

**June 8, 2020**  
**St. James Municipal Center**  
**City Council Meeting**  
**7:00 pm**

**AGENDA ITEM: Call to Order**

Mayor Krawiecki called the meeting to order. Councilmembers Boulware, Anselm, Smith, Keyes and Edwards attended the meeting in person. Councilmembers Swanson, Weatherly, and Sachs attended via Zoom. Also, in attendance were City Clerk, Sarah Wheeler and City Administrator, Jim Fleming. Others in attendance were John Cutsinger, Parks Director; Lisa Parks, Pool Director; and several Park Board members. Others in attendance via Zoom included: Lyle Thomas, Public Works Director; Ron Jones, Police Chief; and Attorney Justin Head.

Mayor Krawiecki led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Administrator Fleming led in a word of prayer.

---

**AGENDA ITEM: Adoption of Agenda**

Mayor Krawiecki asked for approval to amend the agenda to move the department reports under old business so that the council members going off the board could give their report before leaving. Councilman Boulware made a motion to approve the agenda with the amendment. Councilwoman Edwards seconded the motion. All council members voted "aye".

---

**AGENDA ITEM: Minutes – May 11, 2020**

Councilwoman Keyes made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilman Boulware seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted "aye".

---

**AGENDA ITEM: Bills – May 2020**

Councilman Smith made a motion to approve the bills to be paid. Councilwoman Edwards seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted "aye".

---

**AGENDA ITEM: Pool Opening Discussion**

Lisa Parks, Pool Director spoke with the city council about the options to open the pool, to still come out financially stable and still follow the guidelines for COVID. She stated that the Park Board voted and passed to open the pool with the new rate of \$5 for a daily pass, however, if you leave the pool you cannot come back in for the day without paying again.

The Mayor stated that he was still concerned about how to properly social distance in and outside the pool. He also stated he was concerned about what to do with the basketball courts. Councilman Boulware said that the kids need something to do in town. Councilman Smith stated that the city needed to open the pool, we just need to monitor and make sure everyone is following the rules. Smith said that we needed to start in a positive fashion, we might be this way for a long time. Councilwoman Edwards mentioned that most places are checking temperatures before coming in, was the City going to do this? She stated that she just wants to make sure we are doing everything we can to protect people.

With no further discussion, Councilman Anselm made a motion to open the pool in June. Councilman Smith seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted “aye”.

---

## **AGENDA ITEM: Department Reports**

Public Works – Lyle mention the Library project will be completed by next week. The school project has one mayor project left and that is putting in a transformer. The streets department have been cleaning ditches.

Alliance – Gary mentioned that after 40 years with Alliance he would be retiring in July. He introduced Ron Smith who will be taking his position. Ron mentioned that he was an engineer by trade with 30 years’ experience and he was happy to be serving. Billy spoke next showing the council the 6” water main elbow that was causing the Walmart DC leak. He stated it had been leaking for 20 years under the building. They worked and was able to get it fixed and Walmart will be reimbursing the city for the repairs. Billy also discussed the DNR inspection.

Schools – Councilman Smith mentioned the SRO position. He stated after speaking with the superintendent the school had agreed to pay 75% of an SRO if they city would pay the other 25% of 1 officer. Administrator Fleming stated he did not know if the school could still afford the cost after the state made school budget cuts, but he will talk to them again and see if that’s what they would still like to do. Jim will look at the budget and have numbers for the next meeting.

Caring Center – no report.

Parks – Councilwoman Keyes mentioned we were taking bids for the Community Hall remodel to be opened this week. The 125 ft safety net at the ballfield was being hung this week and the ticket booth was finished. The department is trying to get caught up on mowing after the rain and they have ordered social distancing signage to get ready for the reopening of the playgrounds and bathrooms.

Library – Administrator Fleming mentioned that the bathroom remodel was due to be completed next week and that the Library was planning for a full reopening on June 29<sup>th</sup>.

Sanitation – Councilman Anselm stated that the department was not fully staffed and was currently borrowing employees from other departments. He asked why we had not hired another person for that position and how much time are we wasting retraining new people we are pulling over to help each time? The department feels like they are being punished even though they came out in the black for the budget last year. Anselm also asked if we were cutting the recycling program as he had been told there was mention of that. Administrator Fleming stated that he was putting numbers together, but he believed we were losing in recycling and it was not worth the cost. Citizens are not separating their trash which in return means our employees are spending a lot of time doing it. Anselm mentioned that we needed to look at the recycling grant which he believed was still another five years and that the commercial cardboard would no longer be free if we cut the program. Mayor Krawiecki said that he felt we need to keep the program and maybe educate the citizens more on how to properly separate.

Police – Chief Jones stated they had 764 calls for the month of May.

Humane Society – Councilman Boulware said that we still had not come to an agreement for a lease with the current Humane Society and that we would be hearing a presentation from a new group this evening.



Utilities – Councilman Boulware not much to report on that Lyle has not covered. They will be holding a meeting tomorrow at 11:00 am.

Chamber – Mayor Krawiecki gave a report for the Chamber. He mentioned the TIC had been closed for the entire month of May but they will be opening up again on Tuesday. The 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks would not be held at the Veterans Home this year due to COVID, the chamber is currently working on a new place to set up. They are in works with the middle school to possibly do it there. Sip N Savor has been cancelled, currently they are still planning on Grape & Fall Festival at the end of August. The third quarter meeting has been cancelled.

IDA – Councilwoman Edwards had nothing new to report.

MO Humanities – Administrator Fleming stated that they were back to work, they are still planning on the Indian Removal Museum. Trying for a \$3 million grant, however, a study would need to be done for this which would take about a year to complete before they could move forward.

