

City of Wright City
Board of Aldermen Meeting
February 25, 2010, 6:30 pm

Signed in Attendance: James Toothman, Tim Schmidt, Nancy Huster, Ken McLaughlin, Tim Reynolds, Bob Bruner, Danny Campbell, Bill Stinson, Florence Hoeber, Barb and Ron Grab, Matt Kaatman and Tom Lafferty.

City Official attendance: Mayor White, Alderman Schuchmann, Alderman Black, and Alderman Reynolds were present. Alderman Abercrombie was absent.

Staff and Others: Superintendent Larry Janish, City Clerk Christine Martin, Police Chief Henry Matthews, and Police Officer Jeffery Scanlon. City Attorney Leslie Tolliver-Rogers and Economic Developer Karen Gironde were absent

Roll Call

City Clerk Christine Martin called roll with Mayor White, Aldermen Schuchmann, Black and Reynolds present. The City Clerk reported the Mayor and three Board Members present.

Mayor White called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Meeting Minutes

Minutes from Board Meeting of February 11, 2010 – Alderman Schuchmann made a motion to approve the minutes from the Board of Alderman Meeting of February 11, 2010. Alderman Reynolds seconded it and the motion unanimously carried.

Minutes from Special Board Meeting of February 11, 2010 – Alderman Reynolds made a motion to approve the minutes from the Special Board of Alderman Meeting of February 11, 2010. Alderman Schuchmann seconded it and the motion unanimously carried

Responses to previous comments/concerns - Nancy Huster talked in response to the January 28th Board Meeting where Mayor White called for her removal twice during the meeting. She personally thanked Aldermen Schuchmann, Abercrombie and Reynolds because they stood up for her rights as a taxpayer and citizen. Ms. Huster stated she has been paying taxes in the City for over 40 years. Ms. Huster said she and Alderman Schuchmann were trying to have a discussion as she was only asking for an ordinance clarification. Ms. Huster addressed Mayor White about his rude outburst at the meeting to have her removed from the meeting. She stood up and stated she served on the Board of Directors for the Ambulance District for 18 years from 1985 to 2003 and strived to get an Ambulance quarters here in Wright City. She asked Mayor White what goals he had accomplished as Mayor.

Cindy Graham asked what happened with the tree removal issue on Locust. Mayor White said it has been postponed until May to look at the condition of the tree. Ms. Graham asked what happens if the tree falls on the man's house before May. Mayor White said it is the property owner's responsibility. Mayor White said Larry took inventory and there are 54 other trees in easements too. Florence Hoerber asked what has happened with the signs being on the easements. Mayor White said Larry is working with the people to be sure the signs are not on the easement but are in private yards. Ms. Hoerber asked about signs for the Hair Salon on the corner easement at Shell. She asked what is the difference in these signs and the one for the thrift shop. Larry Janish explained they are considered on-site signs because those businesses are located in the strip mall. Ms. Hoerber asked how someone would get an ordinance changed such as the off-site signs. Alderman Schuchmann said it was discussed at a meeting and Alderman Black was working on it and brought it to the Board. Alderman Black said he never got an answer from Larry to look into it. Bill Stinson stated it should be started with your Alderman to bring it up to the Board. Ms. Hoerber proposed to Alderman Black or Schuchmann to see about changing the sign ordinance. Cindy Graham brought up a past issue of not being allowed to name the alley where she previously had a business. She said it was that reason she had to leave Wright City because no one could find her. Alderman Schuchmann stated the City followed with what the people of the City wanted as far as naming the Alley. Alderman Schuchman stated there were several people that were against it. Cindy Graham asked Alderman Schuchman if he could supply the names of people by Monday that were not interested in naming the alley. Alderman Black said it was discussed at Workshop about whether directional signs were for a product or for trying to sell. He said he never got an answer on it. Bill Stinson asked Alderman Black if it was not in the power of the Aldermen to grant waivers on issues such as this. Alderman Black said it sounds like a good idea. Mayor White said he thinks an ordinance should be written with more leeway in it. He added it should have also been that way for the flea market.

