

Board of Alderman Minutes
81 S. Orchard Blvd.
June 25, 2024
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PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Board President Dennis Roe

OPEN MEETING

Mayor Thomas Voorhis ABSENT

Roll Call taken by Board President Dennis Roe

Jeffrey Danderson ABSENT, Sherry Veach PRESENT, Mark Stewart PRESENT, Ben Lord PRESENT, Dennis Roe PRESENT, Richard Icenhower ABSENT

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

BOARD PRESIDENT READ ELECTION RESULTS

Jeffrey O'Dell Danderson – 42 votes

Kelly Petty – 59 votes

SWEAR IN KELLY PETTY

Clerk swore in Kelly Petty

APPROVE AGENDA.

Roe – Next we need to approve the agenda but we need to make an amendment to the agenda. If you look at New Business, Item # 2 the date, July 1, 2023, should be July 1, 2024, it's a typing error and June 30, 2024 should be 2025. This is in regard to approving Larry Brown as city treasurer. With that, I am looking for a motion to approve the amended agenda.

Motion by Veach to approve amended agenda. Second Lord Veach AYE, Stewart AYE, Lord AYE, Petty AYE, Roe AYE

PUBLIC FORUM – May speak on any item on the agenda.

Old Business

New Business

BILL NO. 24-07 AN ORDINANCE APPOINTING SARA DAVIS AS CITY CLERK FOR THE CITY OF FAIR GROVE, MISSOURI FOR THE TERM JULY 1, 2024 TO JUNE 30, 2025. Posted 6/20/2024

Motion by Veach to have the first reading of Bill No. 24-07 by title only. Second Lord Veach AYE, Stewart AYE, Lord AYE, Petty AYE, Roe AYE

BOARD PRESIDENT READ 24-07 BY TITLE ONLY

Motion by Veach to approve the first reading and have the second reading of Bill No. 24-07 by title only. Second Lord

Veach AYE, Stewart AYE, Lord AYE, Petty AYE, Roe AYE

BOARD PRESIDENT READ 24-07 BY TITLE ONLY

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Motion by Veach to approve the second reading of Bill No. 24-07 by title only and assign it Ordinance No. 263. Second Lord
Veach AYE, Stewart AYE, Lord AYE, Petty AYE, Roe AYE

BILL NO. 24-08 AN ORDINANCE APPOINTING LARRY BROWN AS CITY TREASURER FOR THE CITY OF FAIR GROVE, MISSOURI FOR TERM JULY 1, 2024 TO JUNE 30, 2025. Posted 6/20/2024

Motion by Veach to have the first reading of Bill No. 24-08 by title only. Second Lord
Veach AYE, Stewart AYE, Lord AYE, Petty AYE, Roe AYE

BOARD PRESIDENT READ BILL NO. 24-08 BY TITLE ONLY

Motion by Veach to approve the first reading and have the second reading of Bill No. 24-08 by title only. Second Lord
Veach AYE, Stewart AYE, Lord AYE, Petty AYE, Roe AYE

BOARD PRESIDENT READ BILL NO. 24-08 BY TITLE ONLY

Motion by Veach to approve the second reading of Bill No. 24-08 by title only and assign it Ordinance No. 264. Second Lord
Veach AYE, Stewart AYE, Lord AYE, Petty AYE, Roe AYE

BILL NO. 24-09 AN ORDINANCE APPOINTING THE FAIR GROVE CITY ATTORNEY LAUBER LAW FIRM FOR TERM JULY 1, 2024 TO JUNE 30, 2025. Posted 6/20/2024

Motion by Veach to have the first reading of Bill No. 24-09 by title only. Second Petty
Veach AYE, Stewart AYE, Lord AYE, Petty AYE, Roe AYE

BOARD PRESIDENT READ BILL NO. 24-09 BY TITLE ONLY

Motion by Veach to approve the first reading and have the second reading of Bill No. 24-09 by title only. Second Lord
Veach AYE, Stewart AYE, Lord AYE, Petty AYE, Roe AYE