---

### **AGENDA ITEM: Election Certification**

Clerk Wheeler read the election results aloud. Councilman Anselm made a motion to accept the certified election results. Councilwoman Edwards seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted “aye”.

---

### **AGENDA ITEM: Motion to Adjourn Sine Die**

Councilman Anselm made a motion to adjourn Sine Die. Councilman Smith seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted “aye”.

---

### **AGENDA ITEM: Swearing in of Newly Elected Officials**

Clerk Wheeler swore in the newly elected officials. Councilmembers Smith, Wagnon and Gray. Councilmember Swanson had previously been sworn in due to being out of town for the meeting.

---

### **AGENDA ITEM: Mayor Pro-Tem Nomination**

Mayor Krawiecki nominated Councilmember Keyes as the next Mayor Pro-Tem. Councilman Anselm made a motion to approve Councilwoman Keyes, he also thanked the council for allowing him to serve the past two years as Mayor Pro-Tem. Councilman Smith seconded the motion. All Councilmembers voted “aye”.

---

### **AGENDA ITEM: City Clerk Appointment**

Mayor Krawiecki nominated Sarah Wheeler for reappointment as City Clerk. Councilwoman Keyes made a motion to approve the nomination. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted “aye”.

---

### **AGENDA ITEM: City Boards & Committees Appointments**

Mayor Krawiecki nominated each member on the attached list, whose terms was up in 2020, for reappointment to their same board or committee. Councilwoman Edwards made a motion to approve. Councilman Boulware seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted "aye".

---

### **AGENDA ITEM: City Department Liaison Appointments**

Mayor Krawiecki appointed the following councilmembers to be liaisons over city departments:

Schools – Councilwoman Keyes  
Senior Center – Councilwoman Edwards  
Parks – Councilman Swanson  
Library – Councilwoman Wagnon  
Streets – Councilman Anselm  
Sanitation – Councilman Anselm  
Police – Councilman Smith  
Humane Society – Councilman Boulware  
Chamber – Councilwoman Edwards  
IDA – Councilman Gray

---

### **AGENDA ITEM: Citizen Comments**

Phelps County Animal Rescue Group came and spoke with the Council about taking over the St. James Humane Society. Gene Matlock presented the council with a step by step plan and stated the group was eager and ready to get started.

Councilman Boulware mentioned that this would be a much-needed change. Councilwoman Keyes agreed. The Mayor asked Administrator Fleming to look into what we would need to do to make the change and get things started with this new group.

---

### **AGENDA ITEM: City Administrator/Mayor Report**

Administrator Fleming gave a brief budget update. He mentioned that he had expected sales tax revenues to be down quite a bit due to COVID but they had only come in down by about 4%. He mentioned that the Use Tax had already brought in around \$30,000 in the first five months which is what he had expected for the whole year. He's hoping if this trend continues, we would have money for the SRO position.

Councilman Smith stated he felt confident that we could commit to the \$11,000 to see the SRO position get filled for the school. There was discussion about amending the budget, however, Clerk Wheeler mentioned that any budget amendments would need to be done through a resolution. Administrator Fleming will put together numbers and see if we can amend the budget for the next meeting if the Use Tax is still doing well and after speaking with the school to see if they are still on board for paying the 75% of the officers salary.

Administrator Fleming mentioned that the utility departments had ended with a surplus for the 2019-2020 fiscal year end. Gas ended with a \$193,000 surplus, Electric with a \$138,000 surplus, Water at \$189,000 surplus and Sewer with \$11,000 surplus. Fleming mentioned that even though we ended with a surplus our reserve funds are still very low and we would need to work on getting those back at fully funded. The



utility board will be meeting tomorrow at 11:00 am and will plan a date for a workshop to go over rate structuring.

Fleming mentioned we had lots of events coming up and at this point we are waiting on the Governor for guidance with COVID regulations. The Chambers Demo Derby has been cancelling, summer sports have been cancelled. The FFA rodeo is scheduled for July, they would still like to go ahead with their event but at this point it is too early to decide. Sip N Savor has been cancelled but at this point the Chamber is still planning for the Grape & Fall Festival to be held at the end of August.

---

### **AGENDA ITEM: Ordinance No. 20-1169**

Clerk Wheeler read Ordinance No. 20-1169 aloud for the first reading. This ordinance is required for the General Code to make the necessary State Statute changes in our code book to keep it compliant.

Councilwoman Keyes made a motion to approve the first reading. Councilman Boulware seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the voting was as follows: Councilman Boulware "aye"; Councilwoman Keyes "aye"; Councilwoman Wagnon "aye"; Councilman Smith "aye"; Councilman Anselm "aye"; Councilman Gray "aye"; Councilwoman Edwards "aye". The first reading was approved as read.

---

### **AGENDA ITEM: Mayors Report**

Mayor Krawiecki welcomed the new councilmembers aboard and thanked those that ran for office but did not win the election for taking the time to want to be involved. He mentioned that there were still several board/committee positions open if any citizens would like to volunteer their time.

The Mayor also made a statement that his number one priority is still the health and safety of everyone in the community at this time. He and the council have had to make some tough decisions due to the COVID pandemic, but he believes we are doing the best we can to keep everyone safe.

---

### **AGENDA ITEM: Misc Discussion**

Councilman Boulware stated that he believes that the SRO position is still much needed, and he hopes to continue discussions so that we can get it worked out with the school.

---

### **AGENDA ITEM: Adjourn**

With no further business to discuss, Councilman Anselm made a motion to adjourn, Councilman Smith seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted "aye". The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

---

Rick Krawiecki, Mayor

ATTEST: