

**City of Wright City  
Board of Aldermen Meeting  
City of Wright City  
Thursday, March 26, 2020  
City Hall, 636 Westwoods Road**

Mayor Dan Rowden called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Auditorium of the City Hall, 636 Westwoods Road, Wright City, Missouri.

**Roll Call**

City Clerk Abbie Ogborn called the roll with Mayor Dan Rowden, Alderman John O'Connor, Alderman Nathan Rohr, Alderman Kerry Lambright and Alderman Dixon present. Alderman Lambright and Alderman Dixon attended the meeting via Zoom and their images were available on the screen. City Staff Present were City Attorney Paul Rost, City Administrator James Schuchmann, City Clerk Abbie Ogborn, Deputy City Clerk/Admin Consultant Karen Girondo, Chief Matt Eskew, Police Chaplain Joseph Purl, and Parks Director Curt Kehoe. Adam Rollins with the Warren County Record was also present.

**Nature of Emergency Declaration – RSMo 610.015** – Mayor Rowden read aloud the Declaration of State of Emergency and Executive Order and declaring effective immediately the emergency measures listed are instituted.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Rowden led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes**

Alderman Rohr moved and Alderman O'Connor seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2020, Board of Alderman Meeting. On voice vote, the motion was approved 4-0.

**Proclamation**

Mayor Rowden took a minute to present a Proclamation to Karen Girondo for her 40+ years of service with the City of Wright City. Ms. Girondo said it has been an honor, a pleasure and that she loves this community very much. Mayor Rowden wished her nothing but the best of luck and to enjoy retirement.

**Financial Reports**

None

**Responses to Previous Comments/Concerns**

None

**Open meeting to Public Comments/Concerns**

None

## **Public Hearing**

Mayor Rowden said the two public hearings; Senior Living Facilities – Amending Chapter 440 – “PDA” and Rezoning “MR-2” to “PDA” Planned Development Area, that were scheduled have been postponed until April 23, 2020 due to the restrictions that have been put in place due to COVID-19.

## **Recommendations from Planning and Zoning Commission**

None

## **Old Business**

Wright City Municipal Project Status Report – Mr. Schuchmann said the plumber has installed the new water service line to the main. Due to COVID-19 and the meeting restrictions that were put in place he has been a little sidetracked and plans to continue progress next week.

## **New Business**

**Emergency Declaration** – Mayor Rowden re-stated the Declaration of State of Emergency that he had read previously in the meeting. The Mayor wants to give reassurance to the community that the City Administrator, Chief of Police and himself have been attending several meetings revising information to keep everyone safe. Due to the first positive case in Warren County, and not only the safety of citizens but employee’s safety, we will be closing the doors to walk in traffic at City Hall as we are following guidelines that have been put in place by the Missouri Governor, the Warren County Commissioner and the CDC. Alderman Rohr moved and Alderman O’Connor seconded the motion to approve the Declaration of State of Emergency and Executive Order. On voice vote, the motion passed 4-0.

**Hiring of umpires and summer help** – Mayor Rowden recommended to the Board to hold off on approving the list until we see what the next week brings us. Based on Mayor Rowden’s recommendation Alderman Rohr moved and Alderman Dixon seconded the motion to table this item until the April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. On voice vote, the motion was approved 4-0

**Streetlight at Highway H and Sturbridge** – Mr. Schuchmann provided an estimate from Ameren Electric to install a streetlight at the intersection of Highway H and Sturbridge. Option 1 would be to put a transformer on top of the pole that already exists and put a dusk to dawn light across from Sturbridge Drive in the amount of \$2,549.20. Option 2 would be the same as option 1 but also add a streetlight at the north east corner as well for the total amount of \$3,557.55. Alderman Dixon said that the intersection gets very dark and recommended to install both the streetlights and Alderman O’Connor agreed with him. Chief Eskew also recommended to the Board of Aldermen to install both streetlights. Alderman O’Connor moved and Alderman Dixon seconded the motion to accept the estimate for option 2 in the amount of \$3,557.55 and install both streetlights. On voice vote, the motion was approved 4-0.

**Emergency Meeting Policy – Live Stream** – Mr. Schuchmann spoke regarding the Live Stream Policy and said this would be a good option for the City to allow those to access our meetings. He read aloud section C *Frequency of Use of Video Attendance*. With 23 scheduled meetings a year, try looking at 6 or 12 meetings to video attend. Counselor Paul Rost said this is not referring to the Pandemic we are in now that there would need to be a good reason to attend a meeting by video. Mr. Rost recommended 6 meetings to the Board of Aldermen. Based on the recommendation Alderman Rohr moved and

Alderman Lambright seconded the motion to approve the entire policy with the “6” added in for the number of meetings.

### **Ordinances/Resolutions**

None

### **Reports**

**Parks** – Mr. Kehoe said the youth ball league postponed the start of the season to May 4<sup>th</sup> for games and April 15<sup>th</sup> for practice. Building maintenance projects will take place next week. 1,000 goodie bags are being made and provided to the school district to be handed out with lunches due to the Easter Egg Hunt cancellation. Mr. Kehoe asked the Board of Aldermen to cancel to spring soccer program and offer refunds. Due to COVID-19 the season would run into the start of fall soccer. Mayor Rowden said this would be wise.

**Public Works** – Mr. Schuchmann highlighted key points of the written report. Continuing to work on potholes and installing street signs.

**Police** –Chief Eskew requested to roll over vacation hours for Officer Lackey and Officer Ingrassia. Alderman O’Connor moved and Alderman Rohr seconded the motion. On voice vote, the motion was approved 4-0. Chief said Officer Catron and Officer Smith are no longer working for the School District and may ask to use them on the road and anticipates it will cost \$36,000. Chief Eskew mentioned to the Board of Alderman the passing of K9 Officer Zeus. Chief addressed a message to the community that we’re in this together and we will prevail.

**City Hall** – Ms. Ogborn said City staff is continuing day to day operations.

**Treasurer** – ~~Nothing to report. ene~~

**City Administrator** - Mr. Schuchmann said morning cleanings are being done to help control the spread of COVID-19 and thanked the Board for allowing City Hall to close the lobby to the public.

### **Review/Approval of Bills**

Alderman Dixon moved and Alderman O’Connor seconded the motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$36,633.64. On voice vote, the motion was approved 4-0.

### **Announcements**

AJ Girondo called in congratulating Karen Girondo saying it was well deserved. Mr. Purl gave an updated on the food pantry and thanked the community for the support at the Fish Fry’s.

### **Adjournment**

Alderman O’Connor moved and Alderman Dixon seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. On voice vote, the motion was approved 4-0.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Attested: \_\_\_\_\_