

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Portageville City Hall

February 6, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the City of Portageville Board of Aldermen was held on Monday, February 6, 2023, at City Hall, 301 E Main St. Mayor Berry called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Present

Alderman Johnson

Alderman Adams

Alderman Estes

Council Members Absent

Alderman Walker

Following roll call, the City Clerk reported that a quorum was present.

Also present were:

Rachel Wrather, City Clerk

Denis McCrate

Angela Lunbeck

James Robinson

Edna Robinson

Jonathan Thacker

Jimmy Wyman

Terry Wheeler

Jeanette Pepper

Terry McVey, City Attorney

Tim Williams

James Petrie

Susan Warren

Larry Spencer

Kathy Spencer

Gail Lunbeck

Dennis Armstrong

Roosevelt Mosby

APPROVAL OF
AGENDA

Moved by Alderman Adams, seconded by Alderman Johnson and unanimously carried, to approve the agenda as submitted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Reg. Meeting- 1/9/23
Special Mtg.- 1/17/23

Mayor Berry asked members of the Council if they had read a copy of the Minutes made available to them three days prior to the meeting. All answered in the affirmative.

Mayor Berry asked if there were any additions or deletions to the minutes. There were none.

Moved by Alderman Johnson, seconded by Alderman Estes and unanimously carried, to approve the submitted minutes for the month of January.

ORDINANCES OR
RESOLUTIONS

There were none.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mayor Berry asked if there were any visitors present who would like to address the Board of Alderman.

Dennis Armstrong and Jeanette Pepper addressed the Board over restoring water service at their late brother Bobby Armstrong's residence. Discussion followed. Kathy Spencer, the other heir of the property, expressed her desire to not have services connected. Terry McVey concluded that any heir to the property could turn service on with a notarized affidavit stating that they have ownership in the property but expressed his opinion that the situation needed to go through probate which had not been filed at the time of the meeting. Whoever chose to turn water on would be responsible for paying the bill.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

RONNIE ADAMS- CHIEF OF POLICE

Turned in a written report for the month of January.

Adams reminded the Board that the updates for their reporting software would be discontinued in 2024.

GEORGE DELISLE- FIRE CHIEF

Turned in a written report for the month of January.

PARK BOARD

No report was turned in.

Alderman Estes asked Mayor Berry if he had spoken with Park Board President Mike Cook regarding Jennifer Cook managing the Red Building given the fact that she is not a member of the Park Board. Mayor Berry stated that he had not yet but would make himself a note to get that done.

JONATHAN THACKER- STREET & SOLID WASTE SUPERINTENDENT

Turned in a written report for the month of January.

The Board of Aldermen expressed their appreciation for the winter weather clean-up in January.

JONATHAN THACKER- CODE ENFORCEMENT

Turned in a written report for the month of January.

Thacker stated that he would have letters for Building Commission to meet again in April 2023.

MCCRATE AVENUE DRAINAGE PROJECT

Denis McCrate reported that Hessling Construction had made it to 12th Street. Mayor Berry stated that Hessling had damaged our water pipe and he believed them to be inside the locate parameters of 24"

from the flags placed by the City of Portageville, so he would like to see them pay for the time and equipment used. Discussion followed. McCrate disagreed with Berry's measurement for the marking and stating that members of Hessling's crew worked to repair the pipe. Jimmy Wyman, Water Superintendent, had not come up with a calculation of expenses resulting from the damaged line. The issue was dropped.

Hessling Construction submitted pay request #3 in the amount of \$142,828.04. Alderman Johnson made a motion to approve Pay Request #3 from Hessling Construction in the amount \$142,828.04. Alderman Adams seconded. All members voted in favor.

JIMMY WYMAN- WATER SUPERINTENDENT

Turned in a written report for the month of January.

TERRY WHEELER- SEWER SUPERINTENDENT

Turned in a written report for the month of January.

Ressler and Associates in conjunction with Johnson Screens was previously hired to repair the auger at the sewer plant. Upon inspection, the auger needs to be replaced due to a programming issue causing the auger to run more than necessary causing wear. Discussion followed. Mayor Berry stated that he would work with Terry to see if a solution could be reached between River City, Ressler or CMT regarding this problem.

SCOTT PATTERSON - PRETREATMENT

Turned in a written report for the month of January.

ROOSEVELT MOSBY- ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Turned in a written report for the month of January.

Mosby stated that he was having issues with people being told they could come down and view animals without his consent. Discussion followed. No trespassing signs will be ordered and the automatic gate will look at being repaired.

PLANNING AND ZONING

No report was turned in.

OLD BUSINESS

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

A copy of the Social Network Media Policy and Policy for Social Media Sites Operated by the City from the City of Kennett was introduced as requested at the last meeting. Discussion followed. Alderman Johnson made a motion to draft the Social Network media Policy for our employees for the City of Portageville. Alderman Adams seconded. All members voted in favor.