Open meeting to public comments/concerns - None

Public Hearing - None

Ordinance/Resolutions

Resolution #10-10 was presented to the Board. Bill #10-10 was read by title. WHEREAS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF WRIGHT CITY HAS DETERMINED THAT A TRUE AND VERY REAL NEED EXISTS FOR THE ACQUISITION OF TWO POLICE CRUISERS AND RELATED EQUIPMENT DESCRIBED IN THE BASE LEASE AND THE MUNICIPAL LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENT PRESENTED TO THIS MEETING. Alderman Schuchmann made a motion to approve Resolution #10-10. Alderman Reynolds seconded it and the motion unanimously carried. Roll call was taken with the following vote:

Alderman Abercrombie	Absent	Alderman Schuchmann	Yea
Alderman Black	Yea	Alderman Reynolds	Yea

The Resolution having the majority vote of the members present was adopted. Said Resolution was thereupon presented to the Mayor for his signature and approval. It was then duly signed and becomes Resolution #10-10 of the City of Wright City, Missouri.

Old Business

Stuermann Road - Mayor White stated per our City Attorney there was no reply from County's attorney. He then opened the floor for comments. Matt Kaatman asked the Board if anything can temporarily be done. He said if there is damage done to his wife's car he will send the bill to the City to pay. Barb Grab was present and made comments as to the condition of the road and the City's responsibility for it. She asked if the residents would be notified when there is a decision made. Mayor White said the City Clerk has everyone's number and will call when there is news. Bob Bruner was present and offered his bobcat and truck to help fix the road. The residents discussed them parking on the road and Alderman Schuchmann said they should keep safety in mind for their neighbors that live there and said the City can't issue a ticket because it's not the City's road. Cindy Graham asked if the City collects taxes from the property owners, why doesn't the City spend some money on the road. Mayor White informed her that the City can not spend money on the road if it is not ours. Bob Bruner talked about bringing the road to a passable condition and stated again he could donate a truck to haul rock. Florence Hoeber asked about if it was in the City. Matt Kaatman said he will contact Warren County tomorrow to see what can be done with the road. Barb Grab asked again about when the City should have collected escrow from the builders for the road. Alderman Schuchmann stated that for one thing, we Aldermen were not on the Board at that time. He said two years ago a NID was tried and Mayor White did not want any part of pursuing it. Ken McLaughlin said he understands the City not being able to spend money on the road, but asked if the City was going to follow through with the County's recommendations of executing the quit-claim deed. Alderman Schuchmann said he is going to work very hard to get this issue resolved very quickly. Ken asked for a copy of the email correspondence from the City Attorney and Mayor White gave him a copy. Matt Kaatman said he would like the money from the 'seed purchase approval for Beautification Project' that was on the agenda to be put on the City's legal defense fund because the City was going to need it. He then asked if the City was responsible for not collecting the bond from developers that went in there and said the City will have to pay legal fees. Alderman Schuchmann said he agreed and hoped the issue does not come to a lawsuit. Mr. Bruner asked if the road is fixed, will the City issue permits again. Ms. Hoeber asked why the City didn't just execute the quit-claim deed. Mayor White said because the road is not up to City code yet. The required width of the road was discussed and Alderman Schuchmann said the City street specs call for a 26 feet wide road. The young girl with Cindy Graham, Rachael Graham, asked the City Aldermen if they couldn't just do the residents a favor and call someone to fix the road. Alderman Schuchmann said he is working on it.

Alderman Black made a motion to move the discussion of Stuermann to the Workshop. Alderman Schuchmann seconded it and the motion unanimously carried.

Trotters Creek – Request to take over Streets/Utilities - This matter was postponed by the Board pending a response from the City Attorney.

Sheds/Accessory Structures – Alderman Schuchmann stated per the report from Robert Barclay, and the drawing that was submitted, what is there does not meet the building codes and the City has the right to revoke the permit. It was brought in on axles and the axles were removed.

Alderman Schuchmann made a motion to revoke the building permit issued for the shed. Alderman Black seconded it and the motion unanimously carried.

Employee Training Contracts - Alderman Schuchmann made a motion to postpone it per the City Attorney's review of the Employee Training Contracts. Alderman Reynolds seconded it and the motion unanimously carried.

New Business

Business License – Rene'e Harvill, "After Party" (Ladies Apparel, Gifts & Novelties) - City Clerk Christine Martin stated the applicant could not attend and wanted it postponed to March 25, 2010. City Clerk Christine Martin said she needed to do some research because this business may not be allowed in the commercial district at all. Alderman Schuchmann made a motion to postpone this business until March 25th. Alderman Black seconded it and the motion unanimously carried.

Utility Billing Payment Agreement Requests (Account 400025003) - Alderman Schuchmann made a motion to approve the Payment Agreement Request for Account 400025003. Alderman Reynolds seconded it and the motion unanimously carried.

