

**May 11, 2015**  
**St. James Municipal Center**  
**Regular City Council Meeting**

**AGENDA ITEM: Call to Order**

Mayor White called the meeting to order. The following councilmembers were present: Councilman Sachs, Councilman Anselm, Councilwoman Weatherly, Councilman Huster, Councilman Smith, Councilman Tonding, Councilman Edwards and Councilman Watkins. City Administrator Jeff Davis and City Clerk Sarah Wheeler were also in attendance.

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**AGENDA ITEM: Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor White led the council and citizens in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**AGENDA ITEM: Citizen Comments**

**Discussion: Citizen Comments**

Kathy Hicks the new Executive Director at the Golden Living Center introduced herself to the Council.

Natalie Sanders the new editor for the St. James Leader Journal introduced herself to the Council.

John McCallister discussed briefly the carports and accessory buildings ordinance with the council. He stated that he petitioned the city to revoke the ordinance and had received several signatures. He also stated that he will be back each month until the issue gets put on the agenda to be discussed and voted on.

Ellen House read a statement about issues with funding in St. James. She mentioned that there should be a time clock for every employee, equipment should be inventoried and should not be going home for personal use, debris should be picked up more often and staff are smoking and sleeping in vehicles when they should be working.

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**AGENDA ITEM: Minute Approval**

**Vote or To Do: Minutes**

Councilman Sachs made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilwoman Weatherly seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted "aye".

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## **AGENDA ITEM: Bill Approval**

### **Vote or To Do: Bills**

Councilman Edwards questioned the bill to Ed Hoertel. Clerk Wheeler mentioned that it was the normal monthly bill and also asked the council to approve last month's bill to Hoertel as it had mistakenly been left off the bill list.

Councilman Huster made a motion to approve the bills. Councilman Watkins seconded the motion. All Councilmembers voted "aye".

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## **AGENDA ITEM: Utility AMR Presentation**

### **Discussion: Utilities**

Tim Craft - Natural Gas Operator for St. James – proposed to the council a purchase using the natural gas capital fund of an AMR or AMI system. Tim & Paulette will come with proposals to the council soon if they would like to move forward. The new system will allow the utility employee to be able to just drive by the meter and the reading information will go directly to city hall computers. Will save approximately 160 man hours per month, eliminating the meter reading time down to 4-7 days just on water side. The new system will be compatible with the water system as well, so later down the road they may be able to add the same feature to the water meters also. Tim mention that they are going to have to replace meters regardless, the decision will be rather we will do AMR meters or regular meters again.

The council agreed to allow Tim and Paulette to go out for bids and present them to the council at a later date.

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## **AGENDA ITEM: City Administrator Comments**

### **Discussion: New Discussion Item**

Jeff mentioned the Newly Elected Officials Conference on June 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. He also mentioned that the Legislative Session is near its end and that he will send out an update on what is decided once we get it from MML.

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## **AGENDA ITEM: Mayor's Comments**

### **Discussion: Mayors Comments**

Mayor White mentioned that he has not had a chance to get started on downtown revitalization yet and that he is still looking for volunteers to step forward and help. We will still have a utilities review and

presentation in June or July and a review of the budget money. Finally he mentioned Sip & Savor last week and the great turnout of about 1500 people.

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### **AGENDA ITEM: Adjourn**

Councilman Anselm made a motion to go into closed session for personnel issues. Councilman Huster seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted “aye”.

Councilman Watkins made a motion to open the regular meeting back up. Councilman Tonding seconded the motion. All Councilmembers voted “aye”.

With no further business to discuss, Councilman Watkins made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Smith seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted “aye”.

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