

**CITY OF BEL-RIDGE
PUBLIC HEARING AND
BOARD MEETING MINUTES FOR
TUESDAY, JULY 2, 2019
6:00 PM**

This meeting was called to order by Mayor Fair at 6:02 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and attendance was called by City Clerk, Andrea Jones.

Roll Call

Abernathy-	Present
Watts-	Present
Tope-	Present
Ruff-	Absent
Whitaker-	Present
Robinson-	Present
Mayor Fair-	Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There was a motion to amend the agenda to add a new business license request under the New Business above Item H.

Alderman Robinson motions to amend agenda and add on business license applicant and Alderman Watts seconds.

Voice Vote

All in favor/ Zero oppose

CDBG Public Hearing

Board of Aldermen holds a brief discussion to inform the citizens of the decision to use funds for demolition of homes in the area.

Board opened to public for comments:

Tammy Love-asked for clarification on what the funds would be used for. Not to her understanding that funds was only going to demo. Ms. Love requested for a list of the 6 homes that are on list to be demolition.

Approval of minutes

October 2, 2018

October 23, 2018

November 29, 2018

December 4, 2018

Approval of Minutes Continued:

January 8, 2019

June 4, 2019

Alderman Watts had questions about October 2, 2018 minutes, page two for 7707 Chorman. He didn't see if that particular parcel was purchased. 7707 Chorman was not sold at that time and there was a motion to table. Also, on page 3 for business license on if there was a fee increase.

Attorney O'Keefe states that the question is to approve the minutes and if there is question about what took place those concerns can be address at a later time.

Alderman Watts makes a motion to approve the minutes and Alderman Abernathy seconded.

Voice Vote

All in favor/ Zero oppose

Motion passed

Resolution 2019-H to adopt a uniform computerized system for the Court administrative office utilized by the PA authorizing the Mayor to enter into a service agreement with REJIS for purchase and installation of new software.

Motion made by Alderman Watts and seconded by Alderman Robinson.

Roll Call

Abernathy-	Yes
Watts-	Yes
Tope-	Yes
Ruff-	Yes
Whitaker-	Yes
Robinson-	Yes

6 yes/ 0 no

Motion passed

Open to public for comments

Velma Weider- Thanking Alderman Abernathy, Captain, Lt. Martin, and one of the residents for job well done with Normandy School District Early Childhood picnic.

Julia Anderson 1319 Werder- Concerns about Minutes from November 13, 2018 minutes on a purchase of home for 7536 Thelma. Home was purchased for \$500, but on in the minutes it states Property was for \$8,000.00. Also, was concerned about the home being approved for occupancy because there is someone living there. Asking, does owner owe the city if check was only made out for \$500. Also, ask about a roll a way dumpster on bill list that city paid for. City Clerk clarified that dumpster is for Public Works, the roof of shed had fallen and Public Works Dept. needed dumpster to clear it out.

Mason Graves- addressing a case about himself. Chief Harris commented that this was a case pending in litigation in St. Louis County. Mr. Graves asks how will the corruption and insubordination be addressed with the Police Department? He states also, businesses are being ran out of homes and no tax are being paid to the city an it's unfair to the City of Bel-Ridge.

Marcel Agnew 8917 St. Henry- Commending the Public Works Department for coming out after Storms and helping get the trees up that had fallen. Wanted board to know that Public Works does a good job. Also, asked about trash service.

Tammy Love – Mentions that the meeting minutes for November 13, 2018 was not listed on the agenda. Also stated that November 29th, 2018 and October 23rd, 2018 and it mentions those were regular sessions on the Agenda. Ms. Love asked the board to go back and check on those. Also, ask the Mayor what direction for the City and a detail of where Mayor plans on taking the City, also what is a typical monthly expense and what the budget looks like for this meeting and what type of budget do city have for a regular month. Mayor response that auditors are here on site and he also plan on bringing more businesses into the city.

