to hire Ben Weber. Bouse stated that Weber wants to move from the police department to work a Monday-Friday job to have more time with family. Randy Williams stated that he was also at the meeting and all three applicants interviewed well and he would have no problem training any of them as they are all able to learn the job. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Honea, to hire Ben Weber as the Pretreatment Coordinator.** Holt asked about the pay. Mayor Leathers stated it will be a lateral move. Copling stated that he did pick a candidate for the job and then some information came to him and now he doubts his pick. **Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Holt-yes, Graddy-yes, Honea-yes, Martin-yes, Copling-no.**

Motion passed. Mayor Leathers asked Copling if the council needs to know the information for the vote, and if it was pertinent to change the vote. Thurman stated that he was asked a question earlier and he made the statement that pretreatment ordinance and law enforcement is a different mindset and not an apples to apples job and asked Copling not to change his mind because of him. Thurman stated that the aldermen met with the applicants, not himself. Martin asked if the hires are probationary or not, yes 90 days, and if it doesn't work out then fine. Williams and Weber will work out the starting date. Weber asked if his pay would be hourly or salary. Mayor Leathers stated it will be hourly and an 80 hour pay period verses the 86 hour pay period he currently has.

Parks and Recreation:

Mayor Leathers stated that the parks and recreation board met and is recommending moving forward with the pool plastering with swim lanes project. The bid received is for \$144,908.67 from Vaughan Pools and Spas. **Motion by Honea, seconded by Bouse, to approve the bid from Vaughan Pools and Spas for \$144,908.67. Vote: All ayes.**

Honea questioned the no parking signs in Hood Park along the rail and who placed them there. It was determined that the signs were placed by someone within the football organization. Honea stated that they signs are to be taken down.

Honea asked if anyone knows what happened to the adult swing at Hood Park by the playground. Jerry Montgomery, stated that he believes it was taken down months ago for the new equipment and probably has not been installed yet. Mayor Leathers stated it will be looked into.

Mayor Leathers stated that he received a resignation notice from Jordan Cason on the Parks and Recreation Committee. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Holt, to accept the resignation from Jordan Cason from the Parks and Recreation committee. Vote: All ayes.**

Mayor Leathers stated that Graddy is not able to attend the Parks and Recreation Committee meetings and recommends resignation and then appointing Copling to the committee. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Martin, to accept the resignation of Graddy from Parks and Recreation Committee and appointing Copling. Vote: All ayes.**

Auditing Bids:

Mayor Leathers stated that bids are needed for an auditing firm and would like to get a three-year contract. **Motion by Graddy, seconded by Holt, to approve advertising auditing bids for a three-year contract. Vote: All ayes.**

Police Chief report:

PC Shelton asked for approval to advertise a police officer position. PC Shelton stated that it is not in the budget to train a new K9 officer and asked permission to rehome the K9 dog. PC Shelton stated that he can look for a K9 officer but it costs a lot and there is nothing local for the initial training and then there is an ongoing training of four days every three months. Mayor Leathers suggested leaving the

discussion open for a K9 officer and see who all applies before deciding. Martin asked if the advertisement can be ran stating K9 experience desirable, Mayor Leathers replied yes. PC Shelton stated there is a department meeting the following day and will know then if there in any interest withing the department. Honea asked if the K9 Durango can be traded for two new police cars, PC Shelton replied no as it is from a grant. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Honea, to advertise for a police officer. Vote: All ayes.**

PC Shelton stated that since Midwest Petroleum sold out to TA Travel Centers and a lag in the card switch over, they have been getting their gas at Mobil as they are allowing them to charge. PC Shelton asked for approval to switch their gas account to Mobil. Mike Plank also suggested a universal fleet gas card that can be used anywhere and also offers a discount. Mayor Leathers is ok with using Mobil and looking into the universal card. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Graddy, to approve a gas account with Mobil. Vote: All ayes.**

PC Shelton stated that two state highway patrol cars were budgeted for the year, but called and can no longer get any patrol cars and probably won't for a year and a half. A Ford Explorer is available for \$29,700 and would like to purchase using the remainder of the budgeted money to outfit the vehicle, keeping the other car as a reserve. PC Shelton stated that they purchase with a purchase order and could be ready to pick up the following week. PC Shelton stated that Chrysler isn't going to me making the chargers anymore and need to start looking in different directions. Thurman stated that all cities are dealing with this issue and almost all law enforcement is struggling with purchasing cars and them costing more. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Honea, to approve the purchase of a Ford Explorer for \$29,700 from the Missouri State Highway Patrol. Vote: All ayes.**

