

**City of Bel-Ridge  
Board Meeting Minutes  
For  
Tuesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
6:00pm**

Mayor White called the February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Tentative Board Meeting to order at 6:15pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The roll was called by Deputy Clerk, Jacqueline Jones.

**ATTENDANCE AS FOLLOWS:**

Alderman Abernathy	-	Present	Alderman Nelson	-	Present
Alderman Brown	-	Present	Alderman Ruff	-	Present
Alderman Mans	-	Present	Alderman Russell	-	Present
Mayor White	-	Present			

Also present was City Attorney, Ken Heinz

**AWARD CEREMONY**

Mayor White turns the floor over to Alderman Mans.

Alderman Mans greeted everyone and announced that the City had awards to give to some people who have done extraordinary things for the City of Bel-Ridge.

The first award for Citizen of Distinction went to Mama and Papa Hiwet Teaie.

Alderman Mans explains that this award is for that citizen that goes above and beyond to bring the community together. Alderman Mans reflected on the amazing bar-b-que gathering that was put together in 2017 by Mama and Papa Teaie, for free. Alderman Mans mentions the feel of the atmosphere of love and the smiles on faces.

Both Mama and Papa Teaie shared words of gratitude.

Alderman Mans next mentions two (2) members for the Africa Ho Ministries, Young and Penny Reed. They supplied all the activities for the bar-b-que, rides,

movie, music, rope tricks etc. Alderman Mans presented Mr. and Mrs. Reed with the Community Service award.

Mr. Reed spoke words of gratitude and told a story of the bar-b-que. Mrs. Reed was happy to get to know the City.

Alderman Mans mentions that during the event one of our offices found shelter for a homeless person.

Alderman Mans mentions that the final award for Donor of The Year goes to the AMVETS post 55 and The Sons of AMVET. These two (2) organizations take care of ten (10) families each year. With the help of the Bel-Ridge Police Department can food drive and POST 55 we feed ten (10) families each year.

The AMVET representative gave some background on we they are and their location. He also thanked the City of Bel-Ridge for allowing them to be a part.

Some pictures were taken and Alderman Mans turns the floor back over to the Mayor.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **RESOLUTION 2018-A A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BEL-RIDGE REGARDING SIGNATORIES ON ACCOUNTS AT ST. JOHN'S BANK AND TRUST COMPANY**

Mayor White gave some background on the resolution.

A motion was made by Alderman Russell and seconded by Alderman Ruff for the first reading of the resolution by caption only. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor. Motion passed. Resolution 2018-A was read the first time by caption only by City Attorney, Ken Heinz.

A motion was made by Alderman Ruff and seconded by Alderman Russell to adopt Resolution 2018-A. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor. **Motion passed.**

### **BILL 1344 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A HOMESTEAD PROGRAM FOR THE CITY OF BEL-RIDGE, MO**

Mayor White gave some background on the Bill and mentions with the approval of the Board, Bel-Ridge has taken some abandon homes into it inventory. And this is a first time home buyers program. Mayor White informed the residents a list will be coming out soon. There are ten (10) on the list so far.

City Attorney, Ken Heinz mentions that this was presented before but changes were made to section nine (9) to read that the property cannot be sold by the new owner for a period of three (3) years.

A motion was made by Alderman Russell and seconded by Alderman Ruff for a first reading of Bill 1344 by caption only. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor. Motion passed. Bill 1344 was read a first time by caption only by City Attorney, Ken Heinz.

A motion was made by Alderman Ruff and seconded by Alderman Russell for the second reading of Bill 1344 by caption only. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor. Motion passed. Bill 1344 was read for a second time by caption only by City Attorney, Ken Heinz.

