

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
MARCH 8, 2016 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, Jeff Chorpening
Others present were City Clerk Ron Clarke, City Attorney Steve Grantham, Chief of Police Mark Black, Dick Dobbins, Martha Moulder, Ron Holst, Herb Keck, Colby Powell, Janet Dabbs

Citizens Communication:

None

Mayor's Communications

The Mayor thanked the Board for their hard work and dedication throughout the year.

Approval of Minutes

Alderman Lux made a motion to approve the February 9th regular meeting minutes. Alderman Dobbins seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Alderman Dobbins made a motion to approve the February 9th closed session minutes. Alderman Lux seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Alderman Dobbins made a motion to approve the February 16th special session minutes.

Alderman Chorpening seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Alderman Dobbins made a motion to approve the February 16th closed session minutes. Alderman Chorpening seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Pending Payments & Addition to Pending Payments

Alderman Lux asked if the amounts paid to the auditor were the final amounts. City Clerk Clarke responded that they were probably not as there were more questions to which he needed answers. City Clerk Clarke also pointed out that the auditor costs were split between the general fund and the water and sewer funds. Alderman Chorpening asked why there were several payments under the heading "Not Defined". City Clerk Clarke explained they were liability accounts such as those due the state for court costs, employee paid insurance premiums, etc. and they simply did not have a department assigned to them. Alderman Lux asked if an amount was the final for the repair of well #3 and City Clerk Clarke responded that it was until we hear back from the insurance company.

Alderman Dobbins made a motion to approve payments and pending payments. Alderman Kimberling seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business

Sidewalk Update

Andrew Eckhart presented an update on the sidewalk project contract agreements and estimate. The Board reviewed the current draft of the agreement and supplemental agreement. MODOT is still working to provide the final agreement. Mr. Eckhart answered questions about the timeline contained within the agreement as well as questions about the cost estimate. Mr. Eckhart explained that the project cost, including two additional alternate projects, were still very close to the original budgeted amount. Mr. Eckhart also explained that the cost estimates were his figures and the final costs after bids are received could be somewhat higher or lower. At that time the Board would be able to make a determination on which, if any, of the additional alternates of the project they would want to pursue.

Alderman Dobbins made a motion to approve the mayor signing the final agreements when they are delivered pursuant to approval of the city attorney. Alderman Kimberling seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Street Repairs Update

City Clerk Clarke reported that Higgins did not have a definitive start date as they were waiting on the asphalt plant to open as the weather warmed. They are still planning to start no later than mid-April.

Water & Sewer Rate Study Update

City Clerk Clarke reported that a preliminary report had been delivered and was available for the board to review.

New Business

Nature Trail Signage

Alderman Dobbins discussed the wood sign at the ball park and that it would be nice to add a Nature Trail sign below the Ball Park sign. Several people were mentioned who could create a similar plaque to be hung below the Ball Park sign. Alderman Dobbins also mentioned the metal sign on highway 5 placed by MODOT denoting a ball park was located on RA. She mentioned she had seen similar highway signs denoting hiking trails placed along highways by MODOT. It was agreed we would contact MODOT to find out about adding a Hiking Trail sign at this location.

Department Head Reports

Public Works Department

City Clerk Clarke reported that the maintenance employees had been busy repairing water leaks caused by and/or uncovered by the various crews working to install the fiber optic line through town. Mr. Clarke also introduced Steve Hollaway, our new WWTP operator to the Board and citizens and reported that our other new employee, John Taylor was working out well and getting good on-the-job training.

Mark Black, Police Chief

Chief Black reported on two upcoming events, the pub crawl the weekend of the 12th and the St. Patrick's Day parade on the 17th. Chief Black also asked to hire another full time officer as the busy season was approaching. After some discussion Alderman Chorpene made a motion to hire one of our part-time officers as full-time and replace him with another part-time officer. Alderman Kimberling seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- Monthly Statistics Chief Black presented the following monthly statistics for February 2016: Traffic Stops 29; Warnings 22; Summons 13; Assist Other Agencies 18; Criminal Activities 15; Calls for Service 316, Arrests 2.

City Clerk

Ron Clarke reviewed the financial report for February 2016. February total of all funds \$2,148,275. General Fund Revenues - \$84,241; General Fund Expenses - \$87,774; Event Fund Revenues - \$2,282; Event Fund Expenses - \$8,572; Water and Sewer Fund Revenues - \$100,618; and Water and Sewer Fund Expenses - \$151,375.

Sales Tax Review: February City Sales Tax was \$35,984; Year to date: \$49,752. This is an increase of \$2,812 for the same period in 2015. February Street Sales Tax was \$17,346, YTD \$24,138. This is an increase of \$1,326 for the same period last year. February Sewer Sales Tax was \$17,992, YTD \$24,876. This is an increase of \$1,406 for the same period last year.

Steve Grantham, City Attorney

No Report

Board Reports

Alderman Dobbins reported she would like to include a letter or flyer related to the Friends of Laurie when we send out the merchant license renewal notices encouraging local merchants to help with city-wide clean up within their own areas.

Mayor's Report

The Mayor again thanked the Board and relayed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve the City of Laurie as Mayor.

Scott Fahrner, Mayor

Attest:

Ron Clarke, City Clerk