

**CITY OF BEL-RIDGE  
CORRECTED  
BOARD OF ALDERMAN MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, MAY 4, 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, May 4, 2021, at 6:04 PM.

<b>Roll Call</b>	<b><u>Board of Aldermen Present</u></b>	<b><u>Board of Aldermen Absent</u></b>
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Alderman Watts  
Alderman Davis  
Alderman Abernathy  
Alderwoman Tope  
Alderwoman Whitaker  
Alderman Robinson  
Mayor Fair

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

Motion to approve the agenda for May 4, 2021, made by Alderman Robinson and seconded by Alderwoman Davis, an all-in favor vote received.

Motion to approve April 13, 2021 minutes by Alderwoman Davis and seconded by Alderwoman Abernathy, an all-in favor voted received.

**APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS & COMMISSIONS**

None

**Resolution 2021 (M)**, certifying and accepting the results of the April 6, 2021 Election.

Motion to adopt the resolution made by Alderwoman Davis and seconded by Alderwoman Abernathy, an all-in favor voted received.

## **SWEARING IN TO BOARDS & COMMISSIONS**

Oath of office administered to elected aldermen resulting from the April 6, 2021 Primary Election. Alderman Whitaker (Ward 1), Alderman Robinson (Ward 2) and Alderman Watts (Ward 3), takes the oath of office given by City Clerk, Andrea Jones.

**Alderman Watts reads a statement on behalf of the City of Bel-Ridge Board of Alderman the current climate of the City's financial status, including the State of Missouri's Audit. The statement also addresses the fact that the Board of Alderman's goal is to bring the City back to financial stability and solve the financial crisis.**

## **CITIZENS COMMENTS**

**David Regan, Field Representative, Local 42** – We represent the Police and Public Works departments. We're here concerning outsourcing. Is there any plans for town hall meeting before any decisions are made for outsourcing public works or the police?

**Mike Ruff – 4313 Rickey Drive** – Mr. Ruff asked that with the City being in such financial trouble for years, does it find it feasible to give yourself raises and double each salary? Business license taxes are a thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) and have jumped to twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00). I know for a fact cause I work there. Some were forgiven. People have not been given a dollar amount of the savings from outsourcing police.

**Tammy Love --- Somerset Lane** – Ms. Love states her question is for Mr. Watts – was the statement that he just read written by him or on behalf of the entire Board? She also asked whether they could get a copy of that statement or they should have been given a copy. She didn't know the purpose of the statement. It was stated that no decisions have been made -- my point is the Board is not being transparent and never has been as a Board or the Mayor.

**Ms. Cody** – Ms. Cody stated that she does not feel safe – it's only her son and herself living in her house. She cannot image not having these guys to protect us. (Gets emotional) She states she has lots of trouble with her son's

father and we need our officers. She asks the Board to please take this into consideration.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

None

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

April 2021 Disbursements – Motion to approve April 2021 disbursements made by Alderwoman Davis and seconded by Alderwoman Abernathy, all-in favor voted received.

### **CITY ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT**

The city accountant presents Bel-Ridge financial reports. She states the overall health of each of City's financial accounts. She also states expenditures exceed revenues. The accountant presents a flow chart of the financial accounts. The Board asks questions of the accountant. Motion to accept the accountant's financial report made by Alderwoman Davis and seconded by Alderwoman Abernathy, all-in favor voted received.

### **CITY CLERK REPORTS**

**Approval to Create a Separate Account for CARES Act Funds; Resolution Needed** – City Clerk advises the Board it is suggested to have a separate account for CARES ACT Funds to be deposited into for adequate record keeping. Discussion held. City attorney will work to get the requested proposed resolution.

**Re-appropriation of 2020 and 2021 CDBG Grant Funds** – City Clerk indicates she has spoken to Chancellor regarding the grant funds and he says we have to start from scratch. The Board has to decide exactly what they want to do regarding the grant. Discussion held. The grant funds will be a topic for the next monthly Board meeting.