MARIJUANA PERSONNEL AMENDMENT

Mayor Berry asked the Board how they would like to proceed with the personnel marijuana amendment. Alderman Adams proposed that the complete policy submitted by Alderman Adams at the last meeting along with the first paragraph of our current policy be merged together and drafted into an ordinance for the next meeting. Alderman Estes seconded. All members voted in favor.

EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE

Mayor Berry informed the Board that Blake Bain with Anderson & Green had submitted a letter stating that she was no longer comfortable selling the Saint Francis network that had been proposed in her initial bid. Alderman Johnson made a motion to continue for the remainder of 2023 with United Healthcare through Ellington Insurance. Alderman Adams seconded. All members voted in favor.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES / MAYOR PRO-TEM

Mayor Berry updated his nomination of committees as listed below:

| DEPARTMENT | CHAIRMAN | CO-CHAIRMAN |
|----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| FINANCE | Alderman Johnson | Alderman Adams |
| WASTEWATER | Alderman Estes | Alderman Walker |
| WATER | Alderman Walker | Alderman Johnson |
| HEALTH | Alderman Estes | Alderman Johnson |
| STREET | Alderman Walker | Alderman Estes |
| SOLID WASTE | Alderman Johnson | Alderman Adams |
| POLICE | Alderman Estes | Alderman Johnson |
| FIRE | Alderman Adams | Alderman Walker |
| PARK | Alderman Adams | Alderman Walker |
| ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT | Alderman Adams | Alderman Estes |
| PLANNING & ZONING | Alderman Johnson | Alderman Adams |
| | | |
| MAYOR PRO-TEM | Alderman Walker | |
| CITY ATTORNEY | Terry McVey | |
| | | |

Mayor Berry asked for a motion to approve the presented appointment of committees. Alderman Estes made a motion to approve. Mayor Berry asked for a second. There was no second. Motion failed.

Mayor Berry stated that the list replacing Alderman Hollingshead's appointments with Alderman Walker would stand until the new fiscal year.

BUSINESS LICENSE REVIEW

Mayor Berry asked the Board of Alderman how they wanted to proceed with updating city business licensing. Alderman Johnson stated she would like to see a uniform fee of \$100 annually for all commercial businesses and \$25.00 annually for all residential businesses. Discussion followed. The issue was tabled until the March 2023 meeting.

DNR- ENERGY AUDIT REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

Mayor Berry stated that he had not received any additional information on this. The issue was tabled until March 2023 meeting.

PFAS TESTING

Mayor Berry informed the Board of Alderman that we had received a letter advising the City of regulatory PFAs established by the EPA. Discussion followed. Mayor Berry stated he will investigate what PFAs testing would entail and stated that due to SRG's testing wells being placed on City right of way, we should be able to utilize them to conduct our own testing. The issue was tabled until March 2023 meeting.

WATER TREATMENT PLANT UPDATE

Mayor Berry explained that Jim McCleish with Horner Shifrin had reached out to USDA and DNR regarding funding sources. USDA stated that they may be able to do a 70/30 split, but the average user rates would have to increase to approximately \$58.25 per user. There is an opportunity for funding through SRF but the City would have to apply. Discussion followed. A text vote will be conducted via email when more information is received about the SRF program.

NEW BUSINESS

ARAMARK CONTRACT RENEWAL

Mayor Berry stated that the City's contract with Aramark Uniform Services expires in April of this year, but we were asked to renew early in order to lock in the exact same rates of our current contract for the next two years. Alderman Adams made a motion to renew for the two-year term under the current terms. Alderman Estes seconded. All members voted in favor.

QUARTERLY TRASH SERVICE FOR LARGE ITEMS – PJ

Mayor Berry asked Alderman Johnson if she would like to address this agenda item. Alderman Johnson stated that citizens had approached her with some concerns over the 30-yard dumpster

being pulled from the Street Shed for access clean-up items and fee for pickup of the large items being assessed by Sharp's Disposal. Alderman Johnson stated she would like to propose that a third clean-up week be implemented at no cost to the citizens so there would be more opportunity for the citizens to dispose of non-residential trash. Discussion followed. Alderman Johnson will check with Sharp's Disposal to see what the cost of adding a clean-up week to the end of June would cost the City allowing for the two contracted ones to be held the last week of March and the last week of October. The issue was carried over until the March 2023 meeting.

BODY CAMERA GRANT – VB

Mayor Berry stated that the City had received information regarding a Body Camera program that would help with the cost of body cameras for our police department. Discussion followed. Mayor Berry asked for a motion to apply for the grant. Motion was made by Alderman Johnson and seconded by Alderman Adams. All members voted in favor.

RADAR TRAILER GRANT – VB

Mayor Berry explained that the City had received a email regarding Missouri Department of Transportation Highway Safety Grant funding that would allow for a radar sign and/or trailer for the Portageville police department. Mayor Berry asked for a motion to apply for the grant funding. Motion was made by Alderman Adams and seconded by Alderman Estes. All members voted in favor.

