

PLEDGE OF ALLIEGENCE

Led by Mayor Voorhis

OPEN MEETING

Roll call taken by Mayor Thomas Voorhis

Richard Icenhower PRESENT, Dennis Roe PRESENT, Ben Lord PRESENT, Mark Stewart PRESENT, Sherry Veach PRESENT, Kelly Petty PRESENT

Call to order at 6:30 p.m.

Approve Agenda.

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

PUBLIC FORUM

Mayor Voorhis – Before we begin, I was just talking with our Board President, back in 2002, November 19, 2002, Mayor Larry Ellison and council put in place some rules for the public forum. I just want to reiterate them. It's a 15 minute forum, 3 minutes to each speaker. It was reiterated again back on March 25, 2008, 15 minute forum, 3 minutes per speaker. I will reiterate that tonight. We will stay with the 15 minutes, 3 minutes per speaker. Tonight you are allowed to speak on any item that you would like. We ask that when you come up to the podium that you give your name and your address and we will begin.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

MICHAEL SUMMERS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD REGARDING ABANDONED PROPERTY (Agenda Request)

Michael Summers – Mr. Mayor and Aldermen, good evening. I am grateful for the opportunity to address you tonight. I know that my time before you is limited so I will get right to the point. My family and I have lived at 233 North Kellen Street since 2013. We had neighbors across the street at that time who owned a basketball goal that was positioned at the end of our dead-end street just down from our house. About 6 years ago, those neighbors moved and left the goal behind. It has therefore remained unowned and abandoned. There was never an issue with the goals presence as often times neighborhood kids from our street would come and play with and around it. However in the last year, the presence of the goal has become a problem. There have been older kids coming to our street and using the goal, sometimes but often not, with the presence of one teenager who lives on a parallel street. We did not recognize those that are coming to play so we cannot say with any certainty who they are or where they came from, only that they were not from our neighborhood. These groups have been loud, rude, bullying and disorderly, frequently leaving trash and articles of clothing around the area of the goal, playing

offensive music and using offensive language. It got to the point where my wife and I did not feel comfortable allowing our two boys ages 11 and 7 to play in our driveway or front yard when those groups were present. Even so, we could still hear their coarse language while we would be inside our house or eating dinner. On more than one occasion I went outside and asked them to cool it with their behavior, etc., which would help temporarily before starting up again. My wife and I realized that the public nuisance caused by these groups was not going away despite our efforts to address it in a neighborly way. In May of this year, I made contact with the police chief to register our concerns. We identified the presence of the basketball goal as the root of this problem of these young people coming from who knows where and disrupting the neighborhood peace and we requested the removal of the goal as abandoned property. The Chief seemed very understanding of our concerns and advised he would move quickly to address them including arranging for the removal of the goal. We were left with the impression and expectation that it would be so. However, over the course of the summer besides the occasional witnessing of a patrol office on our street, we saw nothing of the goal being moved. At the end of the summer, it was still there on the street and the nuisance of these disruptive groups using the goal continued. I had several conversations with the Chief in regards to the disruptive nature of the goal and the fulfillment of the promise to remove the goal, at this point the tone and the conversation changed and we perceive the Chief to be changing his approach as well. Instead of removing the goal as abandoned property to take care of a nuisance issue on our street, he advised he was now in contact with our current neighbors in the house across the street, addressing them as owners of the property in question and instructing them to move the goal onto their property. Apparently if the goal is to be used, they would move it back onto their property when not in use. We were informed that authority was limited to do anything else when, I will stress again, is not what we were promised. The continued presence of the goal has meant the continuation of the nuisance. And finally, the pretense of the goal being moved just stopped and it has remained on the street continuously for several weeks now. There are two things particularly frustrating to us. First, instead of moving to address the complaint regarding a public nuisance by removing the cause of that nuisance which is abandoned property not owned by anyone, the Chief seemed to choose instead, treating our neighbors as the owners and engage with them for an alternative so-called solution which only perpetuated the problem. Second, our concerns regarding this basketball goal has never been with our neighbors across the street but by the Chief engaging with this family over this issue, we believe it has created a intention on their part which has led to even their son engaging in disrespectful conversation and behavior with my wife on our street which is wholly unlike previous interactions with him as he would play with our kids when they were all younger. In short, by handling things this way we believe the police department not only failed to serve the peace of our neighborhood but also created a problem where none existed before. We are at a loss to understand how a neighbor is allowed to claim abandoned property when a nuisance related to that property is reported and how this is beneficial for the city, much less how it makes any sense. We tried to handle this the right way by addressing concerns ourselves, then by reporting it to the authorities. We want to be good neighbors and honor a neighborly spirit, however we do not believe we are being heard. I am therefore addressing you this evening to express our frustration. I also ask again for the removal and disposal of this