BOARD PRESIDENT READ BILL NO. 24-09 BY TITLE ONLY

Motion by Veach to approve the second reading of Bill No. 24-09 by title only and assign it Ordinance No. 265. Second Lord
Veach AYE, Stewart AYE, Lord AYE, Petty AYE, Roe AYE

DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE AMENDMENT OF 2023-2024 BUDGET APPROVED ON JUNE 21, 2023 TO ACTUAL ENDING ON JUNE 30, 2024

Motion by Veach to approve amendment of 2023-2024 budget approved on June 21, 2023 to actual ending on June 30, 2024. Second Lord
Veach AYE, Stewart AYE, Lord AYE, Petty AYE, Roe AYE

APPOINT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

Motion by Lord to appoint Greg Porter as Emergency Management Director effective July 1, 2024 thru June 30, 2025. Second Veach
Veach AYE, Stewart AYE, Lord AYE, Petty AYE, Roe AYE

APPOINT ASSISTANT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

Motion by Lord to appoint Tom Faulkner as Assistant Emergency Management Director effective July 1, 2024 thru June 30, 2025. Second Veach
Veach AYE, Stewart AYE, Lord AYE, Petty AYE, Roe AYE

APPOINT ROY HOWELL AS CHIEF OF POLICE

Motion by Veach to appoint Roy Howell as Chief of Police for term July 1, 2024 thru June 30, 2025. Second Lord
Veach AYE, Stewart AYE, Lord AYE, Petty AYE, Roe AYE

DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE MOWING FOR LIBRARY TRACT (Danderson)

Roe – I do not have the information from him so I would suggest that we put it on next months agenda and I will have the information from him to present at that time.

DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE PAYMENT OF DATA PILOT BILL

Chief Howell – When we got the Data Pilot, when we got the grant, it was my assumption that the Board okayed that with the matching funds. I need the Board to finish paying that out. It's \$2,200. It was approximately \$3,800 approved on the grant so I need the Board to finish paying that out.

Roe – I think it's \$2,245 to be exact.

Howell – To be exact, yes.

Motion by Veach to approve payment to Data Pilot in the amount of \$2,245. Seconded by Lord
Veach AYE, Stewart AYE, Lord AYE, Petty AYE, Roe AYE

DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE CITY HALL PEST CONTROL BID

Motion by Veach to approve Bug Zero for quarterly pest control maintenance at City Hall.
Seconded by Lord
Veach AYE, Stewart AYE, Lord AYE, Petty AYE, Roe AYE

Business Meeting

SEWER AND PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Roe – Kenny, I know you've been doing some mowing again.

Hokanson – Uh, yeah, mowing and keeping the plant going. Aside from that I don't have anything else unless someone has any questions.

Roe – Thank you, Kenny.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Motion by Veach to approve financial statement as submitted. Second Lord
Veach AYE, Stewart AYE, Lord AYE, Petty AYE, Roe AYE

PARK BOARD

Davis – Jerra Icenhower messaged me. She could not be here but she did not have anything new to report.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Lord – I think most of you guys know Tom Faulkner and Greg Porter. If you don't know them, introduce yourself after the meeting.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Howell – First I'm going to have Sgt. Deckard come up here. She's going to talk to you guys about reports and cost and then we want to talk to you about our evidence room so I will go ahead and bring her up.