MRWA LEGISLATIVE ASSESSMENT

Mayor Berry presented the annual Missouri Rural Water Association Legislative Assessment. The voluntary legislative assessment amount for 2023 is \$375.00. Alderman Johnson made a motion to pay the assessment in the amount of \$375.00. Alderman Estes seconded. All members voted in favor.

SEMO DRUG TASKFORCE

Mayor Berry presented the annual renewal for the SEMO Drug Task Force in the amount of \$1000.00. Alderman Johnson made a motion to renew at a rate of \$1000.00. Alderman Adams seconded. All members voted in favor.

NMC MAYORS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL DUES

Mayor Berry presented the annual dues for the New Madrid County Mayor's Association in the amount of \$250.00. Alderman Estes made a motion to approve the renewal in the amount of \$250.00. Alderman Adams seconded. All members voted in favor.

MOWER REPAIR- FORMAL VOTE

Mayor Berry stated that a text vote had been taken to allow Ron's Small Engine to repair a grasshopper mower at a cost of \$1287.85, but a formal vote was needed. Alderman Estes made a motion to approve the repair from Ron's Small Engine in the amount of \$1287.85. Alderman Johnson seconded. All members voted in favor.

APPROVAL OF
FINANCIAL REPORTS
Municipal Court

CHRIS STINNETT, MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE

Stinnett turned in a written report for the month of January as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Fines Collected/ Clerk Fees | \$1556.46 |
| Inmate Security | \$14.00 |
| Crime Victim Compensation | \$2.28 |
| LET Fund | \$14.00 |
| TOTAL | \$1586.74 |

City Collector
City Treasurer

MICHELE CRAWFORD, CITY COLLECTOR

RACHEL WRATHER, CITY TREASURER

Crawford and Wrather turned in a written report for the month of January as follows:

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Turned over to City Treasurer: | \$228,271.17 |
| Received from City Collector: | |
| Park Fund | \$17,413.31 |
| General Fund | \$78,229.44 |
| Health Fund | \$20,895.97 |
| Street Fund | \$60.00 |
| Solid Waste Fund | \$32,862.10 |
| Water & Sewer Fund | \$77,770.35 |
| Meter Deposits | \$1040.00 |
| TOTAL | \$228,271.17 |
| Received from City Clerk: | |
| General Fund | \$36,820.26 |
| Street Fund | \$13,708.68 |
| Sales Tax | \$68,476.07 |
| Water & Sewer Fund | \$311.00 |
| TOTAL | \$119,316.01 |
| Interest on Deposits | \$19.95 |
| TOTAL DEPOSITS | \$349,193.87 |
| <i>(Court, Collector, Clerk, & Interest)</i> | |

Mayor Berry entertained a motion to approve Municipal Court Judge, City Collector and City Treasurer reports for the month of January. Motion was made by Alderman Johnson and seconded by Alderman Estes. All members voted in favor.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

A list of outstanding bills was given to the Board of Aldermen for the month of January. After checking the bills, Mayor Berry asked for a motion. Motion was made by Alderman Adams and seconded by Alderman Estes. All members voted in favor.

MAYOR AND
COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Berry asked if there were any comments from any members of the Board of Aldermen. Alderman Estes stated she would like to look into the following items: audio system upgrades, live streaming of meetings, part-time grant writer.

Mayor Berry stated that Mark Gibbins had informed him that Missouri Employer's Mutual was scheduled to renew on March 1, 2023, but there would be a \$10,000.00 increase bringing the annual cost to approximately \$90,000.00. He is looking to also quote Mo Rural Services to see if the cost can be reduced.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Alderman Adams, seconded by Alderman Estes to adjourn to Executive Session in accordance with Section 610-021.1 RSMo to discuss personnel and litigation.

The vote thereon was as follows:

| | |
|------------------|----------|
| Alderman Johnson | "Aye" |
| Alderman Adams | "Aye" |
| Alderman Walker | "Absent" |
| Alderman Estes | "Aye" |

Motion was made by Alderman Johnson and seconded by Alderman Estes to adjourn back to regular session at 7:49 p.m.

Roll call was as follows:

| | |
|------------------|----------|
| Alderman Johnson | "Aye" |
| Alderman Adams | "Aye" |
| Alderman Walker | "Absent" |
| Alderman Estes | "Aye" |

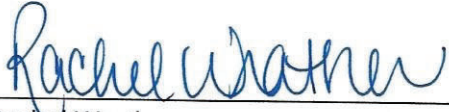
OPEN SESSION/
DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next regularly schedule Monthly Meeting will be held on Monday, March 6, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, 301 E Main, Portageville.

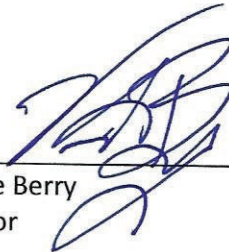
The Board of Alderman will hold a budget meeting on February 15 & 16, 2023 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Sam Tillman's office to prepare the budget for FY 2024.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, moved by Alderman Adams, seconded by Alderman Estes and unanimously carried, to adjourn at 7:50 p.m.



Rachel Wrather
City Clerk



Vince Berry
Mayor