basketball goal by the city. It was abandoned years ago. It is not owned by anyone and is the cause of an ongoing public nuisance on our street right outside our home. We want it gone and the attraction of problematic people to our neighborhood stopped. That's all I have to say unless there are any questions.

Petty – So this basketball goal is on the street?

Summers – Correct.

Petty – It is not on property that belongs to anybody? It's on the right-of-way?

Summers – Correct. It is a dead-end street but it has always been positioned historically on the street itself.

Voorhis – Thank you, sir, for coming and talking with us about that tonight. I can assure you this council hears what you said and as I've been made aware, you have been in contact with other members of this council. We're going to stick by with what we've already told you tonight and go ahead and move on unless any of the other council members would like to talk. Thank you, sir.

DISCUSS AND REVIEW SEWER RATE PROPOSAL (Roe, Petty, Icenhower)

Petty – Dennis, Richard and myself all met to put this together. I want to reference a sewer rate study that was conducted by OWN Engineering that was hired by this council at the end of 2023. The ask for him was to look at our sewer system, the community and our current rates and if our rates are enough to maintain our sewer system as it is today. So this has just been information that has been submitted to the sewer committee and we reviewed it together. It's pretty aggressive as far as their recommendation for a sewer rate increase. We have requested for Tommy to help us reach out to other cities in our surrounding areas asking them what their sewer rates are for base rate as well as usage rate and what their plans for increasing those are over the next several years. Dennis has actually been collecting information about sewer rate increases from those surrounding cities for several years now. Our last sewer rate increase was in 2020 so in February that will be 5 years since we have increased our sewer rate. Our ordinance for Chapter 700, Section 570 states that we review this rate annually to insure that we have adequate funds to maintain our sewer. As you guys know, we've had a lot of expenses keeping it running. We've had a lot of failed pumps, a lot of parts that had to be replaced often in an emergent state. Because of that, we know that our sewer is in need of some love to keep it operational but also to not be in just an emergent state at all times. So, us three came together, we reviewed all of the surrounding city sewer rates, we looked at ours and kind of compared. What you have in front of you is a recommendation to increase our base rate as well as our usage rate. It's about half of what was recommended by our expert who did our sewer rate study, but we felt like this was too aggressive and it keeps us still in line with our surrounding cities. The recommendation to the

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Board is that we hold a public hearing at our first December meeting to recommend this sewer rate increase. That would give the public a good chance to...

Roe – Excuse me.

Petty – Go ahead.

Roe – Can we do that?

Davis – I thought we were doing at the end of November.

Roe – Can you get it posted?

Davis – If y'all make a decision tonight, I can post everything tomorrow.

Petty – Okay. At the end of November to give the public the opportunity to speak on the impacts of the sewer rate to them. If they are for or against it. There's additional information down below this chart. Any questions?

Voorhis – What is it that OWN Engineering, you said that it's half, what is it that they were recommending?

Petty – It was \$15.91 for the base rate...

Roe – Okay, the \$20 was probably the combination.

Petty – You're right. It was actually \$21.50.

Voorhis – Just at our base rate, it would put us the highest.

Petty – Yeah.