Sgt. Deckard – We'll start off with the reports and cost and things like that. I do believe that I handed everybody a packet that I have right now. So, the first two pages is gonna go over the RSMo for how to charge for reports and things like that that have been requested from the police department. And so, the big ones that we have been getting requests of, and they're kind of starting to flood in now, is like our crash reports from insurance agencies as well as the incident reports. And those incident reports can be from something that's just informational to actual reports, if there's like charges being filed or crash reports, sometimes those come with research that you have to do. With those reports, we also have to do redactions and depending on how big the packet is, depends on how much redactions we have to do. And so, with all of these that have been flooding in, I called around to all of the agencies within Greene County. So we're talking about Springfield, Greene County Sheriff's Department, Willard P.D., Battlefield P.D., Ash Grove, Republic and Strafford. A lot of these agencies are kind of staying under, not under but staying kind of consistent for what they charge. The typical reports are coming in about \$3, that's your incident report, your crash reports kind of falls under that, \$3 that's the price that they set. Fingerprints, some agencies don't do fingerprints and those are ranging anywhere from \$5 to \$6 per card. Whenever it comes to research, redactions, all of them follow under the RSMo Section 610.026 and that is the two front pages I provided where it goes over how to charge that. So how that's being charged is whoever can do the research and provide out those reports, from my knowledge, that would be myself, the chief and I believe Sara Davis is what I was informed today. So with us three being the only ones able to do that, we would take whoever is the lowest paid person and divide that by the hour. So with 4 quarters being in that hour, that's kind of how the charge would go. Most of the reports could, a simple type report could take maybe 15 minutes to do, just doing the research, print out and doing the redactions. If it goes over that then we would start doing 30 minutes, 45 minutes and so on. On the back page, I kind of broke that down a little bit. So what we are requesting is that our incident reports and crash reports be \$4, fingerprints would be \$5 a card, if we have to do research and redaction we're gonna stick with the RSMo. If we do media, sometimes those get requested but not a lot, we would go by the RSMo, so however long it takes us to do the downloads and things like that we would do by the hour and the cost of the c.d. or a flash drive, whatever we would provide. The RSMo goes along with the sunshine law with that.

Howell – With that being said, this department used to charge for reports. I found receipts. Why they stopped, I don't know. So we would like to get it reinstated that we are doing this. Most agencies do have a fee for providing this information to the public.

Deckard – The two agencies I've found were Republic and Strafford but they did note that if it's a big report that is going to take some research and some redactions, that's when they go off of the RSMo on how they charge. If we're going to go off of the RSMo, or having to do those redactions and research, then it would go by the hourly price as well as \$.10 per page.

Howell – Redactions would be their dates of birth, social security numbers, stuff like that. You have to go back in and take out what the general public can't have access to.

Deckard – Our basic reports, like our narratives, having to read through all of that and take out whatever information we can't share.

Roe – And whatever time that takes, you would charge per hour?

Deckard – So we would break that hour down by 15 minutes.

Roe – by quarterly?

Deckard – yes. So that's how we would charge that.

Stewart – So you're saying a general report just to print it off would cost \$4?

Howell – Yes.

Deckard – Yeah.

Stewart – Just someone comes in, I need a report....

Howell – Just criminal mischief. Someone comes in and wants a report because my mailbox got run over and I want my insurance company to pay for it so I need the report.

Veach – And that will take you 15 minutes to pull it, redact anything...

Howell – Pull it, print it, give it to them, they will pay the clerk up front prior and once we know it's been paid, we will work on it.

Deckard – And with the 14, not 14, the \$4 for the basic report, basic crash the \$4 is under what the hourly pay would be plus the \$.10 per page.

Lord – Can I ask how many people requested reports? What's a ballpark number on that?

Howell – Other than the 3 I had come in, we have had 4 request other reports. So within the last, probably 3 weeks or the last month, we've had 7 requests.

Lord – On those 7 requests, how much time have you or your officers spent on them?

Howell – Well, it depends. If you ask Missouri MoDot, trying to get into their accident reporting system is taking a while because I've had to call them because their system isn't working right right now so every time I go in there, I have to get on the phone, call them and get it straightened out so I can print a report.

Lord – I mean on each report, do you spend an hour, two hours, three hours?

Howell – I would say 10 to 15 minutes getting it all done, having to make sure there's no dates of birth, getting it printed and stuff like that. 15 minutes, that's why I say a quarter of an hour is what we would charge by. We have to go in there and redact them, you might have kids names or ages or something like that. You have to read each page and the narrative and black that out and we have to go and copy that because if you black it out, you can hold it up and go like this and see what it says. So yeah, we have to go in and recopy it again that way they can't see the blacked out name. There is a little bit of work to it so I think \$4 for one report is justifiable.