A motion was made by Alderman Ruff and seconded by Alderman Russell to adopt Bill 1344. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Abernathy	-	aye
Brown	-	aye
Mans	-	aye
Nelson	-	aye
Ruff	-	aye
Russell	-	aye

6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent

**Motion passed. Bill 1344 becomes Ordinance 2018-2**

#### **BILL 1348 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEL-RIDGE TO APPOINT SPECIAL PROSECUTOR**

Mayor White gave some back ground on Bill 1348.

A motion was made by Alderman Russell and seconded by Alderman Ruff for the first reading of Bill 1348 by caption only. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor. Motion passed. Bill 1348 was read for the first time by caption only by City Attorney, Ken Heinz.

A motion was made by Alderman Ruff and seconded by Alderman Russell for the second reading of Bill 1348 by caption only. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor except Alderman Abernathy. Motion passed. Bill 1348 was read a second time by caption only by City Attorney, Ken Heinz.

A motion was made by Alderman Ruff and seconded by Alderman Russell to adopt Bill 1348. A roll call vote was as follows:

Abernathy	-	nay
Brown	-	aye
Mans	-	aye
Nelson	-	aye
Ruff	-	aye
Russell	-	aye

5 ayes, 1 nay, 0 absent

**Motion passed. Bill 1348 becomes Ordinance 2018-6**

**BILL 1346 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF BEL-RIDGE AND OLATHE DODGE AND SANTANDER FOR LEASING THREE 2018 POLICE CARS**

A motion was made by Alderman Russell and seconded by Alderman Nelson for the first reading of Bill 1346 by caption only. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor. Motion passed. Bill 1346 was read for a first time by caption only by City Attorney, Ken Heinz.

A motion was made by Alderman Russell and seconded by Alderman Ruff for a second reading of Bill 1346 by caption only. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor. Motion passed. Bill 1346 was read for a second time by caption only by City Attorney, Ken Heinz.

A motion was made by Alderman Mans and seconded by Alderman Russell to adopt Bill 1346. A roll call vote was as follows:

Abernathy	-	aye
Brown	-	aye
Mans	-	aye
Nelson	-	aye
Ruff	-	aye
Russell	-	aye

**Motion passed. Bill 1346 becomes Ordinance 2018-4**

**BILL 1347 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEL-RIDGE MISSOURI INCREASING THE LICENSE FEE LEVY ON PARKING LOTS OPERATION IN THE CITY TO FIFTEEN DOLLARS PER SPACE PER YEAR**

Mayor White asked City Attorney, Ken Heinz to give some background on Bill 1347. Mr. Heinz mentions it was approved by the voters of Bel-Ridge and now the City is authorized to levy up to fifteen dollars per space per year.

A motion was made by Alderman Ruff and seconded by Alderman Brown for the first reading of Bill 1347 by caption only. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor. Motion passed. Bill 1347 was read for the first time by caption only by City Attorney, Ken Heinz.

A motion was made by Alderman Ruff and seconded by Alderman Nelson for the second reading of Bill 1347 by caption only. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor. Motion passed. Bill 1347 was read for a second time by caption only by City Attorney, Ken Heinz

A motion was made by Alderman Ruff and seconded by Alderman Russell to adopt Bill 1347. A roll call vote was as follows:

Abernathy	-	aye
Brown	-	aye
Mans	-	aye
Nelson	-	aye
Ruff	-	aye
Russell	-	aye

6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent

**Motion passed. Bill 1347 becomes Ordinance 2018-5**

**DISCUSSION OF CITY ATTORNEY FEE PROPOSAL**

A motion was made by Alderman Russell and seconded by Alderman Nelson to table the discussion of the City Attorney fee proposal until the Board receives an itemized list from the Attorney. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor.

**Motion passed. (TABLED)**

## **CITY OF BEL-RIDGE ARTICLE OF IMPEACHMENT FOR WILMA ABERNATHY**

Alderman Russell requested some history on the article of impeachment. City Attorney, Ken Heinz informed the residents that the Board needs to vote on articles that give a specific description of why the impeachment is being brought up. The impeachment has to be approved by a majority vote, then an impeachment hearing is called and the Board would hear the evidence and based on the evidence the Board would decide by majority vote to impeach or not to impeach.

