

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
DECEMBER 8, 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, Dean Smith, Dick Dobbins, Martha Moulder, Dru Hayes, Clint Hatcher, Ron Holst, Mac Mouat, Valerie Ites, Stanley Field, Herb Keck, Susann Huff, Marc Knapp, Colby Powell, Janet Dabbs

Citizens Communication: None

Mayor's Communication:

The mayor announced Val Ites' resignation November 18th and he was proposing Marc Knapp to fill the temporary vacancy until the next election, April 5, 2016. Alderman Lux asked that we wait until the next board meeting so the public would be aware of Val's resignation before someone was appointed. After discussion and at the advice of Steve Grantham, the board agreed to hold a special meeting December 16th at 3:00 P.M. at which time a temporary appointment would be made.

Mayor Fahrer read a letter regarding the 2016 budget and thanked the Board for their hard work throughout the year.

Mayor Fahrer thanked Susann Huff and the volunteers for the work on the Enchanted Village of Lights.

Approval of Minutes

Alderman Lux made a motion to approve the November 10th regular meeting minutes. Alderman Kimberling seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Alderman Lux made a motion to approve the November 17th work session minutes. Alderman Dobbins seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Pending Payments & Additions to Pending Payments

Dean Smith asked about the water bill for the park as it had been shut off. Ron Clarke will investigate the timing of the bills. Alderman Lux asked what meter was repaired by Sidener Environmental. Dean Smith responded; well #2 chlorine. Alderman Lux moved to approve payments and pending payments. Alderman Kimberling seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business

A. Ron Holst provided a sidewalk project update:

1. MoDOT provided a new crosswalk design & cost estimate to provide 4 signal post and mast arms to replace the wire suspended signals, at no cost to the City. The total construction estimate for the intersection work was about \$88k.
2. MoDOT agreed to revise their design for the two crosswalks and to require only one of the cross walks to be pedestrian signal controlled. We are waiting on the MoDOT redesign.
3. The draft MoDOT Municipal agreement with the City clarifies responsibilities.
 - a. Combining drawings
 - b. Inspection of the work
 - c. Division of costs- we pay for the pedestrian related expenses.
4. MoDOT needs to complete the final plans and estimates in order to complete paragraph 6 and exhibit B. I asked the MoDOT project coordinator to consider adding some language that would clearly give the City the right to reject excessive bids and to rebid the project without the mast arms. She will check with their attorney to add a provision to the agreement.

5. Our engineer believes our share of the new scope will bid within our available budget. If bids come in low we may also award the alternate sidewalk from Mooreview Drive to the Mall.
6. Would City Clerk be able to approve the Municipal agreement after review by the City attorney?
7. Once approved our engineer can proceed with developing the bid documents
8. Still shooting for an April bid date.

B. Street Repair Update

Ron Clarke reported the street repair bid notices were published in the local papers and bids were due Thursday December 17th at 10:00 A.M.

C. Tree Ordinance Discussion

Alderman Dobbins requested we table this discussion until the January Board meeting.

D. First Reading Council Bill No. 2015-11; Ordinance No. 2015-11: “An Ordinance adopting a Cat Capture, Fix, and Release program for the City of Laurie”.

Alderman Dobbins introduced Council bill No. 2015-11 for the first reading. Alderman Kimberling seconded. The following roll call vote was recorded:

Alderman Lux	aye
Alderman Dobbins	aye
Alderman	
Alderman Kimberling	aye

E. Second Reading Council Bill No. 2015-11; Ordinance No. 2015-11: “An Ordinance adopting a Cat Capture, Fix, and Release program for the City of Laurie”.

Alderman Kimberling introduced Council bill No. 2015-11 for the second reading. Alderman Dobbins seconded. The following roll call vote was recorded:

Alderman Lux	aye
Alderman Dobbins	aye
Alderman	
Alderman Kimberling	aye

F. Clint Hatcher, Laurie Care Center: Sewer Forgiveness

After the Board reviewed additional information provided by Dean Smith, Alderman Lux moved to award the sewer forgiveness to Laurie Care Center in the amount of (approx.) \$2,557.01. Alderman Dobbins seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

A. First Reading Council Bill No. 2015-12; Ordinance No. 2015-12: “An Ordinance adopting an annual budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2016, appropriating funds pursuant thereto.”