Veach – I don't see a problem with it.

Petty – So the City of Fair Grove ordinance currently references this RSMo for city documentation. Does the police department not fall under that already?

Roe – I don't know.

Howell – I'm not 100% sure. I can tell you that all agencies have a certain charge that they apply

Attorney – It would depend on how the Ordinance is worded. It seems like it's just this exact language.

Roe – Is that something that you would like more time to dive into.

Attorney – yes, let me check with James but I don't think there is anything wrong with setting a price for reports. I don't know if maybe we need to make a little adjustment to the ordinance just to clarify that police reports and things like that are separate from...

Howell – I think we should post it to the public too so that the public is aware and we can give them advance notice that this is going to take effect. That way the public has a fair chance and fair knowledge of what's going to happen.

Roe – Well if you will work with our attorney and come up with, based on what our ordinance says we can do, we can make adjustments if we need to. Maybe we don't need to make adjustments.

Howell – The city has already charged for past reports. I've got the receipts in my office. I've finally dug through another treasure hunt and found some more stuff.

Attorney – You guys might already have it.

Roe – Alright, anything else.

Deckard – Yes. I want to talk a little bit about our evidence room that we have. So, we haven't dived into the evidence room at this time. I am scheduled for a training class at the end of July to go get that so I can learn more about what to do with our evidence and our evidence room. Before we do that, before we dive into the evidence room and take over, before Fair Grove, you know, our new administration and stuff like that takes over the evidence room something that I talked to the Chief about is having an outside agency, an outside evidence management person come in and do an inventory alongside us. So such as I have talked to another agency, we will give Ash Grove as an example. They hired Willard's evidence management guy, officer to come in and do the inventory with them and then all of the officers that were involved in that signed off on it. That way it's not just our police department doing the inventory. Before we even get started with it, we would like to have another evidence manager come in and go alongside with us. I think it will seem more organized as well as there is more knowledge there beyond what I have. Someone who has been doing it a lot longer than I have and also, that way it's pretty ethical as well. So we have an additional officer outside agency.

Howell – It brings an objective opinion on what's going on. That evidence room has changed three chiefs over the last 4 years. It's a mess. Lord only know if everything is there or not and if it was accounted for right. I think it would behoove us to have an objective opinion from the outside coming in.

Lord – Do you have someone in mind?

Howell – and help us go through that.

Deckard – Yea, so to me, it doesn't really matter which agency. Maybe someone a little bit bigger than us. My opinion, I like the way that Willard did their evidence, how they handled that. The officer who handles the evidence, the way that he organizes it, the way that he tracks it all, his tracking documentation that he does. How he does all of that, I am a big fan of. So the way that Ash Grove did it is they hired him to have him come over and organize theirs and help inventory the evidence and they said it took them about a couple of days to do that. What they charged them is what he was being paid at Willard. So a couple of days, we're gonna say 2 or 3 days. We don't have a big evidence room so I'm hoping that maybe it won't take as long. But we're typically, maybe looking at \$20 an hour.

Lord – We had an inventory done of the evidence room by Greene County, didn't we Dennis?

Roe – I was thinking that we did.

Howell – Recently?

Roe – Well recently no, I can't say that for sure. When they came in 3 or 4 years ago, I am pretty sure they went through that.

Howell – I was also told that Greene County Sheriff's Office did an inventory before I got here. That did not happen. We were a gun short, a gun long. Respectfully...

Roe – Are you talking about the evidence room?

Howell – No. In our property and care. Respectfully, I've asked that we have an objective view come from outside. That way, for the departmental administration we know, and that for the city, we know that it was done ethically. Nothings missing, nothings taken, nothings gone.

Lord – The Greene County inventory that you're talking about prior to you getting here was just the inventory of the police property?

