## CITY OF BEL- RIDGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES FOR TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018 6:00 PM

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Fair at 6:04 pm. The pledge of Allegiance was recited. Attendance was called by City Clerk, Andrea Jones. Deputy Clerk Jacqueline Jones was present as well.

## Mayor makes announcement:

Good morning everyone. I have a few things I need to explain before we get started. This meeting will be open to the public at the end of the meeting. Any outburst, anybody that gets out of order, I don't care which side you are on. You will be asked to leave the meeting, and you will not return. Just want to state that and make it clear. We have to have this meeting and we're going to have it one way or the other, with you or without. Thank you.

### Roll call

### ATTENDENCE AS FOLLOWS:

Alderman Abernathy - Present Alderman Brown - Present Alderman Ruff - Present Alderman Russell - Present Alderman Tope - Present

Mayor Fair - Present

Also present was Attorney Ben Warren sitting in for City Attorney Stephen Martin.

## Approval of Agenda- skipped

Mayor begins with agenda before approval. Alderman Russell announces first we need to approve agenda; Alderman Russell thanked Mayor for saying meeting will be in order. Russell states we need to implement the Robert Rules of Order due to last meeting.

Alderman Russell made a motion to have new seat arrangements for Alderman Tope to change seats and move on other side of Alderman Brown.

Discussion continued.

Motion made by Alderman Russell and seconded by Alderman Ruff to make new seating arrangements for Alderman Tope to move to a different seat.

Disagreement concerning seating arrangement continued. Alderman Russell made a motion third time and asked for a vote. Alderman Ruff seconded.

Alderman Tope was asked by Mayor to move one seat over.

Motion was never voted on.

Alderman Tope motioned to open meeting to public so citizens would not have to sit through the agenda all night. Alderman Nelson and Mayor agreed that nothing had been accomplished.

Alderman Tope made a motion and Alderman Russell seconded it.

Roll call on Vote

Abernathy- yes

Brown - no

Nelson - no

Ruff - no

Russell - no

Tope -

would not vote

### **Motioned Denied**

## Approval of Agenda

Mayor requested the approval of agenda. Alderman Russell makes a motion to approve agenda Alderman Nelson seconded.

Voice vote

5 yes 1 no

## Motion Passed- Agenda Approved

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CITY HALL CHANGES/ COURT ORDER CASE # 18SL-CC01574

Mayor asked everyone to speak on matter then we can move on.

Alderman Brown explains court case. Mayor Fair claims he had no access to things that he needed to do his job as Mayor. All board members have same access to certain areas of building. Certain places in building are restricted and only the police are allowed. This disagreement was taken to court. In court the Board came up with an agreement to make provisions so the restricted areas would be blocked off. And now the Mayor can have the access that he needs with the City Hall.

According to the Mayor he also did not have access to records. The Board of Aldermen all have FOBS to get in and out of building except for secured areas. Mayor has had same access as everyone on board. Mayor stated since day one he was denied. When he finally did get a FOB it was for the back entrance. All Mayor asked for was access to records, financial statements to know where we going and what we are doing as a City. Mayor also stated he is just now getting on checking account which should have been done.

Alderman Ruff stated that Board made attempt to have a smooth transition but Mayor turned down Board's support. Ruff felt the Mayor did a hostile takeover.

### **NEW UPGRADE SYSTEM FOR BADGEPASS**

Chief Harris explains, for safety and security the City of Bel-Ridge current system is no longer supportive. It's old and outdated. If power is lost no one can get out of jail area. It's already in works with PROP P. Payments can be done in installments up to 90 days; 1<sup>st</sup> payment 30 days after installed. We are looking at 15 readers at \$26,000 total out of Prop P fund discount bringing it to \$24,392. Fully installed for 16 doors, includes all wiring, installation, lock mechanisms, evidence room, armory, court cage, it will be a 2 pad system with ID and code. This will be State standards.

Next year plan on camera system with \$12,000 in Prop P. Elliott Data is able to give State Contract price. Prop P going in general fund. Alderman Tope asked shouldn't that be separated. Chief Harris- yes, it is the accountant that works on it now to put in separate account.