Mayor White asked the Board did they all have an opportunity to go over the article of impeachment and is everyone ready to vote on the article of impeachment now?

Alderman Abernathy's Attorney, Ms. Evelyn Sims commented from the audience that she heard Mr. Heinz say a majority vote but it is really a 2/3 majority vote to remove someone from office. Mr. Heinz replied to approve the article is a majority vote, then after that is the 2/3 majority vote.

Alderman Brown wanted it made clear that this is not the impeachment process now, just the article. City Attorney, Ken Heinz responded yes.

Mayor White explained the article is just to start the impeachment proceedings.

Alderman Abernathy asked was she allowed to say anything. Mayor White responded of course.

Alderman Abernathy just wanted it to go on recorded that she believes the chargers to be bogus and it is a witch hunt. Alderman Abernathy feels she is innocent of the charges.

A motion was made by Alderman Mans and seconded by Alderman Russell to adopt the article of impeachment for Wilma Abernathy. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Abernathy	-	nay
Brown	-	undecided



Alderman Brown moved that the Board table the article of impeachment for Wilma Abernathy until the Special Prosecuting Attorney is in place and go over a few more issues. Alderman Nelson seconded the move of Alderman Brown. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor. Motion passed.

For clarity Mr. Heinz suggested that the Deputy Clerk take a roll call vote.

A motion was made by Alderman Brown and seconded by Alderman Nelson to table the article of impeachment for Wilma Abernathy. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Abernathy	-	aye
Brown	-	aye
Mans	-	nay
Nelson	-	aye
Ruff	-	aye
Russell	-	nay

4 ayes, 2 nays, 0 absent

**Motion passed. (TABLED)**

#### **RESOLUTION 2018-B PROPOSITION P BANK ACCOUNT**

Mayor White gave some background on the resolution. It was discussed in December that there was no bank account in place for the Prop P funds coming in for the Police Department. The funds are to be allocated to public safety and police services.

A motion was made by Alderman Ruff and seconded by Alderman Russell for the first reading of Resolution 2018-B by caption only. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor. Motion passed. Resolution 2018-B was read for the first time by caption only by City Attorney, Ken Heinz.

A motion was made by Alderman Ruff and seconded by Alderman Russell to adopt Resolution 2018-B. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Abernathy	-	aye
Brown	-	aye
Mans	-	aye
Nelson	-	aye
Ruff	-	aye

Russell - aye  
6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent

**Motion passed for Resolution 2018-B**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **COMMUNITY RELATIONS – MS. MANS**

Ms. Mans informed the residents that starting February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 6:30pm the Bel-Ridge Police Officers will start sponsoring MOVIE NIGHTS. February 10<sup>th</sup> they will be showing the Avengers and February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 6:30 the Jackie Robinson Story. Everyone is welcome to attend and the refreshments are free. Ms. Mans informed the resident that the Board and Police Department are interested in reaching the City's teenage audience.

March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018 will be the "Easter Extravaganza". The Easter Egg Hunt starts at 11am at Gutknecht Arrowhead Park after the Easter Egg Hunt there will be a rodeo. Everyone is welcome to attend. Young Cowboy Reed will be sponsoring everything and Bel-Ridge will be responsible for the event insurance.

March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018 will be the City's first "Brush Clean-up Day". Everyone that wishes to participate is asked to bring their brush out to the curb and the City street department (Mr. Herndon and his guys) will pick it up. It needs to be at the curb by 7am. We are trying to get volunteers to help the elderly and disable around their yard.

Mrs. Cogshell asked if there was anything the residents need to know in regards to size and bundling.

