

**CITY OF BEL-RIDGE
BOARD OF ALDERMAN MEETING MINUTES
IN PERSON AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE
TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2021
6:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER- The City of Bel-Ridge Board of Aldermen meeting was called to order by Mayor Willie Fair on Tuesday, April 13, 2020, at 6:05 PM.

Roll Call	<u>Board of Aldermen Present</u>	<u>Board of Aldermen Absent</u>
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Alderman Tope
Alderman Whitaker
Alderman Watts (arrived at 6:10 pm)
Alderwoman Davis (via Zoom)
Alderwoman Abernathy (via Zoom)
Alderman Robinson
Mayor Fair

Following roll call, the City Clerk reported a quorum was present.

Motion to approve the agenda for April 13, 2021, made by Alderman Robinson and seconded by Alderwoman Davis, an all-in favor vote received.

Motion to approve December 1, 2020 minutes by Alderman Robinson and seconded by Alderwoman Abernathy, an all-in favor voted received.

Motion to approve January 5, 2021 minutes by Alderman Robinson and seconded by Alderman Watts, all-in favor voted received.

Motion to approve January 20, 2021 minutes by Alderman Robinson and seconded by Alderwoman Davis, all-in favor voted received.

Motion to approve February 2, 2021 minutes by Alderman Robinson and seconded by Alderwoman Davis, an all-in favor voted received.

Motion to approve February 25, 2021 minutes by Alderwoman Davis and seconded by Alderman Watts, an all-in favor voted received.

Motion to approve March 2, 2021 minutes by Alderwoman Davis and seconded by Alderman Watts, an all-in favor voted received.

Motion to approve March 18, 2021 minutes by Alderwoman Davis and seconded by Alderman Watts, an all-in favor voted received.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

None

SWEARING IN TO BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

None

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Tammy Love --- Sommerset Lane – Ms. Love states there are rumors about the police department being contracted out and asks whether it can be confirmed that it's true. Ms. Love also asks why citizens have not been able to voice their opinions concerning this issue and asks for a town hall meeting.

Mr. Smith – Mr. Smith thanks the officers for their service and a job well done. He states he has witnessed their integrity. He asks the Board to keep the police department and to give them a raise.

Julia Anderson – 3319 Werder Avenue – Ms. Anderson states she spearheaded the audit and was shocked to learn 1.2 million dollars are gone and that sets up back years. She states the previous administration misused the funds and will they be penalized? She also asks whether the police chief, who was appointed by the previous administration give himself a raise.

Cathline Madison – Smithfield Avenue – She is worried about police department being dismantled. Drugs and guns appearing in the neighborhoods now, something must be done. The community needs to get together and talk about all things, no matter the subject – race or anything!! Also, trash cans citations are being given out and the Ordinance says 12 hours are given to comply. Ms. Madison would like to challenge this Ordinance.

Hatsephi Kushman – 7526 Thelma Avenue – He states no one is answering the citizens' questions tonight, they're just talking. It's not fair, Mayor Fair. The Board is not being progressive. Address that please.

Alderman Davis will get together with the Board and schedule a town hall meeting.

Michael Ruff – 4313 Rickey Drive – Why has Bel-Ridge had the police department all these years with no money and now you're wanting to get rid of it after receiving COVID relief funds, etc.? We're not getting the truth.

Rebecca Cogshell – 3015 Wheaton – I'm speaking about a house that's located on the cusp of Bel-Ridge and unincorporated St. Louis County, concerning the 5 to 6 cars parking in the yard, furniture sitting in front yard, etc. I'm tired of calling St. Louis County, couldn't get through. Can this Board get through to St. Louis County for assistance?

PUBLIC HEARING

None

CONSENT AGENDA

February and March 2021 Disbursements – Motion to approve February and March 2021 disbursements made by Alderwoman Davis and seconded by Alderman Watts, all-in favor voted received.

CITY ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

The city accountant had an appearance conflict for this evening. She will be present and will present information at the May Board meeting.

CITY CLERK REPORTS

Re-appropriation of 2020 and 2021 CDBG Grant Funds – Discussion held. City Clerk to consult St. Louis County to inform them the City is considering getting work done on our streets. This item to be put on May agenda for further discussion.

Liquor License Application – Applicant Alonda McGhee, Dinner at Londa's. Discussion held. City Clerk to research whether there is a limit of liquor licenses to be issued in the City of Bel-Ridge before approval of this application is granted. Decision to be given at May Board Meeting.

CITY'S STAFF REPORTS

Municipal Court – None

Public Works – None

Alderman Robinson asks about dumping in the City. Director of Public Works indicates he has an address for the person dumping and has given it to the police department for follow up.

Police Report – Detective Strong give the following reports on incidents that occurred in Bel-Ridge: Bel-Ridge has a suspect for the murder that occurred; Bel-Ridge has a suspect for the incident on Medora where the vehicle turned over. The police also recovered a large amount of heroin and guns.

Detective Keaton also states that although the police officers do not live in Bel-Ridge, they treat the City as if they do.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2021 (J), declaring real property owned by the City of Bel-Ridge, Missouri as surplus and authorizing the sale or disposal thereof.

A motion made by Alderman Robinson and seconded by Alderwoman Davis.

ROLL CALL

Alderwoman Davis- Yes
Alderman Watts - Yes
Alderman Tope- Yes
Alderman Whitaker- Yes
Alderman Robinson- Yes
Alderwoman Abernathy – Yes

Motion passed.

Resolution 2021 (K), authorizing payment of a portion of the cost of a contract for services with PGAV Planners, LLC for development of a masterplan for the City; and authorizing certain actions in connection therewith.

Motion made by Alderman Robinson and seconded by Alderwoman Davis.

ROLL CALL

Alderman Davis- Yes
Alderman Watts - Yes
Alderman Tope- Yes
Alderman Whitaker- Yes
Alderman Robinson- Yes
Alderman Abernathy – Yes

Motion Passed.

BILLS

Bill 1417- amending Chapter 100 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Bel-Ridge, Missouri regarding purchasing and sales.

Motion for 1st reading of Bill 1417 by caption only amending Chapter 100 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Bel-Ridge, Missouri regarding purchasing and sales in Bill 1417 made by Alderman Watts and seconded by Alderman Robinson, all in favor vote received. 1st reading done by City Attorney.

Motion for 2nd reading of Bill 1417 by caption only by Alderwoman Davis and seconded by Alderman Robinson, all in favor vote received. 2nd reading done by City Attorney.

Motion to adopt by Alderman Robinson and seconded by Alderwoman Davis for Bill 1417 to become Ordinance.

ROLL CALL

Alderwoman Davis- Yes
Alderman Watts - Yes
Alderman Tope- Yes
Alderman Whitaker- Yes
Alderman Robinson- Yes
Alderwoman Abernathy – Yes

Motion passed for Bill 1417, now Ordinance 2021-2.

ADJOURN AND HOLD CLOSED MEETING

Motion to go into closed session made by Alderman Watts and seconded by Alderman Robinson.

ROLL CALL

Alderwoman Davis- Yes
Alderman Tope- Yes
Alderman Whitaker- Yes
Alderman Robinson- Yes
Alderwoman Abernathy – Yes

Motion passed to go into closed session at 6:57 pm.

The meeting minutes were taken and transcribed by City Clerk, Andrea Jones.

April 13, 2021, Board Meeting minutes were approved by the Board this
4th day of MAY 2021.

Andrea Jones

City Clerk