

Board of Alderman Minutes
81 S. Orchard Blvd.
July 26, 2022
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OPEN MEETING

Roll Call taken by Mayor Stephen Short
Richard Icenhower ABSENT, Dennis Roe, Jeffrey Danderson, Ben Lord, Richard Avery

Call to order at: 6:30

APPROVE AGENDA. Motion by Roe to approve agenda. Second Avery
Roe AYE, Danderson AYE, Lord AYE, Avery AYE

PUBLIC FORUM (First Meeting Cancelled)

Public may speak on any item on the agenda.

Old Business

DISCUSS EMPLOYEE VACATION POLICY.

Danderson asks if everyone is good with the wording. Roe said he was. Danderson asks if we were going to retro back to January 1, 2022

Motion by Danderson to revise Section 4 Vacation Policy retroactive to January 1, 2022. Second Roe

Roe, AYE, Danderson, AYE, Lord, AYE, Avery AYE

Mayor asks Clerk to update handbook and email to Alderman.

New Business

APPOINT SHERRY VEACH TO THE BOARD OF ALDERMAN WARD I FOR REMAINDER OF CURRENT TERM. Mayor makes recommendation.

Motion by Danderson to appoint Sherry Veach to the Board of Alderman Ward I for remainder of current term until the next April election. Second Avery.

Roe AYE, Danderson AYE, Lord AYE, Avery AYE

APPOINT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR.

Motion by Lord to appoint Sgt. Nicki Bridges as Emergency Management Director for the City of Fair Grove, Missouri for a term of one year. Second Avery.

Roe AYE, Danderson AYE, Lord AYE, Avery AYE, Veach AYE

APPROVE SARA DAVIS TO BE CITY OF FAIR GROVE'S REPRESENTATIVE FOR SMCOG AND GREENE COUNTY MUNICIPAL TAX BOARD. Mayor contacted

Greene County and they do have Sara Davis as representative, but this would make it more official.

Motion by Roe to appoint Sara Davis to be City of Fair Grove's representative for SMCOG and Greene County Municipal Tax Board. Second Veach

Roe AYE, Danderson AYE, Lord AYE, Avery AYE, Veach AYE

DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE SANITARY SEWER REFUNDS.

Mayor says we have two sewer customers that are not billed sewer by our code. Roe asks if Mayor discussed with the Sewer Committee. Mayor says he spoke to Roe about it. Roe says it was brought up once before and they spoke a long time ago.

Mayor says this puts everything in black and white. Would like Roe to spend time looking at it.

Danderson says he read it, we discussed it before. He doesn't agree with it. Mayor asks him to explain further. Danderson says he doesn't want to explain further. He read Ordinances. He thinks we are well within our means on how we do it and he has no interest in discussing it. Mayor says he appreciates it.

Roe says he reviewed Section 700.460 pretty thoroughly and he thinks we are within our rights to charge all occupants within any residential structure, and we are able to charge all residents separate.

Mayor asks about the Senior Center. Dennis said he suggest the Mayor discuss this with the Sewer Committee.

Mayor asks for consensus to table it. Danderson says he doesn't want to table it. Mayor says he will get with the Sewer Committee and see if they can come to a consensus.

ACCEPT RICHARD AVERY RESIGNATION AS WARD I ALDERMAN.

Motion by Veach to accept Richard Avery's resignation as Ward I Alderman effective July 31, 2022. Second Danderson.

Roe AYE, Danderson AYE, Lord AYE, Avery AYE, Veach AYE

DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE PRE-PAYMENT OF BONDS

Mayor asks Larry Brown (City Treasurer) to share information. Brown explains that every year the State Auditor sends out letters requesting certain information about Bonds that the City holds. In 2008 the City issued a General Obligation Bond. The normal payment is \$26,000 - \$29,000 a year. When the letter came in, Brown started to fill it out to send to Greene County Clerk. The form allows you to have 2 years payments of principal and interest in order to assess tax this year. If we didn't make a prepayment, we wouldn't be able to do a levy. A prepayment will pay off the debt earlier. We acquired an excess due to new construction. There is a bond company out of Kansas City named Gillmore and Bell and they handle bonds. Brown contacted Al Wilken who he has dealt with previously. There is no fee for his service. There may be a slight fee for UMB and Wilken recommends that we pay \$40,000 this year as a prepayment which will decrease each payment by about \$5,000 each year. All bonds are owned by DNR. Once the prepayment is made, they will issue a new payment schedule.

Danderson asks if all this is going to do, in essence, is change the payment schedule. Brown said yes and it also reduces the debt.

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The Bond will still get paid out in 2028. The form that we sent to the County will show the balance of the account after the \$40,000 and at December 31st the balance in Debt Service will be \$48,000. If we don't do this, the City will lose about \$30,000.

Brown said he forwarded a form to the City to have the Mayor sign to accomplish this. Danderson thanks Brown for catching this issue and bringing it to the Board's attention.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-04 A RESOLUTION APPROVING STEPHEN SHORT, MAYOR OF FAIR GROVE, MISSOURI TO SIGN LETTER OF INSTRUCTIONS TO REDEEM CERTAIN GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2008 OF THE CITY OF FAIR GROVE, MISSOURI.

Motion by Roe to approve Resolution No. 22-04 a Resolution approve Stephen Short, Mayor of Fair Grove, Missouri to sign a Letter of Instructions to redeem certain General Obligation Bonds, Series 2008 of the City of Fair Grove, Missouri. Second Veach.

Roe AYE, Danderson AYE, Lord AYE, Avery AYE, Veach AYE

Business Meeting

SEWER AND PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Kenny Hokanson states that it's been hot. Hokanson states that there were issues with rotors. They ordered parts and got one up and going and the other is almost ready. They purchased new pumps. Old one stopped and then the other quit. Yesterday they installed a new pump. Bert couldn't work much last week.

Streets – finished up last mowing today. Chief helped him out with that. Trying to get LaFollette in town to patch holes so we are ready for micro-seal. Going to start spraying weeds.

Veach asks where the micro-seal will be done. The Hill, Meghan Street, lower part of Meadowwoods.

Veach asks how long micro-seal lasts. Hokanson says about 10 years.

Mayor says that in May there were problems with the influent pumps and asks if that is fixed. Hokanson stated they pulled them out and cleaned them up and they are back up and going now.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Mayor says those were in packets. Any questions can be addressed to Brown. Brown asks if there is anything anyone wants to talk about or discuss.

Brown states it's the end of the fiscal year. We are \$10,000 - \$15,000 up then we thought we would be. We will get the next ARPA funds in October.

There were some major additions that we didn't expect. \$60,000 for selling land. Sales Tax were up about \$90,000.

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The numbers in July were very good. One City that he works for was down around \$50,000. Overall, the tax here is doing very well.

Property taxes were up \$10,000. Brown thought we had an extremely good year. Everything we had budgeted came in under.

Veach asks what land we sold. It was Andrews land.

Brown says that Clerk and him have been on the phone with gWorks. They are converting everything and we should be going live on the 1st of August.

Danderson makes motion to approve financial statement submitted. Second Veach
Roe AYE, Danderson AYE, Lord AYE, Avery AYE, Veach AYE

PARK BOARD

As of June 30, 2022 \$158,404. Dayton Ault (Park Treasurer) is working with bank to get credit card. Krystal Hughes (Park Board Director) spoke with Sara Davis (City Clerk) today and plan on meeting later this week. Ault will meet with Davis when he has time.

Trying to get everything done with the splash pad before switched to City. No sports this month. Football starting. Not sure they will do fall soccer. They don't want to make a ton of money on it but it could cost more. Fall soccer doesn't have a big turnout.

