

Board of Alderman Minutes
81 S. Orchard Blvd.
September 26, 2023
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OPEN MEETING

Roll Call taken by Mayor Stephen Short

Leon Beaty PRESENT, Sherry Veach PRESENT, Dennis Roe PRESENT, Richard Icenhower PRESENT, Ben Lord PRESENT, Jeffrey Danderson ABSENT

Call to order at: 6:30 p.m.

APPROVE AGENDA. Motion by Roe to approve agenda. Second Beaty
Beaty AYE, Veach AYE, Roe AYE, Icenhower AYE, Lord AYE

PUBLIC FORUM

Old Business

New Business

DISCUSS MUNICIPAL COURT

Court Clerk is absent. Agreed not to discuss.

REMOVE LARRY BROWN FROM COURT CHECKING ACCOUNT

Motion by Roe to remove Larry Brown from the Fair Grove Municipal Court Checking Account.
Second Veach

Beaty AYE, Veach AYE, Roe AYE, Icenhower AYE, Lord AYE

Business Meeting

SEWER AND PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Generator almost complete at CC Lift Station. Need the transfer box put in.

Mayor asks Hokanson about air conditioner at treatment plant. Air conditioner all in and fixed.
Mayor thanks Hokanson for the mowing and no parking signs. Only had one sign stolen.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Motion by Roe to approve financial statement as submitted. Second Veach
Beaty AYE, Veach AYE, Roe AYE, Icenhower AYE, Lord AYE

Mayor asked clerk when General would repay Capital Improvements. Clerk stated it would hopefully be around December.

PARK BOARD

Report attached.

Mayor states that that board has to be a nine member board per state statute. Thinks park is doing a great job.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Bone stated that she was here 12:30 Sunday morning. She assessed the damage. A few tents scattered. She did warn all vendors about the storms coming through. We did get approved for the \$8,100 grant. Roe asks if anyone was treated during the festival. Bone says she did call EMS for someone who hurt themselves tripping on roots. It was a good festival.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Ewbank stated that we received an anonymous complaint about an unnamed officer. That complaint is currently being investigated.

The festival went well. Picked up the two new vehicles. They are decaled and ready for equipment to be installed in November. Another new officer is in training. Signed contract for policy manual. Everything else is good.

Icenhower says he is getting complaints on police being on the highway. Chief says that they are currently doing training and he has to get stops. He can either do it on 65 highway or here in town. Icenhower says he doesn't think it needs to be a habit. Chief says that he agrees. From January 1, 2023 through August 28, 2023 (241 days) there were 876 stops with 267 of those stops on the highway which equates to 3.63 stops a day and 1.1 of those on the highway. He has 35 compliments from people thanking them for being on Highway 65. He knows that some people don't want to see us out there, but some people do. He thinks that we need to be patrolling the city but he has to train his officers. He can sit at Old Mill and Orchard and he can stop everyone that doesn't stop at the stop sign or they can be on the highway. As soon as we are back up to full strength you will very rarely see anyone on 65. Beaty says that people just have a bad taste in their mouth. Chief says are stopping people that are a problem to public safety not people who have a license plate light out. Mayor says that Chief did explain this training to him before they started it. Chief has officers making 10 to 12 stops a night. Lord asks about the Hazardous Safety Grant. Chief Ewbank says that we just finished that up. There will be a new grant starting October 1st. Lord asked if they used all of the hours allotted for the grant. Chief states that they used all 100 hours in June, July, August and September. He is open for other options or alternatives to get these guys trained up. Roe says that the comments justify the actions. It's training. Icenhower says that's what he will tell the people who call to complain. Veach says she does not have a problem with what they are doing at all.

CITY CLERK

Mayor would like a key to the final plat closet. Icenhower asks why Mayor needs to be in there. Mayor says that he is taking pictures of the plats and putting them in the Diamond Maps. Veach says any work that needs to be done can be done when Clerk is here Monday through Friday 8:00 – 4:30. Mayor asks if there are any other thoughts. Lord asks who all has a key. Clerk states her and Assistant Clerk have one. Beaty suggests spreading the plats out in the board room. Mayor said it would be entirely for his convenience.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Icenhower says that Beckerdite Hill is a shared deal with the water district and city utilities and they had Lafollette come in and redo it. There is a spot on the ditch that the City will be

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responsible for. Every time it would rain, the gravel would wash out into the road. The City is responsible for it from Howard Huff's place and what they cut on the ditch.

APPROVE BOARD OF ALDERMAN MINUTES

Motion by Roe to approve Board of Alderman Minutes for August 23, 2023, with corrections.
Second Icenhower

Beaty AYE, Veach AYE, Roe AYE, Icenhower AYE, Lord AYE

Mayor Report

Mayor would like to thank all city employees, organizations, Fair Grove Historical Society and the many volunteers who contributed to the 2023 Heritage Reunion.

Aldermen are invited to attend the September 28th Greene County Mayors meeting with dinner at 5:30 pm and the meeting to start at 6:00 in the Battlefield City Hall. MML President Richard Sheets will be the guest speaker.

Adjournment

Motion by Icenhower to Adjourn at 7:00 p.m. Seconded by Veach
Beaty AYE, Veach AYE, Roe AYE, Icenhower AYE, Lord AYE


Sara Davis, City Clerk

Dear Fair Grove Board of Aldermen,

I apologize that I am unable to attend tonight in person. I am writing to provide a summary of recent developments and activities at Fair Grove District Park. First and foremost, I am pleased to report that the first annual Party in the Park was a resounding success. The event was met with tremendous support from our community, with over 300 children participating. We had giveaways, that included bikes, skateboards, a swimming pool, and many more prizes. Feed the People partnered with us to cook and serve the pulled pork dinner. The Events community stayed under budget and the best part was it was a free event for our community.

The Flag Football and cheerleading programs are in full swing, and despite a minor hiccup with the uniforms, they have now been distributed to the players. Additionally, our Soccer academy is up and running smoothly, further contributing to the active engagement of our community members. We greatly appreciate the ongoing input from our community, as long as it remains respectful and non-abusive in nature. Considering this, we are in the process of designing Community Standards for our Facebook page to ensure that free speech is protected while preventing abusive speech directed at our employees, volunteer board members, players, and coaches.

Looking ahead, our events community is diligently planning our upcoming "Fall into Fun" event, scheduled for October 28th. We are excited to announce a partnership with Project Graduation, who will be hosting a haunted trail as a fundraiser for our seniors. This collaboration promises to be a fantastic addition to our community's fall activities.

In terms of board membership, we continue our efforts to recruit new members, which has proven to be a challenge given the requirement that they must reside within the city limits. As a point of consideration, I would like to propose the possibility of reducing the number of board members from our current count to seven. This adjustment would align with the Missouri Statute requirement, which specifies a minimum of five and a maximum of nine members.

Lastly, I am pleased to inform you that our Park Director is scheduled to attend her first grant writing workshop on October 20th. She is enthusiastic about gaining valuable experience and training in grant writing, which will be instrumental in securing funding for our park's future initiatives.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to Fair Grove District Park. We are committed to fostering a vibrant and active community, and your support is invaluable in achieving this goal. If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Jerra Icenhower, Chairman, Fair Grove District Park 239-821-1164