

# City of Center

## Minutes of the Council Meeting

### October 13, 2020

The Center City Council met on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall in Center, Missouri for their regular monthly meeting. Attending were: Mayor Dennis McMillen, Alderwoman Cristy Browning, Alderman Tom Bramblett, Alderman Shawn Couch, Attorney Joe Brannon and City Clerk Jeanne Franke.

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

**Approval of September 2, 2020 Minutes and Paying October bills:** Alderman Shawn Couch made a motion to approve the September 2, 2020 minutes and to approve the October 2020 bills. Alderwoman Cristy Browning seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

#### **Public Forum:**

Ralls Tech Update: Lynn Hodges addressed the council with the status of installing Wifi for Center. Ralls County Commission contributed \$300,000 from the CARES funding. Lynn estimates it would take at least \$1,000,000 to completely cover all of Center. The initial priorities are to serve anchor institutions: Library, Businesses, Under-served and Non-served. All over-head cable is mostly finished and next will be installing underground cables. Lynn also stated it is important for all businesses and residents to register at Ralls Tech website.

Mighty MO Distillery: David Essig & Jim Bridges stated their new business is about 1 ½ year out to open. They are requesting permission to install a new 24" x 36" culvert with a 24" or 30" round opening. The council advised they would need to check with MO-DOT first with their plan.

Beverly Holmes: Bev wrote a letter requesting to use the parking lot next to City Hall for her daughter to have a lemonade or hot chocolate stand for "Gift-filled Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes" a fund raiser for needy children. Alderwoman Cristy Browning made a motion to approve Beverly Holmes and daughter to use the City Hall parking lot for a Christmas fund raiser. Alderman Shawn Couch seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Randy Johnson: Randy wrote a letter requesting the council to waive the interest charge of \$5.09 on his outstanding 2018 Real Estate Tax bill that he was sure he had paid as he had paid all years prior and 2019 and he would pay the \$25.46 outstanding. Alderman Shawn Couch made a motion to approve to waive the \$5.09 interest on Randy Johnson 2018 Real Estate bill. Alderwoman Cristy Browning seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Chuck Buban called with a question as to who is responsible for keeping ditch in front of property cleaned out – resident or city? The council responded the resident of property is responsible to keep ditch in front of property cleaned out.

Mary Jackson: Mary would like to see a more detailed break-down on future Budget statements. Jeanne Franke responded that could be done now with our current accounting system.

#### **Old Business:**

Unpaid Sewer Accounts: Alderwoman Cristy Browning made a motion to have Attorney Joe Brannon take the unpaid sewer account residents to court as we had already sent certified letters. Alderman Tom Bramblett seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Ordinance Weight Limits Specific Streets/Bridges: The council requested Attorney Joe Brannon to draw up a draft to amend the current ordinance for weight limits on specific streets/bridges with consideration of the trash truck with it's high weight.

Lift Station Pumps: Steve Migas with C&C Pumps & Supply, Bridgeton, MO sent a quote for the pump and a maintenance program at the waste water lift station. After discussion, the council has additional questions on pricing before making a decision.

**City Hall Garage Masonry Work:** Alderman Shawn Couch made a motion to approve the bid from Grossmann Masonry, LLC for \$2,200 for the tuckpointing on rear and parking lot side of building, water seal applied, mortar to be replaced and tile gutter to be removed from rear of building. Alderwoman Cristy Browning seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

**New Business:**

**Fire Extinguishers Replaced by Getz:** Alderwoman Cristy Browning made a motion to have Getz replace or update all fire extinguishers at City Hall, Town Hall, City Shed, and upgrade Police Truck to a 10 lb. size. Last update was 2015. Alderman Tom Brambett seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

**Police Chief Request Body Camera/AR15Rounds:** Alderman Shawn Couch made a motion to approve Police Chief's request for a Vista body camera replacement w/3-year no-fault warranty, compatible with our police computer system for \$1,290.00 and for AR-15 rounds of ammunition for qualification requirements for \$132.87. Alderwoman Cristy Browning seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

**Hand Pole Saw for Tree Trimming:** Alderwoman Cristy Browning made a motion to approve the purchase of a hand pole saw for tree trimming the street areas. Alderman Shawn Couch seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

**Quick Books Payroll:** Alderwoman Cristy Browning made a motion to approve adding Payroll Program to Quick Books for \$450 plus \$2 x 6 emp x 12 months (\$144.00). Alderman Shawn Couch seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

**Police Pay Raise After 90-days:** Alderman Shawn Couch made a motion to approve Chief Bill Martin pay raise by \$1.00 to \$15.50/per Hour. Alderwoman Cristy Browning seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

**Informational Items:**

\*\*Discussion as to City taking over School ball fields tabled until next meeting.

\*\*All ATV's (Golf Carts, Side-by-Sides, Utility, Etc.) are required to be registered and renewed annually.

Next Council meeting will be November 4, 2020 at 6pm.

Alderman Shawn Couch made a motion to adjourn the Council meeting. Alderwoman Cristy Browning seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Jeanne Franke  
City Clerk