Alderman Russell motioned to approve Badge Pass and Alderman Ruff seconded. Voice vote

6 yes 0 no

### **Motioned Passed**

#### RESOLUTION REGARDING CITY DOCUMENTS

Alderman Russell –June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018 the board appointed three resolutions in place to protect the city. By following the Sunshine Law, obtaining city documents and removing from complex. City hired an attorney because Mayor was suing the City of Bel-Ridge. Mayor stated, "For two months he had not seen a bill that had been paid. A week ago he received something showing some bills had been paid. And Andrea (City Clerk) gave me something today on bills that had been paid. Now that we have a city clerk, bills will begin to be seen and reported for meetings.

Alderman Brown asked, "Ok, so are you getting bills now?" Mayor, "yeah after I had to go to court and pay an attorney."

## **NEW BUSINESS LICENSE APPLICANT**

## Bonnie Jo Matthews (owner of Bonnie's Babies- Child Care Service)

Ms. Bonnie is applying for her business license as a child care provider out of her home (apartment) in Springwood Apartments located at 8942 Torchlamp Lane. She wanted to obtain license before actually starting her business. Her plans are to get a building. According to State, she would have to obtain license first.

Alderman Russell stated, "City of Bel-Ridge cannot allow daycare to be run in apartment. When building is obtained Ms. Bonnie can return before board and discuss license at that time."

### **DENIED**

### DISCUSSION OF WORKERS COMPENSATION BILL

Alderman Russell asked City Clerk to research why price had doubled in price from last year of \$65,000 to \$114,974.81. Company had not responded yet. Mayor states, "This is really something needing to be looked into if it's doubling from what it was." Alderman Tope comments, "It's because of the excessive claims we have. Alderman Tope goes further into detail (inaudible).

Alderman Russell asked to move forward. If officers get hurt and we don't have it, it would be a liability to the City. Alderman Russell asks that Tope speak to Midwest. City Clerk did state that Midwest will not talk to her because she was not authorized and would need to speak with someone on the Board of Alderman.

Chief Harris informed board that officers do have online classes and everyone gets 10 classes a year. We only had like 5 claims in the last year. And the officers do online training every month through insurance carrier. January 1, 2017 to now only had about 4 to 5 claims. Not excessive. One guy was bit by dog, one hurt his knee, and another gentleman was in car accident done on Hanley and Natural Bridge and his insurance should be covering all that.

City Clerk received form from Midwest for board to sign and designate a contact person. Alderman Brown requested to see if bill can be appealed after it's paid.

Alderman Tope motioned and Alderman Brown seconded. Voice Vote

6 yes, 0 no

Motioned passed.

## **DISCUSSION OF MOVING COURTS**

Chief Harris met with Courtney from St. Louis County Courts, Judge Beach Clerk. Our court is not in compliance and that City and Court have to be separated. The court files cannot be on floor, and now it is requested that court be moved. Chief Harris recommends court to be moved upstairs outside of court room. There are already cameras upstairs, locked secured, restrooms, phone on wall and does not involve City Hall.

Jackie explained how the area where court clerk is now was to only be temporarily until a space could be found. That was the reason for moving PA over to police side and partitions was put up. New court system had to be in compliance by October 10<sup>th</sup>. We are past our date. Alderman Brown requested a crew to be hired to move 18 cabinets. Alderman Russell stated that court clerk needs a designated area to be in compliance. Some things will go in basement in cage,

like older files. And there is an elevator so she could send stuff up on what she needs. Reconstruction will be needed.

Alderman Ruff motioned for moving of the courts and Alderman Nelson 2<sup>nd</sup> Mayor asks for voice vote.

6 yes, 0 no Motioned Passed.

### DISCUSSION OF ORDINANCE REGARDING VOTING WITH FINANCIAL GAIN

Alderman Russell states that ordinance goes into detail towards conflict of interest. When being a business owner, being on Board, paying your taxes, being in real estate and still on Board. This is a conflict of interest. You vote for something because you know it would benefit you if you have a business in the city.