Bill Vance, owner of Carson Automotive and President of Chamber of Commerce- Announces that Chamber of Commerce now have 15 members. Talks about the business licenses and wanted to know what are the plans for fees. Businesses need more than 30-day notice.

Walter Russell- Ask the Mayor to get street on Weeden repaired. Cary from Public Works let him know that they are working on that.

Darryl Robinson 3537 St. Henry- Asking about no trespassing signs on St. Henry. Wanted to know if they can get signs up, and more police presence. People are cutting through the yards. Alderman Watts asked if this is for private property? Attorney states that the City can not put up no trespassing signs. Only a private property can prohibit. Also, asked about Kevin Robinson if Chief will be looking at Police officers Cam? Det. Strong stated that they are working on it.

Det. Strong addresses the No trespassing sign. Police have increased the patrol in the area.

NEW BUSINESS

Lawanda Carter 3201 Ellsworth, comes before the board about the business license costing \$500. She claims she is not a business and that she babysits her own grandchildren. Ms. Carter is being paid by the state to keep her grandchildren. The state is asking her to get permission from City to do daycare in her home. She was told from the State that Bel-Ridge requires a business license to babysit in her home. Attorney ask that she write out what she is doing, how many kids she is keeping, what is her relationship to children, how she is getting paid and to provide that to the City Clerk? And the board will work with Clerk on the ordinances and try to access what is the best path forward so she can get squared away with the state. Attorney also clarifies that although she says it's not a business, the state will send her an income statement at end of year and file with IRS saying that they have paid Ms. Carter this money and its income. Which is in fact a business. The city has to figure out the zoning law, health laws and business license. Further discussion continues from MS. Carter.

Ms. Carter also asked about a tree that is pushing her sidewalk up. Cary comments on this issue. The tree roots are growing over the street. The tree is considered on City property. Mayor ask Cary to gets some bids to see what City can do.

Motion made to table the consideration of the application of new business license for Ms. Carter.

Motion made by Alderman Robinson and seconded by Alderman Abernathy.

Voice Vote

All in Favor/ 0 oppose

Motion passed to table.

Acknowledgement of June 2019 Bills

No action required.

Bill # 1379, Ordinance 2019-9 outlining the duties of the City Clerk.

1st reading

Motion made by Alderman Abernathy and second by Alderman Watts

2nd reading

Motion to adopt made by Alderman Robinson and Second done by Alderman Watts.

Roll Call

Abernathy-	Yes
Watts-	Yes
Tope-	Yes
Ruff-	Yes
Whitaker-	Yes
Robinson-	Yes

Motion passed

Committee Reports

- A. Code Enforcement- Mayor** recommends that Gordon Brock perform Residential Inspections until we get a Building Inspector. The City had paid a while ago for Mr. Brock training at one point to do residential inspections. Alderman Watts makes a motion to post position for at least 2 weeks. Alderman Tope ask will this be for a person or contractor. Board will clarify what the requirements will be. Board discusses the route of posting and hiring for Building Inspector position.

Alderman Watts makes a motion to withdraw motion previously made to post position of Building Inspector and to return in a 2-week time after report is given to staff to submit alternating code enforcement services. Alderman Abernathy seconds

Roll Call

Abernathy-	Yes
Watts-	Yes
Tope-	Yes
Ruff-	Yes
Whitaker-	Yes
Robinson-	Yes

6 yes/ 0 no

Motion passed to withdraw Alderman Watts motion

Mayor made a recommendation to hire Gordon Brock on an interim basis to provide code enforcement and inspection services for 2 weeks.

Alderman Robinson makes a motion and Alderman Abernathy seconds to improve Mayor engagement for Mr. Brock to provided Inspection services under the same interim as Mr. Winston performed.