Howell – Yes, I was told that Officer Castleberry went through the evidence room as a new officer with the last chief and inventoried it. He was a brand new officer. Has no clue what he was doing. Has no evidence management experience.

Roe – Well that was a decision made by the previous police chief and I agree with you on your comment. I just want to make that clear.

Howell – No, that's fine. At this point, I would just like to have an objective view to come and help us with this.

Stewart – I assume this is outside of your current budget.

Howell – It is, but I will squeeze it in.

Lord – And you don't want Greene County to do it?

Howell – I don't.

Lord – And tell me why again just so I am crystal clear on this.

Howell – You don't want me to speak at all here. There's some things that have gone on with Greene County since I have been in this position that I am not a fan of.

Lord – You don't think that they could do a good job helping inventory of your evidence room?

Howell – I would prefer somebody else come in and do that.

Lord – Ok. And it's your plan that Billie is gonna deal with the evidence room?

Howell – She's going to be the one assigned to it, the only one assigned to it and I'm just gonna be the administrator.

Lord – Billie, do you feel like you would learn best from this gentleman at Willard?

Deckard – Yes. That's just from working along side of him when I was over there. He was a reserve officer over there prior, he's been a reservice officer for a really long time. He's also retried Springfield. J.D. Landon. I don't know if you're familiar with him or not. But, I worked alongside him over there and to see how he handles their evidence over there, it's almost flawless. Ash Grove reached out to him so that he could assist them with their evidence. From my position, where I'm at right now, I don't have any experience when it comes to the

management or the evidence. That's why there's online classes as well as training class, like sitting in training class, at the end of July that I'm going to be partaking in. That way I can get better knowledge with that. I'm pretty sure along the way I will end up having to call him to walk me through things or to get his ideas of how he handles those types of situations. But having an additional third part person come in and assist with that, I think having another set of eyes outside of our agency, to be able to go through the inventory with us, I think we could benefit from that.

Howell – To back up a little bit, Greene County came in in 2020 to do your inventories and they didn't. They missed a gun that was purchased in 2018 that I had to run the ATF trace on. There's part of the reason why.

Lord – I know we had some inventory troubles before my time and before your time, I'm sure of that. I don't have a problem with this. The cost is extremely minimal. If she feels like she works well with this gentleman and she is the one taking care of it. If she learns best from him, for what the cost is gonna be, I don't know why we would do this.

Roe – That's my feeling. I'm just looking for a recommendation from you guys. Can you put that in the form of a motion?

Lord – That was a motion.

Howell – We have to ask your approval because it could go over the \$500 limit, possibly. Either way it comes out of my budget. I'm gonna squeeze it in somehow, some way. We have to be accountable for that stuff that's in there. The city is liable for it, we are liable for it so we need to make sure what's there is there.

Petty – Did you say he was gonna share, basically his best practices and share his process and his templates or his tools that he uses to effectively manage his own inventory?

Deckard – Yeah, so I talked to him a while ago when we first started talking about the evidence. Like I said, I don't have any knowledge of it. Other than on my end of it as a patrol officer collecting it off the street and how I log that in but pass that point I'm not familiar with it and so I've reached out to him, I've talked to him, you know, going over things and he said he is more than willing, like if I have questions give him a call. I know that he's been used to other agencies that he's assisted with. He's been doing this for a really long time, so I do trust his process of things and the spreadsheets and stuff like that, we discussed and that is something he is willing to show us. The easier way to do things.

Petty – Could this replace the cost of future trainings that could be required to get, I don't know if it exists, but like an evidence management certification?

Deckard – I am pretty sure that over time there are different ways of managing evidence. You know, there's different kinds of systems. There's the ones that you just slap a sticker on it and you submit it in it's bag. There's more electronic ones where you can scan a barcode so all of those things, I will need further training beyond what this officer can provide. He can guide us in

a direction with the knowledge and stuff that he has and you know, share that but replacing the trainings, no it wouldn't.