Alderman Dobbins introduced Council bill No. 2015-12 for the first reading. Alderman Kimberling seconded. The following roll call vote was recorded:

Alderman Lux	aye
Alderman Dobbins	aye
Alderman	
Alderman Kimberling	aye

B. Second Reading Council Bill No. 2015-12; Ordinance No. 2015-12: “An Ordinance adopting an annual budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2016, appropriating funds pursuant thereto.”

Alderman Lux introduced Council bill No. 2015-12 for the second reading. Alderman Kimberling seconded. The following roll call vote was recorded:

Alderman Lux aye
Alderman Dobbins aye
Alderman
Alderman Kimberling aye

C. Sales / Use Tax Issue

The Board discussed the Sales/Use Tax issue including potential cost to the city, the advantages and disadvantages, and having the question on the ballot. The issue is that if the city does not put a question to the voters to retain the city’s portion of the sales tax for vehicles, boats, motors, etc. purchased out of state or person to person, the city must stop collecting these sales taxes November 2016. To make it clear, this is not a new tax, it is asking the voters to allow the city to continue to collect a form of revenue it already collects. According to sources such as the Missouri Municipal League (MML) the state of Missouri estimates these taxes to be about 21% of the total vehicle sales taxes currently collected. Ron Clarke reported there was still time to get the question on the April, 2016 ballot which would reduce the potential for additional election costs. In order to have the question on the ballot, minutes would need to include a vote by the Board to hold an election as well as an ordinance calling for the question. Alderman Lux pointed out that if we do not ask the voters to allow the city to continue to collect this portion of the vehicle sales tax, we will lose it any way.

Alderman Lux moved to place the sales tax question on the April 2016 ballot. Alderman Kimberling seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Alderman Lux aye
Alderman Dobbins aye
Alderman
Alderman Kimberling aye

Karen Dobbins moved to hold an election in April, 2016, as required by the state election board, to include on the ballot all vacant and expiring Alderman positions, the Mayor, and the Sales Tax question. Alderman Lux seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Alderman Lux aye
Alderman Dobbins aye
Alderman
Alderman Kimberling aye

D. Rita Fountain – Fountain Apts: Sewer Forgiveness

This issue was discussed at great length. Alderman Lux asked to table the question until the January meeting at which time the December and January water/sewer bills could be evaluated to provide additional information as to the amount of adjustment to be made.

Department Head Reports

Public Works Department

None

Mark Black, Police Chief

- Monthly Statistics November 2015; Traffic Stops 38; Warnings 33; Summons 11; Assist Other Agencies 5; Criminal Activities 11; and Arrests 4.

Events

Susann Huff reported a good turnout for the Enchanted Village with around 2,500 cars and 7,500 people having passed through.

City Clerk

Ron Clarke reviewed the financial report for November 2015. November total of all funds \$2,114,496. General Fund Revenues - \$653,894; General Fund Expenses - \$473,528; Event Fund Revenues - \$78,156; Event Fund Expenses - \$80,221; Water and Sewer Fund Revenues - \$613,306; and Water and Sewer Fund Expenses – \$472,591.

Sales Tax Review: November City Sales Tax was \$49,050; Year to date: \$355,804. This is a decrease of \$1,117 for the same period in 2014. November Street Sales Tax was \$24,126, YTD \$175,015. This is a decrease of \$588 for the same period last year. November Sewer Sales Tax was \$24,525, YTD \$177,902. This is a decrease of \$545 for the same period last year.

Steve Grantham, City Attorney

Will work on an ordinance for the 2016 election to be presented at the January Board meeting

Board Reports

Karen Dobbins reminded everyone of the Volunteer/Employee Christmas Dinner at the Clubhouse Pub Sunday December 13th.

Mayor’s Report

None

Alderman Lux moved to adjourn. Alderman Kimberling seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:08 P. M.

Scott Fahrer, Mayor

Attest:

Ron Clarke, City Clerk