

City of Center

Minutes of the Council Meeting

August 4, 2021 - 6pm

The Center City Council met on Wednesday, August 4, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall in Center, Missouri for their regular monthly meeting. Attending were: Mayor Dennis McMillen, Alderman Shawn Couch, Alderman Steven Reynolds, Alderman Tom Bramblett, Attorney Joe Brannon, and City Clerk Jeanne Franke.

Mayor Dennis McMillen called the meeting to order and attendance was taken.

Approval of July Minutes and August Agenda and Paying August bills: Alderman Shawn Couch made a motion to approve the July minutes, August agenda and paying August bills. Alderman Tom Bramblett seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Add to Agenda: Crystal Kelch appointment; Flag Pole Ball Field; Part-time Maintenance worker

Public Forum: Kristopher Mangold filed an official complaint against Police Chief Bill Martin which he read in it's entirety. And played a recording that he had made from inside his home while Chief Martin was outside since Mr. Mangold did not open the door after several knocks on the door. The complaint will be filed with the minutes of the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Fire Dept Request for split cost of New Door for Pumper Truck: Alderman Shawn Couch made a motion to approve City of Center splitting the \$1000 deductible with Center Rural Fire Department with each paying \$500. Alderman Steven Reynolds seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Property Clean-up Plans: Council agreed to forward this to next meeting while Alderwoman Cristy Browning is out with covid.

Maintenance Report: Shane provided his July Maintenance Report and August Objectives.

Shane stated there are many, many tree limbs from a couple of wind storms accumulated at the shed area and needs a plan to dispose of them. After discussion, the council agreed he should burn them in small batches in an open area by the shed. Shane also reported there is no more excess water coming into the Lift Station after the repair on S. Public Street, which in turn caused less water feeding back into the pumps and less stress on the lagoon ponds.

NEW BUSINESS:

Crystal Kelch appointment: Mayor Dennis McMillen requested to appoint Crystal Kelch as City Clerk. Shawn Couch made a motion to approve the appointment of Crystal Kelch as City Clerk effective August 24, 2021 at \$20.00/hour. Alderman Steven Reynolds seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Camera System for City Hall: Council thought the bids were high and requested to look further and forward to next meeting. Suggestion to look at Harbour Freight.

Thrasher Street Repairs/Repaving: After receiving 2 high bids on road repairs, Mayor Dennis McMillen reported he had discussions with Brian Boleach about repairs and repaving a section of Thrasher Street that has buckled up and deteriorated over last several months and unsafe to drive over. Brian advised that section needs to be reconstructed by tearing it up and packing with rock over next few months in order to have time to settle and continue adding rock to build a sturdy foundation before asphaltting next spring. Dennis also spoke to Wiley Hibbard, Ralls County Commissioner, about any assistance the county could offer. Wiley stated Ralls County could cover bringing in heavy equipment to break-up the road and preparing for the rock base. The city would need to pay for the rock. After discussion the council all agreed this would be the best way to progress on this project.

American Rescue Plan Funds for Center: Samantha Diffenderfer with Mark Twain Regional Council of Governments will come to September Council Meeting to go over the requirements and restrictions in receiving and spending the funds.

John Lake - Major Water Leaks Causing High Sewer Rates: See attached for last 3 years of sewer rates. John stated it took the last 2 years to find all the water leak issues and make the appropriate repairs so that his water rates are finally down to normal. (This is similar to the Mangold sewer problem) Alderman Steven Reynolds made a motion to adjust Lake's sewer rates from March 2020 through March 2021. Alderman Shawn Couch seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Maintenance Worker Part-Time Needed: Shane Niffen, Maintenance Supervisor, requested a part-time maintenance worker for sewer hard cleaning, street patching, culvert cleaning and repair about 20 hours a week. The council all agreed to place an ad in newspaper and well on Center Face Book page.

School Request to Move Flag Pole at Ball Field: The Ralls County School District had installed the Flag Pole at the Ball Field before deeding the property to City of Center. They would like permission to move it to their property. Alderman Steven Reynolds made a motion to allow Ralls County School District to move their Flag Pole from their previously owned Ball Field to their current property. Alderman Shawn Couch seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

New policy Regarding Sewer Rates and Water Leaks: Due to residents frequently requesting sewer adjustments due to water leaks, the Council would like to enact a new policy that would not allow for adjustments since the water does go through our sewer lines. Alderman Shawn Couch made a motion to enact a new policy Not to adjust sewer rates due to water leaks or other issues. Alderman Steven Reynolds seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Ordinance Violation: Alderman Steven Reynolds brought up the issue with the property rented by Tommy Fugate still has several vehicles and a lot of other stuff all over his property and on the neighbors property. He believes Police Chief Bill Martin should issue citations to Tommy Fugate and instruct him he is in violation of the city's ordinance.

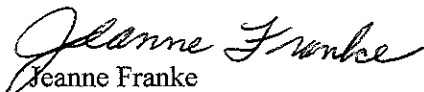
** Next Council meeting will be September 1, 2021 at 6pm.

Alderman Shawn Couch made a motion to adjourn the council meeting. Alderman Tom Bramblett seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Informational Items:

PARK DAYS - AUGUST 6TH AND 7TH - PARADE 10:00am Saturday

Respectfully submitted,


Jeanne Franke
City Clerk