Public Works Supervisor, Mr. Herndon informed the residents that it would be nice if they could also use their yard waste service. It comes every Friday, but they have to be able to pick it up. Mr. Herndon requested that resident laid branches one way, with no trash in it so he could put it through the chipper. No bundles bigger than 10" round and not a full tree. Mr. Herndon will start picking up the bundles on Monday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

### **HEALTH & SAFETY – MS RUSSELL**



Ms. Russell announced that residents are excited about the tree program for the City that is coming soon. Ms. Russell says that the lighting around the City is much better but encourages residents to call if they see lights out around the City or if they have any information that can help improve the City. Ms. Russell is looking forward to all the changes that are coming to the City of Bel-Ridge.

#### **CODE ENFORCEMENT – MR. WINSTON**

Mr. Winston informed the Board and the Residents that him and his team are still going around doing external inspections and are on this side of the City now. Mr. Winston turns them in once a month. Mr. Winston informed the residents that anything on their repair list that has to do with painting, concrete or asphalt he is extending the repair time to April, because you cannot do those repairs in cold weather. Alderman Russell asked if residents could get extensions. Alderman Mans feels that May would be better than April. Mr. Winston reminded the Board that as long as residents communicate with him and his team he has no problem with extensions.

Mr. Winston had the opportunity to inspect the Springdale Motel and there are quite a few violations that are going to be dealt with. Alderman Russell asked how Mr. Winston was received when he showed up. Mr. Winston replied that the owner was very cooperative. He was able to get into all the rooms but one (1). There are some questionable things going on, but that will have to be handled by other departments.

Mr. Winston went on to inform the Board that the Springwood Apartments are coming along but we are still having problems with them trying to do work without permits. Mr. Winston used for example, Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 he had an incident with the apartments taking out a staircase and did not submit any drawings or get a permit which is structural and Mr. Winston had to stop the workers from working and three apartments on the second floor was occupied. The owner had to put them up in a motel until drawings and permits were in place.

Mr. Winston mentions that he has done quite a few occupancy inspections. Most of the inspections fall the first time around. Nothing major just things that don't meet code regulations. The owners are pretty receptive and are making the needed repairs.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT – CAPTAIN THIEMANN**

Captain Thiemann informed the Board that with the new police cars coming, he needed to purchase six (6) charge guards at \$90.00 each also need to purchase nine (9) rechargeable flashlights for each car at \$119.00 each. Purchases will come out of the equipment budget.

Mr. Herndon of Public Works mentions that it would be nice to have three (3) of those flashlights for the City dump trucks also.

A motion was made by Alderman Brown and seconded by Alderman Nelson for the police department to purchase six (6) charge guards at \$90.00 each and nine (9) rechargeable flashlights at \$119.00 each all to come from the department equipment fund. The motion is also to include two (2) rechargeable flashlights to be purchased by public works from the public works fund. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor. **Motion passed.**

Captain Thiemann mentions the stats that were printed for the month and made available to the public. If anyone had any questions Capt. Thiemann welcome the residents to stop by during business hours.

Captain Thiemann wanted the focus to be on honoring members of the Police Department with certificates.

January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Sgt. Fisher, Officer Pacheco, Officer Kitchell, Officer Enloe and Officer O'Day responded to a subject threatening to jump call. The manner in which the call was handled the subject was calm down and transported to the hospital to receive professional care.

Congratulations and applause followed.

As the Police Officers shook the Board of Alderman and the Mayor hands Mayor White introduce each one to the residents.

Mrs. Cogshell and Mayor White took pictures.

Captain Thiemann also mentions a house burglary of January 2018 on Kendall

December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Sgt. Fisher, Officer Pacheco, Officer Kick responded to 8801 Kendall in reference to a burglary in progress. One suspect taken into custody at the scene, one after a foot pursuit with the assistance of Bel-nor and St. John and the third suspect was taken into custody after a vehicle chase initiated by the St. Louis County police department. All suspects were arrested and transported to the St. Louis County Justice Center for prosecution. Two of the suspects had prior felony warrants at the time of the arrest.

Congratulations and applause followed.