This is not fair to the residence. Alderman Brown makes statement that this goes for all of us and it doesn't matter whom Alderman Russell is talking about. If everyone is required to pay taxes then so should the Board. Everyone on the Board has to set an example. Lead by example. No one on board should be any different than the residents of Bel-Ridge.

Alderman Brown asks the City Clerk to research all board members to make sure all taxes are paid.

Alderman Brown makes a motion for City Clerk to check Board members tax information, and Alderman Nelson 2<sup>nd</sup> motion.

Mayor -Voice vote

4 yes, 2 no

### **Motion Passed**

## DISCUSSION OF REPLACING CITY ENGINEER AND RETRIVING FUNDS PAID

Alderman asked Wade from Palladian to speak on the delays in street projects. When projects started Palladian was never invited to put together bid packages. Someone else from the City got the bids on those street projects. Palladian was brought in after they said they would make sure they follow St. Louis County standards.

Last month Wade brought contracts to be signed to Board of Alderman meeting but Board did not get that far down the agenda. Alderman Russell asks where the delays in regard to material? Increase of material was because the bids were approved after March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018. On Byrne Jones bid there is a statement on there that they reserved the right to adjust the price based on their new cost of material. Asphalt based on the oil prices that are higher now since

they put the bid together. If contract is signed then Wade can call the next day after and get things started.

For Mary Mark Lane there is another contract that also needs signing.

Aldermen Abernathy asked about an explanation about Severin.

Severin was given to City of Bel-Ridge for \$350.00 to change the border over from Berkeley to Bel-Ridge. It is now part of Bel-Ridge. Also, St. Henry Lane was also asked by Palladian to put that out for bid also. Palladian (Wade) had already discussed with City Clerk that job could start next day. Plans and specs have already been submitted to Block Grant Office. Alderman Brown verified that the block grant amount for 2019 was for \$38,000. Block grant Rep. agreed they would reimburse the city those funds. Aldermen Russell stated that last meeting this was talked about and how can it be guarantee that the City would have that amount to pay forward? We can't guarantee funds we can't see in the future. We did not agree to that.

Mr. Marku was at last meeting and he addressed that issue. Per Jackie- A vote is needed where You are putting 2019 because you all did say put it in the general fund but now he is saying it has to be a specific place. And board did say do half of St. Henry now and half later. However, he has to know because this is overdue. When the budget was finished, City was in Green for about \$10,000 and also in green for \$38,000. According to Mayor Fair, the city needs to make sure about the finances. Wade (Palladian) suggested making decision now so funds won't expire and City loses out. Wade recommended bidding whole street out to see the numbers and see how you like to proceed once bids are received. Mayor and Aldermen Brown agreed to get funds allocated for St. Henry.

Cary from Public Works asked, "Block grant covers St. Henry, Northside is Northside TIF. Will Northside TIF cover Severin, Mary Mark and Loganberry? Per Wade, Loganberry, Severin, Elmhurst are on a separate contract. Per Jackie those were allocated in 2018.

Aldermen Russell motioned to allocate 2019 Block Grant funds to St. Henry. Tope 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### Roll Call on Vote

Abernathy- yes

Brown - yes

Nelson - yes

Ruff - yes

Russell - yes

Tope - yes

### Motioned Passed

DISCUSSION OF CONTRACT WITH BYRNE & JONES CONSTRUCTION FOR ASPHALT MATERIAL INCREASE FOR \$1,620.00

Aldermen Brown made a motion to pay additional \$1,620.00 on contract for Bryne & Jones to get streets done. Aldermen Nelson seconded.

Aldermen Tope stopped vote to discussion further. Alderman Tope doesn't think it can be approved since not sure if TIF funds can legally be used. TIF funds are a part of being a special allocation funds. Never received letter from attorney whether they can actually be spent doing street projects, especially since the street is on the outside city limits of Bel-Ridge.