Roll Call

Abernathy-	Yes
Watts-	Yes
Tope-	Yes
Ruff-	No
Whitaker-	Yes
Robinson-	Yes

5 yes/ 1 No

Motion passed

- B. **Police Department-** Chief Harris mentions receiving thank you letters from Children for Officers participating in the parade with the Early Childhood Center.
 DWI increase – Paid by State of Missouri will have an extra car out on road.
 Bel-Ridge took part of Officer's Funeral, that was killed in the line of duty. A few of our officers previously worked with the Officer from North County Co-Op.
 The Attorney General will be auditing all Police Departments across the state for the rape kit inventory. Bel -Ridge has completed the audit and received a passing score. Department will receive an award for completing the kit.
 Also, the officers are handing out coupons for ice cream from Wendy's and Slurpee's from 7- Eleven to kids in the neighborhood.
 At this time there is a death investigation going on, over on Kendall.
 Discussion and questions to Police Department about the missing laptops from previous board members.
 Alderman Whitaker asks Chief Harris about the procedure of hiring officers. The board is now aware of a new officer and was not told about it. Chief Harris explains the procedure. Alderman Whitaker requests the name of every officer that we have. Alderman Whitaker states that no one on the board has ever been ask to sit in on any interviews. Alderman Tope asks, who is on the hiring committee? Chief Harris states the police clerk calls citizens up to see who are available to attend interviews.

Alderman Robinson asks about the Patrol car that was wrecked? Chief Harris states that Police Clerk sent out emails about the incident. Alderman Robinson states he never received any emails.

Alderman Abernathy ask the Chief to explain why Police Clerk is wearing a police uniform? Chief Harris states she is just wearing a shirt.

- C. **Public Works** -Cary and Doug took off the roof to the salt shed that caved in this week. Cary has also provided bids of some dooms, waiting on board to get together and talk about it. For now, tarps are being put on salt to cover. One side has a partial roof and the other does not. Cary and Doug have been working on weekends to do street potholes. Wade from Palladian is supposed to be putting a 10-year plan together for streets. Streets should include, Weeden, Sergeant, Maybelle and Ramona. Did potholes twice this year but salt is eating it up.
Also, have been doing a lot of brush, dumpsters cost \$350. Trying to keep up with grass, pothole, grass and brush. The engineer has the bids and they are expensive.
- D. **Parks**- Alderman Abernathy thanking everyone for helping in the Park. Also, ask board to purchase some signs so people will be aware that Bel-Ridge has a park.
- E. **Recreation**- Nothing at this time.
- F. **Accounting and Auditor Report** – Nothing at this time.
- G. **City Attorney O'Keefe**- Statues of terms of office of boards of commission Parks and Recreation Board, Planning and Zoning and Board of Adjustment. Many of boards were established by state law and for city ordinances to comply. Planning and Zoning with a four-year term with a rotating term of office and similar also for Board of Adjustment. All records we have been able to identify do not identify the terms of office of the people currently on board. Letters where sent out to all board members asking when appointed and what their term was. No one was able to identify when they were appointed or for how long. No one responded. It appears that it is necessary for the board to reconstitute and designate specific terms for people serving.
Park and Recreation- each member appointed for 1 yr. term expiring at the next election. This board is open to reappoint. Only 3 people acknowledged being on Parks and Recreation board.

The Board had a work session which gave them the opportunity to examine upcoming issues and explore with staff, information they want in order to make decisions on matters that are on the upcoming agenda. It helped to identify priorities and issues to discuss going forward. Board will need to decide time and date so an ordinance can be established.

Motion to closed open session and go into closed session made by Robinson and second by Abernathy.

Roll Call

Abernathy-	Yes
Watts-	Yes
Tope-	Yes
Ruff-	Yes
Whitaker-	Yes
Robinson-	Yes

Motion Passed

Motion to Close open session and go into a closed session made by Alderman Robinson and second by Alderman Abernathy.

Roll Call

Abernathy-	Yes
Watts-	Yes
Tope-	Yes
Ruff-	Yes
Whitaker-	Yes
Robinson-	Yes

Motion passed to Close open session and proceed to close session.

Time: 8:05 p. m.

The July 2nd, 2019 board meeting minutes were approved by the Board this 12th day of August, 2019.

Andrea Jones
City Clerk