September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Sgt. Fisher, Officer Pacheco and Officer Scrivner responded to a shouting that took place September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 in Springwood Apartments the vehicle was occupied and the officers developed a plan to approach and apprehend the suspects in the vehicle. The skills used by the officers lead to an arrest with no incidents.

Congratulations and applause followed.

Captain Thiemann ended with a certificate of appreciation going out to the City Police Clerk, Jacqueline Jones, for her positive professional attitude to the City of Bel-Ridge with the recent change in her duties. Ms. Jones is the Police Clerk, Prosecuting Attorney Clerk, and has also taken on the duties of City Clerk until that position is filled.

Congratulations and applause followed.

Captain Thiemann informs the Board and residents of the results of an ex-city employee by Lieutenant Harris. It's hard when a police officer has to investigate another officer for doing wrong but it has come down from the courts that the ex-employee that signed off on someone community service that had not done the community service had plead guilty to his charge and now been handed down the sentence of community service, two (2) years' probation and can no longer be an officer or security guard anywhere.

Congratulations and applause followed.

### **PUBLIC WORKS – MR. HERNDON**

Mr. Herndon wanted to know if it had pass through the budget for the public works to start getting the safety equipment for the shop. Mayor White responded that she put most of it on back order while Mr. Herndon was on medical leave.

Mr. Herndon informed the Board that the drinking fountain was kicked off the wall down at the park. And does not know where it is.

Alderman Russell mentions that when you walk the trail there is so much dog feces it is unbelievable. Mr. Herndon responded that he could put bags along the trail, but then the bags end up flying around the park and in the lake. Mr. Herndon is going to start putting a few bags out daily.

Mayor White mentions that it is also in the budget to get security cameras for the park. Hopefully they can be installed in a few months.

### **PARKS – MS. ABERNATHY**

Ms. Abernathy has been investigation some summer programs for the kids. Nothing else to report

Alderman Russell asked Ms. Abernathy to look into some summer jobs for the youth.

Mayor White mentions that it is on the website and some information is downstairs in regards to summer jobs for youth.

### **RECREATION – BOARD OF ALDERMAN**

NOTHING TO REPORT

### **ACCOUNTING & AUDITOR REPORT – MS. WHITE**

Mayor White informed the Board that the accountants will be at City Hall Friday to back up our system, and to get the files for January to rectify the accounts.

Mayor White mentions that there is a vacancy on the Planning and Zoning Board and it is being filled by Ms. Jeanette Pettaway with the Boards permission.

Congratulations and applause followed.

A motion was made by Alderman Ruff and seconded by Alderman Mans to except Ms. Pettaway as a member of the Planning and Zoning Board of Commissioners. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor.

**Motion passed.**

**CITY ATTORNEY – KEN HEINZ**

NOTHING TO REPORT

**MAYOR – MS. WHITE**

Mayor White mentions with the balancing of the budget in December we have had some hiccups with getting the school signage but they have been ordered and should be here within the next eight (8) weeks.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Glen Tope, a resident of 8822 Natural Bridge, had the following questions

1. Are we hiring a special prosecutor?
2. Is that who draw up the charges on Wilma Abernathy?
3. So no one can answer my questions? Your answer would lead to my next question. Mr. Tope assumed that is what happened.
4. How could the special prosecutor draw up the charges since he was just hired?
5. Are there any dues owed. If he draw up the charges there should not be any more work for him to do. Am I correct?
6. No one has an opinion? Especially since the people in the third ward will have the chance to pick in a few months to pick their own representative.

Mayor White responded by reading the following on behalf of the Board. Since we received this letter from your attorney stating that you (Mr. Tope) do not want the Board to really address you, and the only time we do address you is when you come to the meeting, and you are threatening the Board with a lawsuit, if the Board says something to you that you find offensive, is the reason Board is not speaking to you. Secondly Mayor White mentions last month when you (Mr. Tope) came before the Board, we told you that we would give you the option to speak and then we would answer your question. You only have three (3) minutes. Mr. Tope responded the paper says five (5) minutes.