Howell – State law also mandates what we can destroy and when we can destroy it, how it has to be managed, how it has to be kept so when it comes to that, we are out of our realm on trainings and updates and stuff like that.

Motion by Veach to go ahead and get an outside source to inventory our evidence room closet.
Seconded by Lord
Veach AYE, Lord AYE, Stewart AYE, Petty AYE, Roe AYE

Howell – Now comes the hard person. As many of you have seen or not seen either on the Police Department's Facebook page I made a post about this advisory committee. I would like to start it up here within the next month. I've spoken with the attorney. The only thing that is required of this committee is that minutes be kept and post the meeting 24 hours prior. So that being said, I would like to get the Board's approval to start this police advisory committee in about the next month or so. Inviting people in, post it a couple more times and try to get a Board going. We will have a president and a secretary to keep the minutes. This advisory committee, if you don't know what it is, it's for all of the Wards, we are hoping to get two people out of each ward and they will come to us and bring us the problems within the ward that they see, nuisances issues that they want addressed and we will give them the solutions that law enforcement can do and possibly provide them other solutions as well. Possibly provide them with grants or block grants to help. There are Veteran grants out there. If this person is a veteran and their house is getting depleted, you know, dilapidated, just not being taken care of, there's grants out there to help with stuff like that. So we can offer some sort of services to help these people get within compliance without having to use the law is a real good thing to do. So I would just like to start this police advisory that the citizens are gonna need.

Lord – Can that be done with just a consensus or do we need a motion?

Attorney – It would need to be a motion.

Motion by Veach to go ahead with police advisory committee. Seconded by Lord

Lord – That is good community oriented policing.

Petty – Is there an opportunity for an Alderman, if there is a specific ward issue or a veteran that might need help, any other nuisance property, would you engage the Aldermen of that Ward to help assist?

Howell – I would invite the Aldermen to attend the meetings as it's their ward respectively.

Roe – But you would like two volunteers from that ward, is that correct?

Howell – Yes. I would like to have volunteers and then if the Aldermen want to come into the meeting and hear what's going on, the public is invited to these meetings. It's just that some people don't like to come out in the public and say things so they can go to their police advisory

committee members so they can address those issue and they can bring them to the police and we can try to help provide them with assistance or we can provide a resolution.

Petty – Would we be under, if more than three of us is present, would we be under a different set of restrictions?

Attorney – You would just want to make sure that you are not at a quorum and that you're not all discussing city business so if you were just attending and not engaging in any votes or anything like that, any city business, then that would be okay.

Howell – That being said, city business, would that be discussing ordinances of violations and stuff like that?

Attorney – I think, and we can talk about this too while you're setting this up, but if you have certain items on the agenda, would you be inviting those Alders. So we can address this while you are setting it up.

Roe – Good question.

Dayna Ault – You did say it's going to be posted, right? If it's posted then does that not take care of the problem of the quorum?

Attorney – The issue is that if you have the Board of Aldermen meeting, then it has to be posted as a Board of Aldermen meeting. If they're not on the agenda attending in the Alderman status and then city business is conducted or decided, then it's not truly giving notice to the public. So it's really more about the sunshine law then what's going to be done.

Roe – Anymore questions? Alright then, let's vote.

Veach AYE, Lord AYE, Stewart AYE, Petty AYE, Roe AYE

Howell – As you know, it's an easter egg hunt in my office every time I come in here. We have some really outdated equipment and I don't know what to do with it. Other than, do you guys do auctions? What do we do with city equipment when it's old and outdated because my office was old and outdated. We have shoved it into the garage but the garage is full of outdated stuff and we are running out of room. We need to address the issue of old outdated equipment. We've got laptops, old laptops that no longer are capable of using CAD and our programs and stuff like that We have a bunch of old equipment and we need to decide how we're going to deal with it.

Roe – I'll share my opinion. If it's old equipment that has no use and no value, I would dispose of it, correct?