No blueprints for the splashpad. Hughes sent Davis what she had. The company doesn't want to send blueprints without the purchase of the splash pad. They have the money to do the splash pad but don't want to deplete the account. The community requests the splash pad. Most citizens go to different cities.

Danderson isn't speaking for everyone because we haven't had a meeting. It would have to be a lease purchase. After informal conversations, it wouldn't be different then any project done in town. There are rules that must be applied. The packet is only a kit. They need a concrete pad, hook up to sewer, blueprints, site plan. The inspector will want to look at it. He looked at old minutes and verifies that they are putting it across from Tara's playground. There is no piping included with this kit, all electricity will have to be ran. This looks like a recirculation thing. They want it to drain off. Danderson looked at some splashpads in other cities and said that any water that drains off there will have to have somewhere to go.

Are we required for that to be handicapped accessible?

Hughes says yes that this has been going on for 2 years. It's a big circle and stuff is in the middle. Craig called and priced the concrete; it was \$3,000 in the fall. Will run a sidewalk up to the pad so it is ADA Compliant.

Danderson states that it is a gravel road that goes in there, how do you transition from gravel to concrete. Hughes says they are going to pour handicap spots. If it is feasible, they would like the driveway to be paved.

Danderson would like them to do a lease purchase and he would like to see it all done at the same time. It would probably look better to the other Board members.

Hughes says the problem they have ran into is they don't want to pay money to have someone come out but until you purchase the kit, you don't get the blueprints. The company will send employees down for 2 days to oversee the construction.

Veatch asks how many gallons of water this is going to use.

Hughes called Strafford and Rogersville and it will have a stop button so it isn't continuously running.

Veatch asks if there is an option to recirculate and disinfect it. Hughes says it isn't feasible because the water has to be tested twice a day every day. Just to get the pump system its around \$75,000.

Danderson says what he read is the fecal content is a real problem and no one can figure out how to remedy it.

A site plan has to be presented to the board. Someone has some idea about what kind of dirt needs to be moved. It will be a long drawn out deal unfortunately. Danderson doesn't think the Board will write off on it unless they see something.

This equipment originally started at \$54,000 and the price keeps going up the longer they wait. They met with the engineer and the electrician. Dana Louderbaugh (Previous City Clerk) said that since they were contracted with the City then the park could use them. They don't want to spend all of their funds on this.

Veatch asks how many companies they have looked at. Hughes says several. The guy with this company is really nice and easy to deal with.

You can't find parts for some of the equipment they currently have. They want to make sure they deal with a good company so if later something happens and they need parts, the company can provide them.

Roe asks if the drain is to the City sewer system. Hughes says it's like storm water. Ault says they have a creek to drain the water into. Danderson says that the property was purchased on a water shed grant with DNR and one of the stipulations is that you can't mess with the creek. If you are planning on draining into the creek then they have to get with DNR and that opens up a whole big can of worms.

Ault asks if City sewer drains into the creek. Roe explains that there is a gravity line.

Veatch says that if you could do something without run off then you could use the water to water the yard.

Hughes explains where they want the splash pad to be. The spot was cleared out 6 years ago and they were going to put a ball field in there. The problem was that it is in the flood plain. So they had to move the field.

It's further down from Tara's playground. Whenever it rains, it just all runs off.

Avery says that there was already issues with flooding, then the splashpad will have issues to. Hughes says they were planning on slopping the splash pad so the water runs off.

Danderson says this puts us back at needing an engineer and site plan. We all have to abide by planning and zoning. Danderson says that if we want to put this on our agenda, that isn't a problem. He thinks the board can give the Park a list of what they have to have to get into a lease purchase.

Hughes says she was on the Park Board for 7 years and never had to go to the City to get a loan approved. Danderson says that this is a City Loan and Brown explains that it is under the City's Tax ID. Andy (O'Bannon Bank) thought the Park was separate and while they loaned money before, they realized that the Park is an entity under the City and will only loan money to the City.

