

**City of Wright City
Board of Aldermen Meeting
Thursday, March 14, 2024
City Hall, 636 Westwoods Road**

Mayor Michelle Heiliger called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Auditorium of the City Hall, 636 Westwoods Road, Wright City, Missouri. The meeting was available to attend via Zoom.

City Hall suffered a power outage prior to the start of the meeting due to storms. The meeting was not available via Zoom due to internet not being available.

Roll Call

City Clerk Abbie Ogborn called the roll with Mayor Michelle Heiliger, Alderman Kim Arbuthnot, Alderman Karey Owens, Alderman Ramiz Hakim, and Alderman Don Andrews present. City Staff present were City Attorney Paul Rost, City Clerk Abbie Ogborn, Director of City Services Mark Strutmann, Police Chief Tom Canavan, Police Lieutenant Aaron Sutton, Police Chaplain Joseph Purl, Building Inspector Lance Bauer, Director of Public Works Kyle Roettger and Parks Director Stuart Bruning. Others present were Don Reed, John and Jeanette Woehrle, John Gottschalk, Wendy Toddy with the Warren County Record, and Billy Ivie.

Pledge of Allegiance

John Gottschalk led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Alderman Andrews moved to approve the agenda. Alderman Owens seconded it and the voice vote was as follows:

Alderman Hakim	Yea	Alderman Owens	Yea
Alderman Andrews	Yea	Alderman Arbuthnot	Yea

The motion was approved 4-0.

Approval of Minutes

Alderman Hakim moved to approve minutes from the February 22, 2024, Board meeting and March 4th Workshop Meeting. Alderman Arbuthnot seconded it and the voice vote was as follows:

Alderman Andrews	Yea	Alderman Owens	Yea
Alderman Arbuthnot	Yea	Alderman Hakim	Yea

The motion was approved 4-0.

Financial Reports

Alderman Owens moved to approve the February 2024 Financial Reports. Alderman Hakim seconded it and the voice vote was as follows:

Alderman Andrews Yea Alderman Hakim Yea
Alderman Arbuthnot Yea Alderman Owens Yea

The motion was approved 4-0.

Public Comments

John Woehrle expressed concerns with a house along Westwoods Road that is becoming a safety hazard due to the items in the yard and vehicle parking that has created a need to swerve near the driveway. The Board stated that the property has been issued tickets and is in the Judge's hands.

Public Hearing

None

Recommendations from Planning and Zoning

Conditional Use Permit – 425 West Service Road North – The applicant, Mr. Reed, was present. After discussion, Alderman Hakim moved to deny the Conditional Use Permit Application. Alderman Owens seconded it and the voice vote was as follows:

Alderman Owens Yea Alderman Arbuthnot Yea
Alderman Andrews Yea Alderman Hakim Yea

Old Business

Personnel Policy – On-Call Employees – Alderman Hakim moved to postpone this item to the March 28th agenda to allow the Board to review comments from the City Attorney. Alderman Arbuthnot seconded it and the voice vote was as follows:

Alderman Hakim Yea Alderman Owens Yea
Alderman Andrews Yea Alderman Arbuthnot Yea

The motion was approved 4-0.

New Vehicle Budget - Previously, the Board approved the purchase of a second police vehicle. However, the Chief had concerns with needing an additional patrolman and did not have money in the budget for both. After discussion, the Board felt that safety comes first and will allow the purchase of a police vehicle and to hire a 9th patrolman. The money for the patrolman was not directly budgeted in the 2024 budget. The funds were spread out through the rest of the operating budget in hopes a grant would be received to pay for the 9th patrolman position plus two additional officers.

New Business

Firearm Trade-In – The department has a surplus of Glock 9 firearms to trade in and receive credit to purchase new shotguns and a Detective side arm. The department will decommission the existing three shotguns and sell them to employees after they sign a waiver form. Alderman Owens moved to approve trading in the Glock 9 firearms as outlined in the letter provided in the February 22, 2024, board report. Alderman Andrews seconded it and the voice vote was as follows:

Alderman Andrews Yea Alderman Hakim Yea
Alderman Arbuthnot Yea Alderman Owens Yea

The motion was approved 4-0.

Laser Bids – Alderman Andrews moved to approve the purchase of a Spectra Precision Laser in the amount of \$948.64. Alderman Owens Seconded it and the voice vote was as follows:

Alderman Andrews Yea Alderman Hakim Yea
Alderman Arbuthnot Yea Alderman Owens Yea

The motion was approved 4-0.

Ordinances/Resolutions

Resolution R08-24 – A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE TOTAL FUND AMOUNTS IN THE 2023 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF WRIGHT CITY, MISSOURI. Ms. Ogborn read the Resolution by title. Alderman Hakim moved to approve Resolution R07-24. Alderman Andrews seconded it and the voice vote was as follows:

Alderman Hakim Yea Alderman Owens Yea
Alderman Andrews Yea Alderman Arbuthnot Yea

The motion was approved 4-0.