Voorhis – It would be \$42

Petty – Oh for sure we would be the highest rate.

Icenhower – Well this proposal puts us in at 6 and if you look, this is a 3 year program. 2026, 27 and 28 I think it's a 5% increase.

Petty – Yep. We have our initial increase that we would propose to be effective January 1st and then the second year after that we would have a 5% increase to the usage rate, which that has

been added, that first 1,000 gallons, which is included in the base rate, that 5% increase has been added there and then that would take place for 3 years.

Icenhower – That was we don't have to visit this every year.

Veach – Well as much as we've replaced, we ought to have everything replaced by now.

Roe – We've got the problem children fixed, I'll put it that way. It's not everything.

Veach – That's the way it's always been.

Petty – And this is trying to not be in that state.

Icenhower – Well we've got to play catchup some way. Like Kelly said, it's been 5 years.

Roe – 5 years this coming February.

Petty – 5 years in February with inflation the way that it's been, we're pretty far behind. Any questions, Mark?

Voorhis – Ms. Kelly, can you make that in the form of a motion to hold a public hearing on the next business meeting?

Motion by Petty to hold a public hearing at the business meeting on the fourth week of November meeting to talk about the sewer rate increase. Seconded by Veach
Icenhower AYE, Roe AYE, Lord AYE, Stewart AYE, Veach AYE, Petty AYE

DISCUSS AND REVIEW SEWER DEPOSIT (Roe, Petty, Icenhower)

Roe – Richard and I had a conversation with Sara after going through this sewer rate study. When a house is sold and new owners come in, they have to put out a sewer deposit so that when they sell the house, if they don't pay the last months bill, we've got some money in a deposit to cover that. That's been \$100 deposit for years. That's not gone up so we are proposing that we increase that deposit. Richard and I talked about maybe making it \$150. It's a one time deposit. When they sell the house, if the bill is paid in full, they get the money back so it's not like they lose it but that's after the house is sold and if there is no water bill remaining or sewer bill remaining, of course we don't collect the water.

Veach – What's the average sewer bill for an average size family?

Icenhower – I don't know. What's average?

Voorhis – It's like 3,000 – 5,000 gallons. I think the average bill here is around \$30 - \$40.

Icenhower – But see, what can happen, I'll refer this to the water and the sewer. It's not only just when they sell the house, it's also people that get behind and then they move and we are left sitting high and dry. To my knowledge, Sara, have we had to write anybody off?

Davis – There are quite a few in there, yes.

Icenhower – Really? That we've had to write off, they moved away and left us high and dry.

Veach – If we go with \$150 and it's just the last bill that they didn't pay and say it was \$50, do they get the \$100 back?

Roe – Yes. That is correct.

Icenhower – Actually, before they get their water turned off, they could be 60 days in arear. Of course, the water controls the sewer.

Veach – So that will cover water and sewer?

Icenhower – Well the water's got it's own deal...

Roe – They have to pay a separate deposit.

Icenhower – They've got a deposit also The sewers got its own deposit.

Veach – And that will take care of two months worth of bills?

Icenhower – Right. It will actually be two months plus 15 days is what it amounts to. That's what you're trying to cover with your deposit is 2 months and 15 days. We don't really run into a problem much, I'm not disagreeing with what Dennis is saying, but we don't really run into much problem with people selling houses and moving but they get 2 months behind and we turn them off with water and then they move. That's where the deposit covers you.

Veach - \$150 sounds like it would be a reasonable amount.

Icenhower – The \$100 was pretty tight and evidently, according to Sara, we've had some we've had to write off. So the \$150 should cover most of that, or all of it I hope. But if they sell their home and move and they just owe \$50 they'll get \$100 check back.

Stewart – Is this something that we need to discuss at our next meeting?

Icenhower – I think we can go ahead and decide now.

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Voorhis – What do other cities do? Do you guys know what other cities are charging for a deposit?

Roe – I have no idea.

Icenhower – It fluctuates.

Veach – We're going to have to go with what's best for us.