Deputy Clerk, Jacqueline Jones mentions that she did not get a chance to change the time on the meeting participation slips. Ms. Jones mentions that that was the last thing on her mind, while trying to keep the city rolling but she apologized for the mistake.

Alderman Brown reminds Ms. Jones that she is doing a good job.

Mayor White informed Mr. Tope that yes the City does get to pick who they want in the third ward in April. Mayor White went on to say that it was discussed with Ms. Abernathy and was discussed and voted on in a previous meeting, we are just now deciding to put the special prosecutor on the agenda and officially vote on him. Ms. Abernathy is well aware and is well aware that she needs counsel. Ms. Abernathy made the proud statement that she would hire and pay for her own counsel. We are not trying to blindside Ms. Abernathy and she has been warned. Mayor White made know that everything on the article of impeachment has been discussed and the Board has been going through this for the last five (5) years.

Julia Anderson, a resident of 3319 Werder, informed the Board that she has been coming to the meetings trying to speak about things the Board is doing. Ms. Anderson mentions the last time she came she got a ticket for peace disturbance for freedom of speech. But she would like to say that what the Board is doing to Ms. Abernathy is a disgrace. She is a good hearted individual and is alone. This community is supposed to be her family. Ms. Wilma has looked out for the community for years and has given of herself to this community without asking for anything in return and for you people to throw these charges on her, especially one that I see #4 because I was with her that day the women did not open her mouth to be nor did I asked her anything about it.

Ms. Anderson goes on to say as far as this special prosecutor you are bring in, you can't say how much you are going to pay him but it is still our tax dollars. That money could be going to the community instead.... Ms. Anderson decided to end there because she could not continue without cussing. Ms. Anderson mentions she is fed up with those people as a Board. She needs better. Ms. Anderson accuses the Mayor of taking out money for her salary and screwing around with the minutes.



Ms. Anderson informs the resident that the police were sent to her house in 2015 because she is having a yard sale. Then Mr. Gaffney was talking about she is running a business. Ms. Anderson goes on to attack the Deputy Clerk by saying is that three (3) minutes Jackie or do I get five (5) minutes since it says five. Ms. Anderson continues by informing the residents that Alderman Mans put a restraining order out on Jerome Robinson, a fellow board member. Then she puts one out on Mason Graves a citizen. Ms. Anderson accuses Alderman Mans of using Village funds on a civil court case defense and for harassing Mr. Watts, Ms. Abernathy and herself.

Alderman Mans asked Ms. Anderson how she harasses Mr. Watts. Mr. Watts response from the audience by saying you and I know so let's not open this up there will be a time and place for that. Ms. Mans mentions that while Ms. Anderson was on the board she created chaos.

Mayor White interjects that in 2013, (Ms. Anderson shouts out while the Mayor was speaking), It was voted on by the Board if a Board member was involved in a lawsuit the City would pay for it. Ms. Anderson was in that meeting.

Alderman Errol Bush a resident of 4306 Melba of Northwood's, introduced himself as an Alderman for the City of Northwood. Mr. Bush informed everyone that he is running for State Representative for the 85<sup>th</sup> District. The seat is currently being held by Rep. Smith. He will be filing for that seat this month and is going around the different municipalities in the 85<sup>th</sup> District seeking support.

Alderman Russell asked why he is running. Mr. Bush responds the main reason is he is tired of the inaction of the State Legislation. They are not even trying to expand Medicaid, and the inaction on the Normandy School District. Mr. Bush mentions that when the school district was unaccredited the district drained its funds sending students to different schools and paying tuition. This was devastating to the community and the children left in the community. He wants to cap tuition and work on keeping it that way. Where other school district won't be total affected by that. Mr. Bush is also concerned with local government. And is a member of the Municipal League. He is opposed to the City merger. Mr. Bush thanked everyone for their time.