Alderman Tope consulted with Stephen Martin office for legal opinion and has not responded. In addition to Mary Mark, not sure if base contract is legal. How can you approve additional funds to a contract that you don't know is legal? Money not segregated in proper manner. This is required by law. TIF Funds must be in special allocation funding and not allowed to be in general fund. Aldermen Brown stated that this was not part of the TIF funds. Aldermen Tope went on about how you can take 99% of project that you using TIF money for that you don't have any idea if it's legal. Aldermen Russell has a document from prior attorney and TIF was done. According to Attorney and City is allowed to use those funds for improvements.

Aldermen Brown motioned to for Asphalt material increase and Aldermen Russell 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### Roll Call Vote

Abernathy- no

Brown - yes

Nelson - yes

Ruff - yes

Russell - yes

Tope -no

### **Motioned Passed**

### DISCUSSION OF CITY APPEARANCE

Aldermen Russell about the grass, trash and houses, is Public Works still needing help like they needed last year? And what about the houses that they city has obtained? Popeye has a hearing next week. No word from owners on either Bar-B-Que place or Popeye's. All properties on Natural Bridge have been given notices. Hearing is set for next week Tuesday 08/21/2018. If they don't show up city will cut the property.

The demolition is working on plumbing taking sewers out and also cutting water and getting the water taps destroyed. Waiting on letters from utility companies stating this has been done. Still need letter stating this has been disconnected for our files. All permits for plumbing are paid.

Alderman asked about cell phone towers and replacing equipment on tower. City did receive a payment of \$7,000.00. Each tower requires a business license. To find out can go to Tower Company website and it will show whose antenna is on tower. So you know who is required to have a business license for each tower. Aldermen Tope will email City Clerk about website or address for towers.

Public works still needs help with properties per Cary. The amount of houses that the city has and vacant lots, parks, right away and other area, Public works can't get to streets. Alderman Russell asks that Cary set a limit to cut grass and find out what charge was like for last year. Alderman Brown to look at pricing to get assistance on cutting grass.

### **ILLEGAL PERMITS ISSUED**

There where issues a few months ago where citizens did not obtain occupancy permits that was done improperly or given incorrectly. People in Bel-Ridge did not follow the process of obtaining an occupancy permit. Occupancies need to be revoked. During clean up to prepare for new City Clerk a lot of things had resurfaced. Mr. Winston our City Inspector did several inspections that had failed and he never was called back out for second inspection, but received word that tenants where occupying the apartments.

Alderman Ruff makes motion to revoke occupancy permit if living illegally. Alderman Russell second.

Alderman Tope feels this issue would have to go to court. However, there is an ordinance in obtaining an occupancy permit.

Mr. Winston states the process of revoking occupancy finding someone in a property with no permit.

- A. Owner of property should get a summons to appear in court for allowing a tenant to live in apartment/ home without having occupancy and not having an inspection.
- B. Tenant or occupant should also get one for living there without a permit. So both owner and tenant receives summons.

### **DISCUSSION OF HOMESTEAD**

Alderman Brown will need to get people phone numbers again.

Alderman Tope suggested that will require a separate meeting to try and straighten the program out.

### SET DATE FOR IMPEACHMENT HEARING FOR WILMA ABERNATHY

Alderman Abernathy reads a letter and asks that letter get put in minutes (please see attachment). Alderman Tope wanted to move forward.

Alderman Russell makes a motion to move forward with the impeachment.

Alderman Abernathy attorney tried contacting Wesley Bell three times. City hired Wesley Bell and cannot get in touch with him. Alderman Tope stated, "If proper procedure is followed, you must have a charge against her before you can set a hearing sate. Alderman Russell stated, "She was charged and you can always go back in minutes and review. Alderman Tope, "you can only be charged for something in your current term. You don't put charges against her when the citizens rehired her. And now she is in a different term.

Alderman Brown motioned to table. According to Alderman Tope, citizens knew all of this and still voted her back in to this term. Let's make a motion to end this. Stop wasting time and money. Russell asked

the attorney to speak on this issue. Attorney Ben confirmed that the impeachment cannot be based on a prior term.

