

August 8, 2016
St. James Municipal Center
Regular City Council Meeting

AGENDA ITEM: Call to Order

Mayor White called the regular Council meeting to order. Councilmembers Sachs, Watkins, Edwards, Mitchell, Huster, Anselm, Weatherly and Smith were present, along with Clerk Wheeler and City Administrator Selby.

AGENDA ITEM: Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor White led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ITEM: Agenda Approval

Councilman Watkins made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilman Huster seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted “aye”.

AGENDA ITEM: July 11, 2016 Minutes

Councilman Sachs made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 11, 2016 meeting. Councilman Mitchell seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted “aye”.

AGENDA ITEM: Bills

Councilman Sachs made a motion to approve the bills to be paid. Councilman Watkins seconded the motion. All Councilmembers voted “aye”.

AGENDA ITEM: Citizen Comments

Nancy Walker requested to speak with the council about the Sweet Gum Tree Ordinance. She mentioned that she had cut into the Sweet Gum trees on her property at 320 N. Wishon in an effort to stop the trees from producing anymore gum balls, but not to kill the tree. She had come to the city hall to request permission to cut down the trees on her property and was told it was ok. She was later fined because the trees were actually on city easement. Ms. Walker had went to court and was ordered to take down all 10 of the trees and replace. She said after talking with several companies it would cost \$500 per tree just to take down, this does not include the cost to plant new trees. She asked that in the future the council look at the tree ordinance and make it more clear on what can and cannot be done with trees in town, so this mistake does not happen again.

AGENDA ITEM: Ordinance No. 16-1085

Discussion: Ordinance No. 16-1085 – Bulk Water Purchase

Clerk Wheeler read Ordinance No. 16-1085 for bulk water purchase out loud for the second and final reading.

Vote or To-Do: Ordinance No. 16-1085 – Bulk Water Purchase

Councilman Watkins made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 16-1085 as read. Councilman Edwards seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all councilmembers voted “aye”.

AGENDA ITEM: Resolution No. 16-253 Senior Center Lease

Discussion: Resolution No. 16-253 Senior Center Lease

Clerk Wheeler read Resolution No. 16-253 approving the Senior Center Lease agreement for one year.

Vote or To-Do: Ordinance No. 16-253 Senior Center Lease

Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve Resolution No. 16-253 as read, with the approval that next year the council will discontinue the rent and charge the Center for their utility bill instead. Councilman Sachs seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted “aye”.

AGENDA ITEM: Approve the hire of Lyle Thomas as Utility Superintendent

Discussion: Approve the hire of Lyle Thomas as Utility Superintendent

Harold introduced Lyle Thomas and mentioned that his resume was included in the packets. Harold and Mayor White would like to hire Lyle as the Utility Superintendent to take Mike Licklider and Mark Davis’ spot as they retire. In September they would come back with the job description and would like to make Lyle the Public Works director to help over all the city departments.

Councilman Edwards and Sachs said they opposed to hiring Lyle before they have seen a job description first. Councilman Weatherly, Anselm, Smith, Huster, Mitchell, and Watkins approved the hiring of Lyle Thomas.

Harold mentioned that a job description would for sure be brought back to the next meeting.

AGENDA ITEM: Library Sign

Discussion: Library Sign

Mayor White mentioned that the Friends of the Library are wanting to put up a lighted sign at the library showing upcoming events. All councilmembers agreed that this would be fine.

AGENDA ITEM: Department Reports

Discussion: Department Reports

Police – Alan Sachs – Councilman Sachs stated that he just wanted to tell the Police Department, Thank you! He is very proud of the police department and we should all appreciate the job they are doing more.

Harold presented the Police Department with an award from MIRMA for 100% training in their department for the year.

Parks – Nathaniel Mitchell – Pool staff is all going back to college, leaving the pool shorthanded, therefore, they are borrowing help from other pools in the area to get them through till the end of the season. Soccer season is getting ready to start. Prisoners from Licking are going to start coming to help with the weed eating around the park and cemetery.

Street – John Huster – All asphaltting completed.

IDA – Alan Sachs – property transfer to P.I.N.E., Cohen moving along on their expansion. Harold mentioned that Cohen has received 20,000 cubic yards of dirt, land for free if he hires an additional 12-14

employees within 2 years and 4 transformers all given to the company from the city and state. The amount totals \$208,000 to help grow the business.

Chamber – Carol Weatherly – 1900 people through the tourist center last month. 1200 showed up for the rodeo. Another rodeo has already been scheduled for next year. September 8-10 is the Grape and Fall Festival.

Sanitation – David Watkins – Department has been down one truck but Eric should have fixed very soon and back up and running.

City Administrator – Harold Selby – Gary Stern is painting the Library for free and Sherwin Williams will be donating 10 gallons of paint for free. The City received the most improved award at the MIRMA conference this year on our audit.

Mayor – Jim White – nothing new to report.

AGENDA ITEM: Adjourn

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

Jim W. White, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sarah Wheeler, City Clerk

Date