

Board of Alderman Minutes  
81 S. Orchard Blvd.  
February 14, 2023  
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### **OPEN MEETING**

Roll Call taken by Mayor Stephen Short

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

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

**Approve Agenda.** Motion by Roe to approve agenda. Seconded by Beaty  
Roe AYE, Beaty AYE, Icenhower AYE, Lord AYE, Veach AYE, Danderson AYE

### **Public Forum**

Chief Enderle – Marijuana came up at chiefs meeting. Might consider some zoning regulations.  
Roe says we have them for medical marijuana.

### **Old Business**

### **New Business**

#### **SEWER ADJUSTMENT FOR PROPERTY OWNER #1 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14.88**

Motion by Icenhower to adjust Property Owner #1 Sewer bill down \$14.88. Second Roe  
Roe AYE, Beaty AYE, Icenhower AYE, Lord AYE, Veach AYE, Danderson AYE

#### **SEWER ADJUSTMENT FOR PROPERTY OWNER #2 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$172.40**

Motion by Roe to adjust Property Owner #2 Sewer bill down \$172.40. Second Veach  
Roe AYE, Beaty AYE, Icenhower AYE, Lord AYE, Veach AYE, Danderson AYE

### **DISCUSS SPACE AT CITY HALL (Beaty)**

Beaty says Icenhower and him had a meeting with Regina Cooper Director of Library and Jim Schmidt. Explains that the City would like to do some long-range planning and they liked that idea. Discussed that at some point we would like to have the space the library utilizes and the library would like to have a 5,000-SQFT building. Beaty gave them a copy of the plot for land behind the water department. City owns the land and it is currently vacant. Thought that might be a possibility. They have money that is earmarked from the state for Springfield and Republic projects. Library would like to get additional funding to do something out here. Grants position with the library is currently vacant. Regina called Beaty and said they are interested in that piece of property and would like a price on it. Once they know what it will cost to buy it, they will have engineers come look at the property and see what they need to do. Danderson asks if all they want to know is if we sold the land, what the City would want for it. Danderson says he would sell it to them for \$1. Icenhower agrees and says that there is a library in the St. Louis area that is meant to serve a small community and they would like something like that out in Fair Grove.

Whitney (Fair Grove Branch Library) says that Fair Grove is a small town and they want to keep that small town feel.

Icenhower says he was at the store and a state representative came in. He asked them to get money for the Fair Grove library. Icenhower says we would have to declare the land surplus property and he is good with selling it for \$1.00 to try to help promote this deal with the library.

Motion by Beaty to declare 2-acre plot of land surplus property, offer the land to the library for \$1.00 and the library pay all closing costs. Second Veach  
Roe AYE, Beaty AYE, Icenhower AYE, Lord AYE, Veach AYE, Danderson AYE

**BILL NO. 23-05 AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF FAIR GROVE, MISSOURI, AMENDING TITLE V OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FAIR GROVE, MISSOURI BY DELETING CHAPTERS RELATING TO THE BUILDING, RESIDENTIAL, MECHANICAL AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL CODES AND ENACTING IN LIEU THEREOF NEW CHAPTERS RELATING TO THE SAME SUBJECTS. (Posted 2-6-2023)**

Motion by Veach to have the first reading of Bill No. 23-05 by title only. Second Beaty  
Roe AYE, Beaty AYE, Icenhower AYE, Lord AYE, Veach AYE, Danderson AYE

MAYOR READ BILL NO. 23-05 BY TITLE ONLY.

Motion by Veach to approve the first reading of Bill No. 23-05 by title only. Second Roe  
Roe AYE, Beaty AYE, Icenhower AYE, Lord AYE, Veach AYE, Danderson AYE

**DISCUSS PARK BOARD FORMATION. (Icenhower)**

Icenhower says we have to do something. They have 5 board members on a 9 member board. Icenhower says we have discussed with them to get things done and he doesn't think anything is getting done. Beaty says the only place we advertise is at City Hall. He thinks that for this reason and other reasons we need to get information out in the city on what we are doing. We have received one application. Veach says the park needs to advertise. Lord agrees they need to advertise on their Facebook page. Mayor says he was approached at the Chamber meeting but it was all people who lived outside the city. It has been difficult. Icenhower says something has to be done in his opinion and there are avenues and in the packet there is a piece of information on this. There would have to be a petition submitted to the board and it would be process. If we would change the park board where we could have people outside of the city. Beaty says that the way that the law is written, you have to be a citizen within the city the way it is now and it would require a change in the law. We need to start dealing with it. What is in the packet from two different attorneys says you can't do it. Veach says park board needs to take steps to advertise their vacancies. Beaty says that we can talk to citizens and stir up interest.

Danderson says the Historical Society has the same problems. Its volunteer work and people aren't going to come out of the woodwork. He doesn't agree with everything the park board does but he doesn't think the Board of Aldermen want to take that over. What Icenhower is referring to in the long run, we would be in the park business and hire someone then everything would come back to the Aldermen. We used to never hear from them or get minutes from them until recently. They are getting things done. If someone brings a petition to us, the core group that is there now would quit. He doesn't think that very many people will volunteer for it and he doesn't see that we would gain more than we would lose. It takes a lot of time and there aren't many people that want to volunteer.

Icenhower says that as many participants as they have in the sports programs, he would think that some parents would jump on board to help. Thinks promoting at the games would be a good plan.

Danderson says existing park board has to want that. Lord says his kids play sports with the park and the coaches are constant. Those are the people you need to recruit. They need to advertise, and they aren't trying to bring outsiders in. Danderson thinks that the Aldermen needs to let them know to advertise. Beaty says that we don't need to leave it up to the park board and Aldermen need to talk to citizens in their ward. We don't want to change the concept of the board but if we could get a change in the law to appoint two or three members that live in the school district.

Danderson asks if we could consider drafting a letter to legislators to let them know the situation that we are in. Beaty says that the representative from Greene County stops in once a month at the store and Beaty asked to meet with him regarding this. Danderson says that it has already been put out there and there is no reason to send a letter. Beaty says for right now we need to talk to our citizens.

Whitney says that we could ask the school to send out a newsletter. Need to make sure we have a clear path; it must be done in 3 clicks or people will give up. Needs to be mobile friendly.

**No Close Session was needed.**

#### **Mayor Report**

The mayor was asked by SMCOG if Fair Grove could write a letter of support for their application to Greene County ARPA, Non-Profit. There application is to update Greene County Comprehensive plans for county cities.

Updates usual cost is \$5,000 - \$7,000. Ours was last updated in 2017. Don Brite, Planning and Zoning Chair and city staff approve. Letter will be hand delivered to SMCOG.

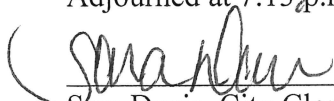
Danderson says that it has been discussed many times and he has no problem with it.

Motion by Roe to approve Mayor signing and carrying letter to SMCOG. Second Danderson  
Roe AYE, Beaty AYE, Icenhower AYE, Lord AYE, Veach AYE, Danderson AYE

#### **Adjournment**

Motion by Danderson to Adjourn at 7:13 p.m. Second Veach  
Roe AYE, Beaty AYE, Icenhower AYE, Lord AYE, Veach AYE, Danderson AYE

Adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

  
Sara Davis, City Clerk