### DISCUSSION OF HIRING SPECIAL PROSECUTOR

#### CANCELLED

### DISCUSSION TO UNTABLE BILL 1357 REGARDING REGULAR MEETINGS

## **TABLED (NEED COPIES)**

## RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PALLADIAN ENGINEERS TO SOLICIT PROPOSALS FOR BEL-RIDGE STREET LIGHTING PROJECT

Wade from Palladian has recently given a list that was put into report to everyone. First step need to put together a cost estimate, there are some options. Some you can reorganize the existing poles. Put together estimate in different options. See what kind of budget money can be used for that. Some metal poles. Another option is to utilize poles that are already in place.

Jackie stated that at the June 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, board motioned to move the funds to the street. Mayor contacted the attorney knowing we can use money for project. But, haven't heard back from Mr. Martin.

Wade gave an example comparison from street light project from Page and Olive. Those were about \$8,000.00 each. Wade stated he can go out and look at each location to see what poles can be reused not replacing them and have lower cost. He mentioned that existing poles be replaced with the LED lights, another option.

The Board meeting was interrupted by Aldermen Tope because a few citizens were removed by Officer Fisher due to interrupting the meeting.

Alderman Nelson motioned to allow residents back into board meeting and Brown seconded.

Voice Vote 5 yes, 1 no

Passed for citizens to return to board meeting

# AUTHORIZING MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH COMMUNITY LAND AND TRUST FOR DEMOLITION OF 3404 N. HANLEY

Mayor inquired why the city doesn't get a contract to demo both houses at same time at 3400 and 3404 N. Hanley. Mayor concerns were that house was next to school, with a garage and children safety. Land and Trust, same company that spoke at a previous meeting saying they would do 9 houses for \$9,200.00. Mayor asks that Land and Trust be kept in mind. Alderman Brown stated that city already had a contract for two houses that we got for a grant. City owns that land and could possibly donate to school. Both houses were given by owner. One house caught fire and owner did not have insurance and the other someone had passed away. House that is burned is unsafe. Alderman Brown suggested waiting until the next meeting to see how many other offers we have. Alderman Tope recommend knocking them down since it's next to school and there is no insurance on them.

Alderman Russell motioned to table authorization for Mayor to enter into contract with Community Land and Trust and Aldermen Abernathy second.

#### NO ROLL CALL OR VOICE VOTE

## BILL AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY AND TRUSTEE FOR ST. LOUIS COUNTY DEEDS

These homes are listed on Homestead List. Some deeds have not been transferred over to Bel-Ridge at St. Louis County. We will skip and return to this matter while Alderman Tope look up and will come back.

## BILL REPEALING SECTION 205.120 OF MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO NUMBER OF AND CARE OF ANIMALS, REGISTRATION AND FEE

This ordinance has helped to some degree that cats are not running rapid through the city. A thank you goes out to all that gave cages to the residents that ask for them. The fee is 3 for \$5.00. The ones that had already registered got clearance for next year. Walking cats on a lease should have been removed and never put on ordinance. City may need to do an amendment.

Alderman Russell motioned to keep same ordinance without walking cat on lease and revise ordinance. Alderman Brown second.

### **NO VOTE TAKEN**

## DISCUSSION OF RAYMOND WINSTON (CITY INSPECTOR) INVOICE STATEMENT FOR PAYMENT OF SERVICE FOR MONTH OF JUNE 2018

On statement it shows each line item for what was inspected for the month which is higher from the past invoices. Mr. Winston was assigned to inspect every house in the city. Going into the summer Mr. Winston was trying to get more houses in and letters out before winter. Mr. Winston was paid half on invoice until this was brought to the attention of the board for approval. Upon on approval Mr. Winston will get the other half of his pay.

Alderman Ruff motioned to pay balance owed of \$3,492.25 to Mr. Winston., Alderman Nelson seconded.

Roll call to Vote

Abernathy -Yes
Brown - Yes
Nelson - Yes
Ruff - Yes
Russell - Yes
Tope - No

### Motion passed

### DISCUSSION OF THE PROCEDURE TO FOR PAYING BILLS

Aldermen Russell signs off on invoices before bills are paid. Only one signature is required to pay bills under \$ 1,000, and anything over always requires two signatures. Karen Moore was doing bill paying until New City Clerk was hire. City clerk will need to be added to bank accounts and Karen Moore removed so that City Clerk will be able to sign and take over bill paying for City Hall. Need Attorney Martin to draw up another bill to add city clerk onto accounts.