Engineering Selection for Park Block Grant - Curt Kehoe stated the Park Board is having a special meeting on Wednesday, March 3rd to discuss a selection of Engineers to be passed on to the Board at the next meeting. Alderman Schuchmann made a motion to postpone discussion of this matter. Alderman Reynolds seconded it and the motion unanimously carried.

Salary Structure for Parks Employees – Curt Kehoe discussed the proposed wages with the Board. He said the umpires now will have to be City employees. If an umpire is over 18 years old they will be paid on a contract basis and issued a 1099 at the end of the year and under 18 years old they will be paid as an employee. Alderman Schuchmann asked Curt Kehoe to check the umpire fee structure to be sure it is not in violation of the Federal Wage Law. Curt said this is how the City of Warrenton is doing it and said he will get a copy of their structure and check with them. Curt said he can take the umpires off at this time and come back with it. Alderman Schuchmann made a motion to approve the Parks Salary Structure paying the Seasonal Concession Worker \$7.25 per hour, the Part-Time Concession/Field Manager \$10.00 per hour, the Seasonal Part-time Field Manager \$8.00 per hour and the Seasonal Part-time Parks Worker \$8.00 per hour. Alderman Reynolds seconded it and the motion unanimously carried.

Seed Purchase Approval for Beautification Project – Curt said the bids for the seed should be in the packets. Alderman Schuchmann made a motion to approve the seed purchase for the Beautification Project in the amount of \$1048 to Pure Air Seed Company. Alderman Reynolds seconded it and the motion unanimously carried.

Review of Personnel Policy for Parks Employees – Section 3.3 – Curt Kehoe, Parks Director, discussed some of the circumstances he may have with some of his employees this year pertaining to Nepotism with brothers and sisters being in the same field. Alderman Schuchmann made a motion to move this to the Workshop Agenda for discussion. Alderman Reynolds seconded it and the motion unanimously carried.

Reports

Engineering – None

Park - Curt Kehoe was present and discussed the Baseball Sign ups. He said they did very well and said we are up over two kids and they are still getting more coming in to sign up. It is the first year that Wright City had enough population and kids that they did not have to take the four (4) year olds this year. He said the Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for March 27, 2010, and they are getting ready to put in their order for supplies. They will be opening the parks within the next few weeks. They are still working on the project in the kitchen of putting doors and locks on cabinets to be able to lock up the concession supplies.

Public Works - Superintendent Larry Janish gave report to the Board. Larry said about two weeks ago during a snow storm the electric gate at Forest Lakes was damaged from the inside and they could not enter to plow the roadways. Larry asked if the City does not own the gate, even though the City owns the roads and right of way. Alderman Schuchmann agreed and said if the gate won't open it's probably a safety issue. He said it needs to be operational and Larry was asked to go over and request that the gates are made functional.

Building Official - Larry Janish said two (2) new home permits were issued by Hickory Groves LLC at the Shires and one (1) sign permit issued at FMB Bank. Two (2) nuisance letters were sent out for residents on Kerland.

Police Department - Chief Matthews gave report and said they've had 209 calls in the last two weeks. He thanked the Board for the purchase of the two new vehicles picked up yesterday and said they should have them on the road in a week to ten days. The new cars have the lights and Fire Suppression equipment on them already. Chief Matthews said he will have an officer at the park on March 27, for the Easter Egg Hunt with Kid's ID Kits. He said he's rewriting the Department's policy on pursuit and use of force, etc. He said they have several investigations going on and felony cases from child abuse to assaults and leaving the scene of an accident.

City Hall – City Clerk Christine Martin gave report to the Board and said 74 out of 95 Business License Renewals have been issued. Out of the 95 Licenses only 4 businesses have closed. There are 17 businesses that have not complied yet. .

Treasurer Report – Karen Girondo was absent.

Economic Development – Karen Girondo was absent.

Review/Approval of Bills

Alderman Schuchmann made a motion to approve the Bills. Alderman Reynolds seconded it and the motion unanimously carried.

Final Questions - Tim Schmidt of Warren County Record asked if the City was not executing the quit-claim deed because the road does not meet the City code. Mayor White said it would be up to the City Attorney. Mayor White said he does not see the City signing until the road is up to code. Bill Stinson asked Larry Janish about the policy of City roads being accepted by the City.

Adjournment - Alderman Black made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm. Alderman Schuchmann seconded it and the motion unanimously carried

Approved _____

Attested _____