Howell – You can always auction it. We used to, where I was, and you'd be surprised at what people from overseas will buy, and like the laptops, if you took the hard drives out of them, they would still buy them. Maybe \$100 and have them pay for shipping and everything, but that's my opinion.

Roe – Well, we have disposed of a Humvee that was donated to the city years ago by a written bid. And that was 2 police chiefs ago. So it can be done.

Petty – I haven't made it all the way through the ordinances yet but is there a inventory retiring or disposal process. Are any of these assets that are listed on the cities balance sheet? Do we need to make sure that they are...

Roe – It's considered surplus I think. If I remember correctly, there is an ordinance for dealing with surplus. We would have to look at that. I think doing a written sealed bid is one way of disposing of it. And that's just from what I've seen done in the past.

Howell – I can get with my past department. They used to put stuff in auctions, online but people pay for the shipping and we did fairly well on getting rid of stuff. You think nobody will buy that but somebody bought it.

Roe – That's interesting.

Stewart – How do you verify that the computer has been wiped and there is no data on there?

Howell – You take the hard drive out of there.

Stewart – Just sell it without a hard drive?

Howell – Yes, just sell it without a hard drive.

Stewart – Alright.

Roe – I'm surprised there's value to that.

Stewart – Me too.

Petty – Parts.

Howell – Pieces and parts. They can just slap a hard drive in the computer and get them running again. So we'll let that rest and figure out what we're gonna do with that I'm guessing? Ok, alright. I'll do some research into about the auction part and we'll look into the ordinance about that.

Roe – Okay.

Howell – The Data Pilot, I'll save my bad topic for last. We are now in possession of the Data Pilot. I want to show the public and the Board where our \$2,200 went. Many of you may or may not know, my background for 18 years was computer forensics. This is a Data Pilot. It is able to get information from suspects, victims, witnesses cell phones, you plug it in and it downloads that stuff for evidence. This will print out a report and eliminates having to take pictures of your phone. People are aware that you can get this stuff fairly cheap and law enforcement agencies need to start using it. This is what it is and when it gets turned on you plug the phone into it and

you try to acquire it or if you can't acquire it for some reason, it takes video of the screen so it basically mirrors it and you can get the information that way. Any questions? It's also portable.

Roe – Thank you for getting the grant to pay for part of that cost as well.

Howell – The last topic. I know we don't have a complete board here. I'm not asking for a vote tonight. I am asking that you guys consider this. I can tell you that we can't run the police department how we have been with the background investigations and the way things have been going on. I would like for myself and Sgt. Deckard to take over the background investigations for this department. We had one snafu that cost us a very good, or I believe what will be a very good officer due to lack of follow-up that should have been done. It would have been a couple of easy phone calls and it would have been addressed. There have been a couple of other issues that I have discussed with some of you personally about it. There is no reason why we can't do our own background investigations. Part of my job was to do background investigations for the police department in Bellevue, Nebraska. We don't do enough of them to make that hard for us to do. It would be two eyes on it, myself and Sgt. Deckard. It would not be one person doing it. It would be me or her. We would take turns doing the investigations and the other would check the other ones work, we already discussed it. We had an applicant today. We already discussed it and we expressed our concerns to each other and we will address it. I know at one of our board meetings I had somebody ask how many applicants we have had apply. I went back and looked at Indeed. We've had 84 I believe it was, 41 of them actually qualified and out of those 41 we have 2 employees. Out of that, only 5 or 6 of them have been turned over to Greene County for a background. That means that I stopped it before it ever even got to that point. As a board, you cannot run the police department without them doing the backgrounds. You have to let the people who know the job and do the job, do this job. If you continue to do this, we will get fewer and fewer employees. I am responsible for this department. I will take the heat if something goes wrong. Nobody else, not you guys. That being said I would like for you guys to consider letting us do the background investigations. There's no reason for us not to do it. People who run businesses don't ask other people to do a background investigation that don't work for them. That's not how it works. Am I wrong, Mr. Stewart?

