

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
NOVEMBER 10, 2015 6:00 P.M.
CITY OF LAURIE, MISSOURI**

Mayor Scott Fahrer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present at the meeting were Mayor Scott Fahrer, Aldermen: Karen Dobbins, Greg Lux, Allen Kimberling

Others present were City Clerk Ron Clarke, City Attorney Steve Grantham, Chief of Police Mark Black, Brian Scheiter, Dick Dobbins, Martha Moulder, Paul Johnson, Clint Hatcher, Harold Vandehaar, Ron Holst, Mac Mouat, Helen Riggins, Beth Riggins, Stanley Field, Herb Keck, Colby Powell, Janet Dabbs

Citizens Communication:

Helen Riggins addressed the board regarding business development in Laurie. What is being done to bring businesses to Laurie? She expressed a concern about water rates. She has customers moving away because there are too few retail shops in Laurie. She asked about an old committee called the Business Owners Advisory Team (BOAT).

The mayor commented he was working on forming a committee of local business owners to discuss ideas and bring them to the board. He also commented the board should look at the current water rates.

Mayor's Communications

The mayor expressed his appreciation for the work that went into the successful STAFF Haunted Hayride. The mayor also thanked Helen Riggins for her input.

Approval of Minutes

Karen Dobbins moved to approve the October 13 meeting minutes. Allen Kimberling seconded.

Alderman Lux	Aye
Alderman Dobbins	Aye
Alderman Ites	Absent
Alderman Kimberling	Aye

Greg Lux moved to approve the October 8 work session minutes. Allen Kimberling seconded.

Alderman Lux	Aye
Alderman Dobbins	Aye
Alderman Ites	Absent
Alderman Kimberling	Aye

Greg Lux moved to approve the November 5 work session minutes. Karen Dobbins seconded.

Alderman Lux	Aye
Alderman Dobbins	Aye
Alderman Ites	Absent
Alderman Kimberling	Aye

Pending Payments & Addition to Pending Payments

Allen Kimberling moved to approve pending payments and additions to pending payments. Karen Dobbins seconded.

Alderman Lux	Aye
Alderman Dobbins	Aye
Alderman Ites	Absent
Alderman Kimberling	Aye

Unfinished Business

Sidewalk Update:

Ron Holst gave an update on the sidewalk project. Anderson is 80% complete on the design. Discussed design changes including completing the sidewalk from Moreview Dr. to the Terrace Mall and the crosswalks at O and 5. Construction estimate including the changes is still within our budget. MODOT presented a plan to replace stoplights on the cables on O & 5 with boom lights. Preliminary design is due next week. MODOT will set up a meeting with anyone interested the week of November 30.

Street Repair Update

Ron Clarke gave an update on the street repair plan. Bartlett and West will complete the bid package next week with the information provided on funds and bid dates. Steve Schultz will include a clause that the work must be complete by June 1, 2016 and within 45 days of commencing. Bids will be due mid December 2015.

New Business

Harold Vandehaar, Chairman of S.T.A.F.F., presented information on a grant program to spay and/or neuter stray or community cats within the city of Laurie. The grant requires the city to pass an ordinance supporting the program. Cats will be caught, fixed, marked, and returned to where they came. The grant funds are already available the only requirement is an ordinance, a sample of which was included in his handouts. The board asked Steve Grantham to work on an ordinance to support this.

Paul Johnson, Missouri Forrester, presented information on the program Tree City USA and the Arbor Day Foundation. Because trees are as important to us as any other infrastructure, the program helps maintain this valuable infrastructure. The program has four standards:

1. The community must establish a tree board for the care and maintenance of trees on public land. The Enhancement Committee meets this requirement and would need to keep a list of projects and accomplishments.
2. The community must pass a tree care ordinance (a sample of which was included in the handout). The ordinance would establish policies for managing and caring for trees on public owned property.
3. Meet a \$2.00 per capita for tree maintenance, which he was sure we already do as we prune and mulch and water many trees now.
4. Hold an annual Arbor Day celebration in which we invite the community to participate as we plant trees, or prune trees, etc.

Mayor Fahrer asked Paul to clarify that the ordinance would only pertain to city property; yes only city property but could set an example for private property owners.

Greg Lux asked if there was any cost to the city? Paul Johnson replied there is not, but the program can make the city eligible for grants. The board asked Steve Grantham to work on an ordinance to support this.

Clint Hatcher asked for sewer forgiveness for a leak repaired in October. Dean Smith had prepared a report containing water usage figures compared to the same period last year. The report concluded forgiveness was warranted for the months of March, April & May. Mr. Hatcher requested a refund for the months of March through September. The board decided to defer this request until they could speak to Dean.

Roger Corbin presented information on LOREDC, a local economic development council and a new study on housing. He asked for a \$250 donation to support the study which would be available to developers in the area. Karen Dobbins moved to make the donation. Greg Lux seconded.

Alderman Lux	Aye
Alderman Dobbins	Aye
Alderman Ites	Absent
Alderman Kimberling	Aye

Department Head Reports

Public Works Department

Brian Scheiter reported he had acquired estimates for the well capping grant program and we were within the grant dollar amount. Our plan is to begin in 2016 and the grant specifies we must be complete in May of 2016.

Mark Black, Police Chief

Monthly Statistics: September 2015; Traffic Stops 48; Warnings 45; Summons 13; Criminal Activities 10; 6 Arrests; and 288 Calls for Service.

City Clerk

Ron Clarke reviewed the financial report for October 2015. October total of all funds \$2,095,384.84. General Fund Revenues - \$617,327.86; General Fund Expenses - \$427,376.62; Event Fund Revenues - \$62,688.69; Event Fund Expenses - \$74,490.15; Water and Sewer Fund Revenues - \$566,411.64; and Water and Sewer Fund Expenses – \$443,841.44.

Sales Tax Review: October City Sales Tax was \$16,865.14; Year to date: \$306,753.84. This is a decrease of \$2,902.30 for the same period in 2014. October Street Sales Tax was \$8,341.92, YTD \$150,888.95. This is a decrease of \$1,447.57 for the same period last year. October Sewer Sales Tax was \$8,432.59, YTD \$153,376.84. This is a decrease of \$1,438.42 for the same period last year.

Ron Clarke asked the board if they would support offering Aflac accident coverage insurance to employees at no cost to the city. There was no objection.

Steve Grantham, City Attorney

No report

Board Reports

No report

Mayor’s Report

No report

Adjourn

Allen Kimberling made a motion to adjourn. Greg Lux seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Scott Fahrer, Mayor

Attest:

Ron Clarke, City Clerk