Resolution R09-24 – A RESOLUTION AMENDING CERTAIN LINE ITEM AMOUNTS IN THE 2024 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF WRIGHT CITY, MISSOURI. Ms. Ogborn read the Resolution by title. Alderman Hakim moved to approve Resolution R09-24. Alderman Arbuthnot seconded it and the voice vote was as follows:

Alderman Hakim Yea Alderman Owens Yea
Alderman Andrews Yea Alderman Arbuthnot Yea

The motion was approved 4-0.

Bill 7-24 – AN ORDINANCE FOR THE PURPOSE OF ANNEXING UNINCORPORATED AREAS OWNED BY SANCTUARY IN THE COUNTY LLC LOCATED IN WARREN COUNTY, MISSOURI, INTO THE CITY OF WRIGHT CITY, MISSOURI, WITHOUT FURTHER ACTION. Ms. Ogborn read the Bill by title. Alderman Hakim received a request from the developer to postpone the annexation application and made amotion to postpone Bill 7-24. Alderman Arbuthnot seconded it and the voice vote was as follows:

Alderman Hakim Yea Alderman Andrews Yea
Alderman Arbuthnot Yea Alderman Owens Yea

The motion was approved 4-0. The Bill will be placed on the March 28th meeting agenda.

Reports

Parks – Youth baseball teams have been put together. Brynes and Jones will be addressing some warranty issues at the Diekroeger playground and plan to have them completed by April 1st. Mats for the swings will be installed to avoid wear and tear on the surface.

Public Works – The department continues to work on the bathroom remodels. Sidewalks are being addressed around town.

The Board asked for an update on re-sealing the Diekroeger Parking lots. Mr. Roettger stated he would look at the Park Budget to see if it was feasible.

Building Official – Code violation letters continue to be sent out. The department is working with the HBA to make amendments to the 2021 Building Codes for future adoption.

Police – Officer Filson is out with an injury obtained at a call on March 8th.

City Hall – Meet the Candidate Night will be Tuesday, March 19th at City Hall. The next non-profit round table will be held in May. Planning and Zoning will have several public hearings at their meeting on March 18th for Conditional Use Permits. The preliminary plat for Timber Run will also be presented.

Treasurer – The report was available in the packet.

Review/Approval of Bills

Alderman Andrews moved to pay the bills in the amount of \$190,629.87. Alderman Arbuthnot seconded it and the voice vote was as follows:

Alderman Andrews	Yea	Alderman Hakim	Yea
Alderman Arbuthnot	Yea	Alderman Owens	Yea

The motion was approved 4-0.

Announcements

Pastor Joe provided an update on the food pantry and announced the first Fish Fry will open at 4pm on the 15th. Blue and Gold will be held on March 16th. The Board attended the Community Dinner event and encourage the public to attend. The Fire District honored a 9-year-old girl who called 911 and provided dispatchers with the information so the necessary assistance could be sent to her caregiver’s home. The First Fridays will take place May – August and new things are in store. Alderman Hakim and Mr. Strutman with met the Wentzville’s planner to have dialogue about growth. Alderman Hakim and Mayor Heiliger will be on KWRE on March 15th to talk about Proposition R.

Final Questions

John Woehrle asked the Board for clarification on if the budget was based on winning a grant for the 9th Patrolman position. The Mayor responded stating that the 9th Patrolman position funds are available elsewhere in the department’s budget in hopes that the grant would be received to pay for the officer and the funds could be utilized somewhere else. If the grant is not awarded, those funds would be pulled from other line items to cover the costs. Mr. Woehrle asked the Board to honor Cameron Spires for his heroic measures on March 8th, 2024. Mr. Woehrle is raising funds for Wreaths Across America for wreaths in the City Cemetery during the Holidays.

Vote to enter Closed Session

Alderman Hakim moved to exit open session and enter closed session for the purpose of dealing with relating Section 610.021(1) RSMo; Legal actions, causes of action, litigation or privileged communications between the City's representatives and its attorney and Section 610.021(3), hiring, firing, disciplining, or promoting employees when personal information about the employee is discussed or recorded. Alderman Owens seconded it and roll call was taken with the following vote:

Alderman Andrews	Yea	Alderman Hakim	Yea
Alderman Arbuthnot	Yea	Alderman Owens	Yea

The motion was approved 4-0. The Board entered executive session at 7:50 p.m.

Alderman Arbuthnot moved to leave closed session at 8:30.m. Alderman Owens seconded it and roll call was taken with the following vote:

Alderman Owens	Yea	Alderman Arbuthnot	Yea
Alderman Andrews	Yea	Alderman Hakim	Yea

The motion was approved 4-0.

Haley Forman's Celebration of Life will be held at the Wil Heilgier Activity Building and city staff asked if the fees would be waived. The Board stated that the fees would not be waived. It was directed by the Board not to charge the family, but that someone in the community would be willing to cover the costs.

Mayor Heiliger has met with a local business owner who has purchased property in the city limits. The developer wanted feedback on the type of land use the city would prefer in the location and was directed by the Mayor to advertise for retail space.

Alderman Hakim moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. Alderman Andrews seconded it and roll call was taken with the following vote:

Alderman Owens	Yea	Alderman Arbuthnot	Yea
Alderman Andrews	Yea	Alderman Hakim	Yea

The motion was approved 4-0.

Approved: _____

Date: _____

Attested: _____