PC Shelton stated that the handbook has been changed to reflect the grant overtime pay being double overtime as it was previously discussed. The organization is not accepting due to using the word grant. PC Shelton stated that they are having a hard time figuring the double time of who is working and getting as close to the grant money offered and asked if a set flat hourly rate can be set for the working grant hours only which is reimbursed. PC Shelton asked the council to set the hourly rate at \$75/hour for grants. **Motion by Honea, seconded by Bouse, to redo the grant overtime policy in the employee handbook and setting the hourly rate at \$75/hour for the reimbursable overtime grant hours. Vote: All ayes.**

PC Shelton gave an update on nuisance complaints.

205 Shaw Street now has a condemnation notice posted as of 09.12.22 and after thirty days the steps and process to demolish will begin.

Motion by Graddy, seconded by Holt, to have the first reading of Bill No. 2068 by caption only. Vote: All ayes. Thurman read Bill No. 2068 – An ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of Cuba, Missouri, on behalf of said city, to enter into an addendum to the 2021 Cuba Wastewater Collection System Rehabilitation Project contract with SAK Construction, LLC. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Graddy, to approve the first reading of Bill No. 2068. Roll call vote: Copling-yes, Martin-yes, Honea-**

yes, Graddy-yes, Holt-yes, Bouse-yes. Motion by Holt, seconded by Graddy, to have the second reading of Bill No. 2068. Vote: all ayes. Thurman read Bill No. 2068 a second time. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Graddy, to approve the second reading of Bill No. 2068. Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Holt-yes, Graddy-yes, Honea-yes, Martin-yes, Copling-yes.** Mayor Leathers declared that Bill No. 2068 becomes Special Ordinance 862 on the 20th day of September 2022.

Motion by Bouse, seconded by Holt, to have the first reading of Bill No. 2069 by caption only. Vote: All ayes. Thurman read Bill No. 2069 – An ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of Cuba, Missouri, on behalf of said city, to enter into an addendum to a water tank maintenance contract with Utility Service Co., Inc. **Motion by Holt, seconded by Graddy, to approve the first reading of Bill No. 2069. Roll call vote: Copling-yes, Martin-yes, Honea-yes, Graddy-yes, Holt-yes, Bouse-yes. Motion by Graddy, seconded by Holt, to have the second reading of Bill No. 2069. Vote: All ayes.** Thurman read Bill No. 2069 a second time. **Motion by Graddy, seconded by Holt, to approve the second reading of Bill No. 2069. Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Holt-yes, Graddy-yes, Honea-yes, Martin-yes, Copling-yes.** Mayor Leathers declared that Bill No. 2069 becomes Special Ordinance 863 on this 20th day of September 2022.

Honea presented a bid to the council from Commit 2 Clean for the flooring at the Animal Shelter for \$8250.00. Honea stated that this can be paid with the \$25,000 previously budgeted for a new out building. **Motion by Honea, seconded by Martin, to approve the bid from Commit 2 Clean for the Animal Shelter flooring for \$8250.00. Vote: All ayes.**

Mayor Leathers stated that with Debbie Martin taking an alderman seat that leaves a vacant seat on the tourism committee and would like to appoint Jimmy West. **Motion by Holt, seconded by Graddy, to appoint Jimmy West to the tourism committee. Vote: All ayes.**

Mayor Leathers stated there are openings on the planning and zoning committee and the parks and recreation committee and is still looking to fill those.

Bouse asked all to keep Gary and Ann Branson in their prayers and thanked all the emergency responders that helped.

Copling stated that there is a sign at the Visitor Center that is faded and needs stained and asked for someone to get in touch with Jim Barnett for details.

Motion by Graddy, seconded by Holt, to go into executive session – closed to the public pursuant RSMo 610.021 – Section 1) Attorney-Client Communications; Section 2) Real Estate. Roll call vote: Copling-yes, Martin-yes, Honea-yes, Graddy-yes, Holt-yes, Bouse-yes.

Motion by Graddy, seconded by Holt, to go back into open session. Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Holt-yes, Graddy-yes, Honea-yes, Martin-yes, Copling-yes.

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Attorney Thurman stated that the council met in closed session to discuss Real Estate, trading three acres with the Fire District and litigation. There were no final actions taken.

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

Lainie Garbo, City Clerk