Stewart – Springfield does ours.

Petty – So, Greene County does it today?

Howell – Currently.

Roe – I visited with the chief this afternoon on that and he wanted to share the information and I told Roy in my opinion, it would be best to wait until we have a full board for the discussion so my feeling, unless someone objects, is he shared the information, I thank you for sharing that but I would like to hold off on the discussion until we have a full board. Otherwise they don't know what's already been discussed.

Howell – I will tell the Board that we have two applicants. I am going to begin backgrounds on them. I'm not gonna finish them, I'm not gonna hire them, I'm just gonna start them. And then when we meet again, we will discuss it.

Stewart – Is it possible to see what your report is gonna look like versus what we get from Greene County historically?

Howell – Historically you get one paragraph thing that says this applicant is not...

Stewart – That's all we get from them?

Howell – Yeah. It just says they passed this, they didn't have any felonies, there's no wants or warrants. It's a template. We have MIRMA who provides us a policy and a guideline to go by already. So why aren't we doing our own if we have the policy? They are gonna back us if something goes wrong.

Roe – I appreciate that information, but with that said, if we could just hold off until we've got the full board. Otherwise, we're going to have to repeat all of this to the others that are not here. So, that would be my recommendation.

Howell – I just wanted to address it with you guys and let you start thinking about it and start considering it. Any questions about the backgrounds?

CITY CLERK

Davis – So our current building inspector is out til at least August. He has to have surgery. Phil Kent is going to fill in but he is under the impression that he doesn't start until the 1st of July and our current inspector isn't answering us so I would assume he is already in the hospital. We have been dealing with a fence issue behind O'Bannon Bank and Kelly's actually set to meet with them Thursday at 2:30 to address their issues and concerns.

Lord – To meet with who?

Davis – The people who own that property.

Lord – Who is that?

Davis – Brad Bradshaw

Scott – She is going to meet with Amber, his administrative assistant and the contractor that's going to actually put the fencing on the property.

Petty – Would you like to come with me?

Lord – Ummm...

Davis – I think it's all about setbacks and what they can do to get the fence put up and all of that.

Lord – They are planning on building that back, right?

Davis – Per ordinance, they have to.

Scott – They are getting ready to sell the property and the buyer wants a letter from the city stating that there are no violations on the property.

Petty – They took it down already.

Scott – When the fence was taken down, it was falling apart. We sent them a letter telling them to repair or dismantle and they chose to take it down.

Roe – Ben, just FYI, Andy (our city engineer) he’s been involved in that as well. He said they have to put a fence up and it can’t be on the property line or near the property line. So I guess there’s some disagreement on that?

Scott – She just seems real unsure

Petty – She wants confirmation from the city in a letter to provide to the buyer so that the buyer has peace of mind that they are purchasing a property without any code violations.

Roe – Well, it sounds to me like Andy needs to be involved. Would I be correct in that?

Davis – Well that’s more building inspector. Jeff Danderson was helping us out on it and so since Kelly took his spot, we invited her in and she accepted.

Roe – I wasn’t aware of that.

Lord – Is there something that you need the board to try to do with these building inspectors, Sara?

Davis – No. Phil came in yesterday. He just doesn’t start until the 1st so next week we’ll be fine. It’s just getting through this week.

Veach – We just can’t do anything.

Davis – We pretty much aren’t.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Sewer and Street report attached.

APPROVE BOARD OF ALDERMAN MINUTES

Motion by Veach to approve Board of Alderman Minutes for May 28, 2024, June 5, 2024, and June 11, 2024. Second Lord

Veach AYE, Stewart AYE, Lord AYE, Petty AYE, Roe AYE

Mayor Report

Board of Alderman Minutes
81 S. Orchard Blvd.
June 25, 2024
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Adjournment

Motion by Veach to Adjourn at 7:38 p.m. Seconded by Lord
Veach AYE, Stewart AYE, Lord AYE, Petty AYE, Roe AYE


Sara Davis, City Clerk