

**City of Wright City  
Board of Aldermen Meeting  
Thursday, May 25, 2023  
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.

**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, Police Chief Tom Canavan, Police Chaplain Joseph Purl, Director of City Services Kyle Roettger, Treasurer Laura Hutching, Building Inspector Joe Godier, Sports Director Eric Burton, and Program Manager Liz Schubert. Others present were Jason Koch with the Warren County Record, Kathy Kehoe, Rod Smith, Jane Kelley, and Dawn Bruning.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Officer Michael Filson 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 the minutes of the May 11, 2023, meeting. Alderman Andrews seconded it and the voice vote was as follows:

|                    |     |                |     |
|--------------------|-----|----------------|-----|
| Alderman Arbuthnot | Yea | Alderman Owens | Yea |
| Alderman Andrews   | Yea | Alderman Hakim | Yea |

The motion was approved 4-0.

**Financial Reports**

None

**Public Comments**

Jane Kelley with Fragile and Homeless was present and gave an update on homelessness in Wright City. Mayor Heiliger asked Ms. Kelley to attend the next non-profit round table. Ms.

Kelly provided an updated number for homeless residents to call for help. Rod Smith, resident of 38 Edgewater Circle, asked the Board what their intentions were with the additional revenue from the passage of Proposition 1 and their priorities within the city.

**Public Hearing**

**TIME Zone** - Mayor Heiliger opened the public hearing to discuss the City’s intent to participate in the Warren County TIME Zone designation application. Alderman Owens and Alderman Hakim summarized information about the TIME Zone that was provided at the May workshop meeting by Steve Etcher with Greater Warren County Economic Development Council. The purpose of creating this zone would establish the TIME Zone fund, consisting of 25% of the state withholding tax from new job creating within the established TIME Zone. These Zones promote economic development of the region through the completion of infrastructure improvements within the zone. The GWCEDC has asked the city to join the Zone. There being no comments from the Board of Aldermen or the public, Mayor Heiliger closed the hearing.

**Old Business**

**Code Supplement Estimate** – The Board postponed approval of an estimate supplied by General Code to update the code book with 17 pieces of legislation that had been approved since October 2021 to inquire if General Code could update the code book automatically as legislation is approved. Alderman Hakim moved to approve the Estimate and update the code book quarterly moving forward. 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.

**New Business**

**Appointment to Board of Aldermen** – The Mayor made a recommendation to appoint Grayson Woolard to the Board of Adjustment. Alderman Hakim moved to postpone the appointment until further conversation can be had with Mr. Woolard. 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.

**Ordinance/Resolutions**

**Resolution R08-23** – A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CREATION OF THE GREATER WARREN COUNTY TIME ZONE. Alderman Hakim moved to approve Resolution R08-23. 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.

## **Reports**

**Parks** – The Bike and Book it event was held on May 20<sup>th</sup> where six bikes were donated and given away to attendees. Thank you to the Wright City Scenic Library, Wright City Fire Protection District and Fire Corps. The department will set up a booth at this year’s fireworks show to promote sports leagues and events. Ms. Schubert will get costs together to have a bubble bus attend the Summer Splash day in July. Mr. Burton asked when the bathrooms in the parks could be rehabbed and when the grant money for the 62-acre park would be received. Mr. Burton announced his resignation as Sports Director at 7:15 p.m.

**Public Works/Director of City Services** – Houska, Inc. donated a roll of sod that was used to patch areas in the Cemetery. Mid Rivers Asphalt plans to begin work on Stuermann Road in June. Pole Cats continues to remove and trim trees in Ruge Park. The department has worked on patching Roelker Road due to heavy construction traffic and the removal of the steel plates.

Mayor Heiliger stated that at the May 18<sup>th</sup> Transportation Advisory Council meeting that the intersection of Elm Street and Veterans Memorial Parkway has been placed on the MoDOT priority list and will be looked at within the next five years.

**Building Official** – Mr. Godier provided an update on the residential and commercial construction. Houska, INC. and Westplex Auto Group have been issued their temporary occupancy inspections and business licenses.

**Police** – Discussion was held on the condition of several police vehicles. The Board agreed to sell vehicle 1 that has reached 157,800 miles, and vehicle 4 that has begun making a horrible noise. Vehicle 7’s engine will be replaced and return to the fleet. Officer Holzum has begun Student Resource Officer (SRO) training. The torch run will be on Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup>.

**City Hall** – The chamber of commerce started issuing a \$500.00 each quarter to an area non-profit. For Q1, the Warren County Pathfinders was selected and for Q2, the Food Pantry was selected to help assist with the summer lunch program.

**Treasurer** – Preparations for the Audit report, tax rate, and 6-mo financials are underway.

**HR/Payroll** – Ms. Queen was on vacation.

## **Review/Approval of Bills**

Alderman Andrews moved to pay the bills in the amount of \$67,483.08. Alderman Hakim seconded it and the voice vote was as follows:

|                    |     |                |     |
|--------------------|-----|----------------|-----|
| Alderman Andrews   | Yea | Alderman Rohr  | Yea |
| Alderman Arbuthnot | Yea | Alderman Owens | Yea |

The motion was approved 4-0.

## **Announcements**

The food pantry continues to see many families at both the drive through food pantry and at their location. June 7<sup>th</sup> the mammography unit will be in Warrenton. June 24<sup>th</sup> is the Firework Show. July 29<sup>th</sup> is the Fatheads Car Show. The Mayor provided a schedule on the Avenue of Flags in the Cemetery for Memorial Day weekend. Over \$1 million dollars was awarded in scholarships to the 2023 Seniors at Wright City High School. First Fridays on First Street is June 2<sup>nd</sup> with a theme of “get down in the downtown” to help the downtown businesses that were affected by a 4-week sewer project on First Street and Cherry Street that forced businesses to close.

**Final Questions**

Kathy Kehoe asked if the trees cut down at Ruge Park could be hauled off by residents. Mr. Roettger said no and the department will be removing the trees. Mayor Heiliger reminded the Board that they will be attending the Warren County Planning and Zoning meeting in June for a hearing on the proposed amendments to the zoning code relating to Outdoor Storage.

**Vote to enter Closed Session**

Alderman Andrews moved to exit open session and enter closed session for the purpose of dealing with relating to Legal actions, causes of action, litigation or privileged communications between the City’s representatives and its attorney (610.021(1) RSMo); leasing, purchasing, or sale of real-estate (610.021(2) RSMo); hiring, firing, disciplining or promoting employees (610.021(3) RSMo) and individually identifiable personnel records, performance ratings or records pertaining to employees (610.021(13) RSMo).Alderman Arbuthnot 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 8:01p.m.

Alderman Arbuthnot moved to leave closed session at 9:10 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.

**Adjournment**

Alderman Andrews moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. Alderman Arbuthnot seconded it and the voice vote was as follows:

|                  |     |                    |     |
|------------------|-----|--------------------|-----|
| Alderman Owens   | Yea | Alderman Arbuthnot | Yea |
| Alderman Andrews | Yea | Alderman Hakim     | Yea |

The motion was approved 4-0.

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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