**Liquor License Application** – Applicant Alonda McGhee, Dinner at Londa's. City Clerk announces to the Board that there is no limit of liquor licenses to be issued in the City of Bel-Ridge. Discussion held. Motion to approve liquor license for Applicant Alonda McGhee made by Alderwoman Davis and seconded by Alderwoman Abernathy, all-in favor voted received.



## **CITY'S STAFF REPORTS**

**Municipal Court** – None

**Public Works** – Director of Public Works states the water main is being repaired on multiple streets in Bel-Ridge. Discussion held.

**Police Report** – None

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **RESOLUTIONS**

**Resolution 2021 (N)**, acknowledging receipt of and accepting the 2018 Audit Report.

Motion made to acknowledge receipt of and accept the 2018 Audit Report by Alderwoman Abernathy and seconded by Alderwoman Davis, all-in favor voted received.

**Resolution 2021 (O)**, authorizing the Mayor to extend the employment agreement with GovtempUSA, LLC on behalf of the City of Bel-Ridge, Missouri for placement of a temporary project manager to assist with resolving issues with the City's tax increment financing district, oversee proper allocation of funds for municipal and TIF's purposes, and provide management consulting on general City operations.

Motion made to authorize the Mayor to extend the employment agreement with GovtempUSA, LLC on behalf of the City of Bel-Ridge, Missouri by Alderman Watts and seconded by Alderwoman Abernathy, all-in favor voted received.

### **BILLS**

**Bill 1418-** adopting an annual budget for fiscal year 2021 commencing on June 1, 2021 and appropriating funds pursuant thereto.

Motion for 1<sup>st</sup> reading of Bill 1418 by caption only adopting an annual budget for fiscal year 2021 commencing on June 1, 2021 and appropriating funds pursuant thereto in Bill 1418 made by Alderwoman Davis and seconded by Alderwoman Abernathy, all in favor vote received. 1<sup>st</sup> reading done by City Attorney.

Motion for 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of Bill 1418 by caption only by Alderman Watts and seconded by Alderwoman Abernathy, all in favor vote received. 2<sup>nd</sup> reading done by City Attorney.

Motion to adopt Bill 1418 by Alderman Watts and seconded by Alderwoman Abernathy for Bill 1418 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 1418, now Ordinance 2021-6.**

### **ADJOURN AND HOLD CLOSED MEETING**

Motion to adjourn and go into Closed Session according to Missouri Revised Statutes 610.021 (1): Legal actions, causes of action or litigation involving a public governmental body and any confidential or privileged communications between a public governmental body or its representatives or attorneys, and Missouri Revised Statutes 610.021 (3) Hiring, firing, disciplining, or promoting of particular employees by a public governmental body when personal information about the employee is discussed or recorded and Missouri Revised Statutes 610.021 (9) Preparation including any discussion or work product on behalf of a public governmental body or its representatives for negotiation with employee groups made by Alderwoman Davis and seconded by Alderman Watts.

## **ROLL CALL**

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

**Motion passed to go into closed session at 6:49 pm.**

## **BOARD COMMENTS**

**Alderman Tope:** Let me correct two things that was said by the residents. **First**, the tax on the parking garage – that was on the ballot and the amount assessed was voted on by the residents, not by the Board. **Second**, our pay was not doubled and we did not give ourselves a raise.

**Alderman Watts:** This Board, including the Mayor, gets a stipend of Two Hundred dollars (\$200.00), One Hundred Eighty-Four dollars (\$184.00) after taxes. Where the residents got that we gave ourselves a raise, that's so inaccurate. We have also been requested to waive business taxes – that's why we need a town hall meeting.

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Alderwoman Davis and seconded by Alderman Robinson, all in favor vote received.

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

May 4, 2021, Board Meeting minutes were approved by the Board this 6th day of July 2021.

Andrea Jones

City Clerk