Aldermen Ruff motioned to continue bill paying process and to add City clerk to bank accounts and remove Karen Moore. Alderman Nelson seconded.

Voice Vote 5 yes, 1 no Motioned passed

## MOTION TO AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO RETAIN ARMSTRONG TEASDALE AS SPECIAL COUNSEL IN RELATION TO TIF RELATED MATTERS

Alderman Tope feel that Teasdale has worked with Bel-ridge since the early 90's and they are the experts on the TIF. Alderman Tope feels an audit need to be done from last few years. Alderman Russell states that Bel-Ridge does not need to hire another attorney when the city already has one. Getting a bid from more than one company was suggested. Alderman Russell also has offered the book on the TIF.

Alderman Nelson motioned to table and move on.

Alderman Russell comment that that city just reached a point to where we stood financially and it took 3-5 years. Alderman Tope states that back in 2015 Bel-Ridge lost track of \$1.9 million from a TIF project and this is happening again and no one cares. According to Alderman Russell the city is now better off than it's ever had been.

Alderman Ruff motioned to keep the attorney we have. Alderman Russell seconded.

Voice Vote was taken; all were in favor except Alderman Abernathy and Alderman Tope.

### Motioned passed

## DISCUSSION OF SUSPENSION OF ALDERMAN ABERNATHY'S BEL- RIDGE PAY

Per Attorney, when new election happens it is treated as though you are starting over from day one. Law treats as though voters approved of original consent.

Board votes on reinstating Alderman Abernathy's pay for 4 months. Alderman Abernathy had not been paid from time of election to July.

Alderman Ruff motioned to pay Alderman Abernathy back for 4 months and Alderman Nelson seconded. **Voice Vote** 

voice vote

## 6 yes, 0 no

## Motion passed

### MOTION TO HAVE CITY CLERK APPLY FOR MUNICIPAL PARK PLANNING GRANT

Alderman Tope brought to Board's attention that it may be too late because the deadline is too close.

Voice Vote

6 yes 0 no

## Motion passed

#### **DELTA DENTAL RENEWAL COR CITY EMPLOYEES**

Dental insurance will continue and City will stay with same insurance plan.

Alderman Russell made motion to keep same dental plan for city employees and Alderman Nelson seconded.

Voice Vote

6 yes 0 no

### DISCUSSION OF VISION PLAN FOR CITY EMPLOYEES

This is tabled until city gets more information and breakdown of the cost for employees.

Alderman Nelson motioned and Alderman Abernathy seconded.

6 yes 0 no

**Motion Passed** 

### **DISCUSSION TO AUTHORIZE POLICE PATCH**

The patch was designed by an officer that died while on duty. Police Department wants to keep everything original on patch and add Bel-Ridge Incorporated in 1947 and Establish in 2015 where it became a city. There is no cost to city.

Alderman Tope makes motion and Alderman Brown seconded.

Voice Vote

6 yes 0 no

Motioned passed

## APPROVAL FOR ADDING EQUIPMENT ON EXISTING UTILITY POLE

Paul Sileo on behalf of AT&T spoke to Mr. Winston and was told to come before the board for approval. Paul Sileo was not present to present.

Alderman Russell motioned to table adding equipment to utility pole and Alderman Brown seconded.

Voice Vote

6 yes 0 no

Motioned passed

## APPROVAL FOR ISSUING ANITA HARDING REFUND FOR SEWER LATERAL

Ms. Harding paid \$200 for application and never did the sewer lateral program. Application was never approved by Mr. Winston because Ms. Harding contractor did the work before approval of permit. Mr. Winston did not see camera reading. Video that was given had no identification of building number on it.

Alderman Nelson made motion to refund Ms. Harding her \$200 and Alderman Abernathy seconded.

Voice Vote

6 yes 0 no

Motion passed to refund Ms. Harding \$200

CONTINUED DISCUSSION REGARDING BILL AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT BEWTWEEN THE CITY AND TRUSTEE FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACCEPTING DEEDS FOR TITLE TO CERTAIN VACANT PROPERTIES.

