

February 12, 2018
St. James Municipal Center
City Council Meeting

AGENDA ITEM: Call to Order

Mayor White called the meeting to order. Councilmembers Weatherly, Mitchell, Sachs, Hockersmith, Huster, Anselm, Watkins and Smith were present for the meeting. City Clerk Wheeler, City Administrator Selby, Public Works Director Thomas, Street Superintendent Scheel, Police Chief Jones were also in attendance.

Other attendees signed in and are attached to these minutes.

AGENDA ITEM: Call to Order

Mayor White led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilman Hockersmith led in a word of prayer.

AGENDA ITEM: Agenda Approval

Councilman Anselm made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilwoman Weatherly seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted “aye”.

AGENDA ITEM: Minutes – January 8, 2018

Councilman Smith made a motion to approve the minutes with one amendment to read:
Senior Center – Councilman Smith said the building was going good and they would be considering a line of credit in lieu of a deposit for the new building utilities.
Councilman Hockersmith seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted “aye”.

AGENDA ITEM: Bills

Councilman Anselm made a motion to approve the bills to be paid. Councilman Huster seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted “aye”.

AGENDA ITEM: Citizen Comments

A group from the High School (Carter Keeney, Ty Uffmann & Kieran Evans) presented to the council a class project they had been assigned to come up with an idea for city improvement. The boys chose the intersection by McDonalds. They discussed putting in two round-a-bouts and how it would make traffic less dangerous and the cost to the city.

Gary Johnson with Alliance gave a monthly report and discussed their first couple weeks working for the City and what they had accomplished. Gary stated that they came in on the first week and worked on a better understanding of the plant, where everything is, safety issues, and what items would need to improve. He mentioned that from here on out they will give a monthly report on their work at the council meetings.

Mag Roberts spoke last. She congratulated the street department for a good job on keeping the ice and snow off the streets. She then spoke to the council about how she was concerned about the city not blading the parking lots of the fire and ambulance districts. She also mentioned a rumor she had heard that the city would not be paving Missouri Street.

Harold mentioned that he had called and spoken with the fire chief and that Bruce was aware that we were no longer doing this and that we had quit a couple years ago. Harold also mentioned that the city had never done the ambulance parking lot.

Steven Lucas the City Attorney stated that if the city continued to blade parking lots and someone was hurt a legal argument could be made and the city would be held liable. He suggested that if the city chose to blade these parking lots that a legal agreement would need to be written up and that the city would need to charge for materials and labor.

The council discussed if this was something the city even wanted to get into and asked Administrator Selby to contact the Fire and Ambulance Districts and see if they even wanted the city's help before moving any further.

AGENDA ITEM: Ordinance No. 18-1117 – Auxier Addition

Clerk Wheeler read Bill No. 18-1117 aloud for the second and final reading.

Councilman Anselm made a motion to approve the ordinance as read. Councilman Smith seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the voting was as follows: Councilman Anselm “aye”; Councilwoman Weatherly “aye”; Councilman Smith “aye”; Councilman Huster “aye”; Councilman Sachs “aye”; Councilman Hockersmith “aye”; Councilman Mitchell “aye”, Councilman Watkins “aye”. Ordinance No. 18-1117 was approved as read.

AGENDA ITEM: Ordinance No. 18-1118 – Carter’s Addition

Clerk Wheeler read Bill No. 18-1118 aloud for the second and final reading.

Councilman Watkins made a motion to approve the ordinance as read. Councilman Smith seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the voting was as follows: Councilman Anselm “aye”; Councilwoman Weatherly “aye”; Councilman Smith “aye”; Councilman Huster “aye”; Councilman Sachs “aye”; Councilman Hockersmith “aye”; Councilman Mitchell “aye”, Councilman Watkins “aye”. Ordinance No. 18-1118 was approved as read.

AGENDA ITEM: Ordinance No. 18-1119 – Wise Addition

Clerk Wheeler read Bill No. 18-1119 aloud for the second and final reading.

Councilman Huster made a motion to approve the ordinance as read. Councilman Smith seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the voting was as follows: Councilman Anselm “aye”; Councilwoman Weatherly “aye”; Councilman Smith “aye”; Councilman Huster “aye”; Councilman Sachs “aye”; Councilman Hockersmith “aye”; Councilman Mitchell “aye”, Councilman Watkins “aye”. Ordinance No. 18-1119 was approved as read.