The Municipal League meetings are on the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Thursday of the month.

Patti Armanees a resident of 9000 Ramona informed the Board that she entered a Christmas Light Contest and worked very hard on it. Then she called to find out who won and found out that it was cancelled because she was the only one who signed up. Ms. Armanees feels that that is not fair. It's not her fault that no one signed up and the person over the contest could not knock on doors and invite people to participate. Ms. Armanees feels that she deserves a prize.

Alderman Mans informed Ms. Armanees that the money was donated by private donors that did not feel it was a contest with only one person signing up. The money was given back due to lack of participation.

Mayor White mentions that due to the lack of participation in the contest one of the major donors did decide to pull out, but informed Ms. Armanees that she was right. She did deserve a consolation prize. Mayor White also mention that she did knock on some doors but the answer was no. Mayor White asked Ms. Armanees to let her get with the Board and decide what that will be.

Alderman Russell thanked Ms. Armanees for the suggestion and said next year they would knock on doors and pass out forms.

Alderman Mans was disappointed that Ms. Armanees did not call her. Ms. Armanees asked the Deputy Clerk to verify that she call City Hall, which she did.

Mr. Tope shouted that he would be glad to take care of the prize. Mayor White replied that the City would take care of it.

### **COURT CLERK BUSINESS**

Mayor White informs the Board that the court clerk is asking the Board to approve her attendance to a training session at the end of the month. The Court Clerk is requesting two (2) days off and her lodging is covered under MSLOCCA.

A motion was made by Alderman Mans and seconded by Alderman Russell to approve the Court Clerks conference on Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor. **Motion passed.**

Note: There will be coverage in the office.

Deputy Clerk, Jacqueline Jones, mentions that she just attended Prosecuting Training and was requesting that she be allowed to join the association at \$60.00 per year.

A motion was made by Alderman Mans and seconded by Alderman Ruff to approve the dues for the Prosecuting Clerk from MSLOCCA to be paid by the City. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor. **Motion passed.**

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PAID JANUARY 2018 BILLS**

A motion was made by Alderman Russell and seconded by Alderman Nelson to approve the January 2018 paid bill. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor. **Motion passed.**

#### **APPROVAL OF JANUARY 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2018 BOARD MEETING AND JANUARY 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2018 WORKING SESSION MEETING MINUTES**

A motion was made by Alderman Mans and seconded by Alderman Nelson to approve the January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Board meeting minutes with correction to page 2, 3 and 6 and removal of the word tentative. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor. **Motion passed.**

A motion was made by Alderman Russell and seconded by Alderman Mans to approve the January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018 working session meeting minutes with the removal of the word tentative. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor. **Motion passed.**

Mayor White acknowledges Mrs. Cogshell had a question. Mrs. Cogshell had a request that the Board please use their mics. It is really hard to hear some of the things they are saying or who is saying what.

#### **MOTION TO ADJOURN-CLOSE OPEN SESSION AND GO INTO CLOSE SESSION FOR PERSONNEL ISSUES AND OR LEGAL PURPOSES**

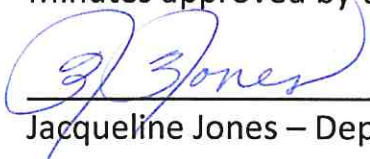
A motion was made by Alderman Mans and seconded by Alderman Ruff to adjourn the open session and go into the close session for personnel and legal counsel with a 5 minute recess. A roll call vote was as follows:

Abernathy - aye  
Brown - aye  
Mans - aye  
Nelson - aye  
Ruff - aye  
Russell - aye  
6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent  
**Motion passed.**

**MEETING ADJOURN**  
**The time is 7:39PM**

Meeting minutes taken and transcribed by, Deputy Clerk, Jacqueline Jones

Minutes approved by the Board of Alderman on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

  
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Jacqueline Jones – Deputy Clerk