A motion was made by Alderman Russell and seconded by Alderman Nelson to table. **No Vote was taken** 

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

HEALTH & SAFETY- MRS. RUSSELL Nothing to report

## CODE ENFORCEMENT- MR. WINSTON

Mr. Winston spoke about the Springwood Apartments. When the property was purchased a couple of years ago it was never inspected. Mr. Winston suggested to going through every unit. Health department mentioned an older gentlemen living in mold. Mr. Winston went to apartment manager and did a wellness check. At that point the tenant was found deceased and his apartment had mold growing

into mushrooms. Tenant had been deceased at least about 10 days. Last year owner had made all kinds of promises that they would fix things. The City gave them all opportunity to do so. Alderman Tope suggested tearing them down and building something nice and new. There are over two hundred apartments and one building that burned up and no one occupies, it's just sitting there. There is an ordinance in place if building condemned owner has to put tenants up in hotel.

### POLICE DEPARTMENT- CHIEF HARRIS

The school supply drive for children is a big event that we have and we are asking for more donations, so far we have 10 full back packs.

### Crime Information

UCR- Uniform Crime Report numbers are down. Crime stats are about half of what they were last year. Police Department would like to welcome a few new hires. One officer is not here tonight to get introduced. The other new hire is Keaton Strong. He comes from St. Louis City Police Department as a detective for 10 years. Now he works for Missouri Attorney General Office as an investigator. We only have him part time. He also specializes in apartment codes, human trafficking, and child abuse cases.

### **Equipment items**

Currently our Dell Switch is out. Lines that comes in on Charter for cable and switches for police department and city, we lost usage all day yesterday. We now have a loaner switch. A new switch cost \$500 and we need authorization to purchase another. If loaner gets taken then we will not have anything.

Aldermen Russell motioned to purchase new switch and Aldermen Abernathy 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Voice Vote 5 yes 0 no Motioned passed

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

Arthur will be trained on equipment to cut grass. Working on moving courts immediately.

## **RECREATION- BOARD OF ALDERMEN**

Mrs. Russell would like to have Senior Bingo and activities and would like volunteers to implement Senior Bingo. Looking to have at the end of this month (July) on a Saturday.

Asking for about \$400 to spend for gifts, games and food. It will be from 11-3 on July 28, 2018.

Russell motioned to have Senior Bingo and to spend \$400 for event and Ruff seconded.

### Voice Vote

6 yes 0 no

### **CITY ATTORNEY- BEN**

Being in compliance for court.

Bruce Franks vs. Vanderheight- turned over to defense attorney from insurance carrier.

## **ACKNOWLEDMENT OF PAID BILLS FOR APRIL AND MAY 2018**

A motion was made by Alderman Brown and seconded by Alderman Nelson to table acknowledgement of paid bills for April, May, and June 2018.

#### Voice Vote

6 yes 0 no

## Motioned passed to table bills

## Approval of minutes

A motion was made by Alderman Brown and seconded by Alderman Russell to table meeting minutes for March 6<sup>th</sup>, March 9<sup>th</sup>, March 14<sup>th</sup>, April 6<sup>th</sup>, April 10<sup>th</sup>, May 1<sup>st</sup>, May 21<sup>st</sup>, June 5<sup>th</sup> and June 21<sup>st</sup>.

## Voice Vote

6 Yes 0 no

Motioned passed

### OPEN TO PUBLIC- NO ONE TO SPEAK AT THIS TIME

Alderman Russell motions to go into closed session and to go into closed session section 610.21 sub section 3 and Abernathy seconded.

### Voice Vote

### 6 yes 0 no

### Roll Call

Tope

Abernathy -Yes Brown - Yes Nelson - Yes Ruff - Yes Russell - Yes - Yes

Motioned Passed to close open session and proceed to closed session

Motioned Adjourn- 10:03 pm

The Board of Alderman approved the July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018 meeting minutes on the 2nd Day of 2018.

Indrea Jones
City Clerk



**CITY OF BEL- RIDGE**