AGENDA ITEM: Ordinance No. 18-1120 – Wishon Street Vacancy

Clerk Wheeler read Bill No. 18-1120 aloud for the first reading.

Councilman Anselm made a motion to approve the first reading of the ordinance with the amendment from St. Clair to St. James in the header. Councilman Smith seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the voting was as follows: Councilman Anselm “aye”; Councilwoman Weatherly “aye”; Councilman Smith “aye”; Councilman Huster “aye”; Councilman Sachs “aye”; Councilman Hockersmith “aye”; Councilman Mitchell “aye”, Councilman Watkins “aye”. Ordinance No. 18-1119 was approved as read.

AGENDA ITEM: Ordinance No. 18-1121 – Sanitation Rates

Clerk Wheeler read Ordinance No. 18-1121 aloud for the first reading.

Administrator Selby explained that this ordinance would increase the sanitation rates by \$1.00 on residential and \$1.00 per yard for dumpsters. This would allow the sanitation department to be able break even on costs to save for a new truck and allow for raises in the department. They would like to move the employees up to \$11.00 per hour starting wage.

Councilman Watkins made a motion to approve the ordinances first reading. Councilman Anselm seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the voting was as follows: Councilman Anselm “aye”; Councilwoman Weatherly “aye”; Councilman Smith “aye”; Councilman Huster “aye”; Councilman Sachs “aye”; Councilman Hockersmith “aye”; Councilman Mitchell “aye”, Councilman Watkins “aye”.

AGENDA ITEM: Ordinance No. 18-1122 - Dumping

Clerk Wheeler read Ordinance No. 18-1122 aloud for the first reading.

Councilman Watkins made a motion to approve. Councilman Mitchell seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the voting was as follows: Councilman Anselm “aye”; Councilwoman Weatherly “aye”; Councilman Smith “aye”; Councilman Huster “aye”; Councilman Sachs “aye”; Councilman Hockersmith “aye”; Councilman Mitchell “aye”, Councilman Watkins “aye”.

AGENDA ITEM: Resolution No. 18-266 – MJMEUC Director Appointment

Clerk Wheeler read Resolution No. 18-266 aloud for the first reading and only reading.

Councilman Watkins made a motion to approve resolution as read. Councilwoman Weatherly seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted “aye”.

AGENDA ITEM: Department Reports

Humane Society: Harold mentioned the rumors going around social media that the Humane Society was out of money and would be closing their doors if they did not receive donations. Harold contacted Mark Macey about the rumors but has never heard back from him. Harold also mentioned that they still have not given the budget information that the council has requested several times. Councilman Hockersmith asked the city attorney if we can send them notice of breach of contract if they do not hand over the information. Harold will send Attorney Lucas the contract in the morning to review and see if they are in fact in breach of contract and something can be done.

Schools: Dr. Johnson, School Superintendent attended the meeting. He spoke to the council about the upcoming bond initiative to not increase taxes but to extend the current bond from 2032 to 2039. This would allow the school to expand their early childhood program, build a performing arts studio and renovate the old part of the school building that was built in 1923.

Police: Councilman Sachs reported that the Chief mentioned things were going so well he might take a day off. Harold requested that the council approve paying the chief only for time off not used rather than him losing the time. Harold will come back with a proposal next month.

Public Works Director: no report.

Street: Councilman Huster mentioned everything was running smoothly.

IDA: No meeting held this month.

Parks: Councilman Mitchell reported signups for spring sports had begun and they were having a good turnout so far.

Chamber – Councilwoman Weatherly reported the chamber dinner had a great turnout and that a new director had started.

Sanitation – Ron Fraser mentioned the April spring clean-up.

Senior Center – Councilman Smith stated that the new building was moving along well, the Utility Board had accepted the line of credit in lieu of a deposit for utilities.

City Administrator: Administrator Selby said that he had spoken with Corky Stack about the lot of the city’s that he wanted to purchase and what he is wanted to build is too big for the piece of property. Corky is asking the city to change the code so there is no restrictions. Selby also mentioned that a news article was done Cohen Woodworking and aired on News Channel 5 on Sunday.

Mayor: no report.

AGENDA ITEM: Adjourn

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

Jim W. White, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sarah Wheeler, City Clerk

Date