Danderson asks if that clears it up. Hughes said yes.

If the Park does a lease purchase, the next board doesn't have to honor that lease purchase. Danderson says that he had that happen in other cities. There are many things that could go wrong.

Hughes asks what they are allowed to do. Danderson says that they can do whatever they want to. They can spend their money however they want. All we do is keep the funds and disburse the funds. When it comes to a loan that the City of Fair Grove owns, it becomes more difficult because we are held accountable to the citizens.

Hughes asks why, if they aren't an entity of the City of Fair Grove, then why can't they have their bank account. Roe and Danderson says due to statute. That we thought originally we could separate. Avery says the City Attorney has stated multiple times that the City has to have control over the Park bank account. Hughes thinks its about the subject that is being talked about when they are under the city or not. Hughes says she doesn't understand.

Leon Beatty (Former Park Board Member) says that part of the problem is that you are using their information number, if you went and got your own number and signed up as a non profit with the state, they could be their own entity.

Hughes says MML says they can do it. Leon said they haven't done it so they are still under the city.

Danderson explains that they cannot be a nonprofit without dissolving it first and an election of the citizens.

Brown says the biggest issue is what funds the park. All funds come to the City, not the park. The City gives it to them and the City can choose to not do so. It is in the City's name and it is to be used for parks but doesn't have to go to the Park Board. If they created a nonprofit, they wouldn't have any money unless the City gives that to them.

MML said that because of the tax they get, they can't get their own tax number. They won't give a non-profit tax. Leon says you have authority to spend that money however they want but they are still a part of the City.

Hughes says that that is what she is trying to figure out.

Danderson says the Board will not be looking over bills. They will bring bills to Davis and Davis will pay bills and they will get the checks back.

Hughes asks if the City has an engineer that the Park can use. Danderson says that we can put them in contact with Anderson Engineering but the Park will have to pay that bill. Brown explains that engineers are really far out because of dealing with all of the ARPA grants.

Danderson says the surveyors were so far booked out which is what took so long on the Main Street Drainage project.

Avery says he doesn't see the Park getting a splash pad this year. Davis to give Hughes Anderson Engineering information.

Hughes said she will talk to engineers. Roe says to talk to engineer about everything they will want to do, building, splashpad, site plan, parking lot, etc.

Hughes agreed. Mayor and Danderson thank Hughes.

Mayor asks if swearing in Emergency Management Director has to be done in front of Board. Danderson says City Clerk can do it.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief will send Sgt. Bridges to Davis to get sworn in. Shooting range in the morning. Signs missing all over Fair Grove. No one caught on camera. We might have two positions filled. Thank you for doing the vacation policy and the pay increase. It seems to have gotten people interested. Hopefully by the end of August we will be fully staffed. Thank you for the support because it goes a long way.

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CITY CLERK

Audit is scheduled for August 18th.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Sewer Committee report attached.

Sherry asks if they used to have a standby generator on the lift station at CC and Roe says that it's a portable. We have made a lot of progress fixing it.

APPROVE BOARD OF ALDERMAN MINUTES

Motion by Danderson to approve Board of Alderman Minutes for June 28, 2022, July 14, 2022.
Second Roe.

Roe AYE, Danderson AYE, Lord AYE, Avery AYE, Veach AYE


Mayor Report

Last month the Greene County Mayors Association had a good meeting at the Senior Center. State Representative John Black updated new laws going into effect August 28th. I encourage all to vote August 2nd in the primary election. Fair Grove work with Springfield/Greene County Health Department in organizing local cooling centers in the record heat. Thanks to the Springfield/Greene County Library, Fair Grove Senior Center and First Baptist Church.

None of the businesses in Fair Grove received the first round of ARPA funds.

Adjournment

Motion by Danderson to Adjourn at 7:49 p.m. Seconded by Veach
Roe AYE, Danderson AYE, Lord AYE, Avery AYE, Veach AYE



Sara Davis, City Clerk