Icenhower – Most cities, they control the water and the sewer. We're a rare breed because we got the Public Water District Number 5 and then we've got the city and the sewer.

Motion by Veach to raise the sewer deposit from \$100 to \$150 for signup. Seconded by Petty Icenhower AYE, Roe AYE, Lord, AYE, Stewart AYE, Veach AYE, Petty AYE

DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION CARDS

Roe – In the past employees with 1 year of service or more would receive an employee recognition card from the city and it's done in fall of each year. Last year it was \$125 so I would recommend that we raise that to \$150 this year and it's a gift card that they can use anywhere. Again, just employee recognition.

Voorhis – Is that just for members with one year of full time service with the city or is that...

Roe – If you've got one year or more. So those who have had multiple years with the city, they get the same amount.

Veach – Yeah, we've done this for years.

Voorhis – But it wouldn't include all city employees?

Icenhower – One year or more.

Veach – You have to have a year employed with the city.

Roe – I'll use Brian back there as an example. A year from now, you will be one year plus so you will receive one next year, the same for the Chief, he hasn't been here a year yet either.

Petty – So this is like a stay incentive for staying with the city, I guess?

Roe – You could call it that.

Icenhower – It's just more of a recognition.

Veach – And it always comes this time of year. It's an attaboy, thank you type thing.

Motion by Roe to purchase employee recognition cards for \$150 each to include reserve officers for those employees with one-year of service or greater. Seconded by Veach
Icenhower AYE, Roe AYE, Lord, AYE, Stewart AYE, Veach AYE, Petty AYE

Voorhis – Alright, Dennis, I don't mean to interrupt this but we had a motion is that to include the reserve officers?

Veach – I think we've included the reserve officers before.

DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE TELEPHONE BID

Icenhower – I think we had two, didn't we? Did Pitt turn a bid in?

Davis – No.

Icenhower – So all we have is Altec?

Davis – Yes.

Icenhower – I think Altec has our other equipment in here too, right?

Davis – Yes.

Roe – And it's no higher than what we are currently paying?

Davis – Currently we pay \$280 a month but we also do not have an annual license fee that we pay and Altec has an annual license fee.

Icenhower – Yeah, but that's in the bid, isn't it.

Davis – Yes.

Petty – So this is not what we have now?

Roe – Altec is not what we have now, correct.

Davis – Not for our telephone service. We have Pitt Technology for our telephone service.

Petty – And they did not give us a bid for this year?

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Davis – No.

Roe – And we're paying \$280?

Davis – Yes.

Voorhis – Is that a yearly license fee?

Davis – Yes.

Roe – I think it comes out cheaper. If you take the yearly license fee and divide it by 12, it comes out to \$60 so it would be \$265 a month instead of the \$280 so it's saving money.

Motion by Veach to approve telephone bid by Altec Solutions Group in the amount of \$717 up front and \$205.67 monthly. Seconded by Roe
Icenhower AYE, Roe AYE, Lord AYE, Stewart AYE, Veach AYE, Petty AYE

DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE MUNICIPAL PARTNERSHIP PROJECT FUNDS

Icenhower – Well I'm going to throw this out there. We got a sidewalk out here that goes nowhere. It stops right out here. My suggestion is to put that out for bids and take that and run it all the way up to the Senior Center. That \$30,000 won't cover it but we've got extra money in the street fund to make up the difference.

Stewart – Where did you say you want to run it to?

Icenhower – Up to the Senior Center. It stops right here.

Veach – How much are we going to have to pay?

Icenhower – Well it will all be on us.

Petty – How much will it cost?

Veach – Dollar amount?

Icenhower – I have no idea.

Roe – Yeah, we don't know. Let me explain and add a little more information to what Richard just said. Phase I, which we just finished, the sidewalk ends at the gravel driveway, service road for the park. That was originally going to go across from the City Hall driveway. It was originally supposed to end there. But the first estimates came in too high and so OWN Engineering cut it back to the gravel entrance. So we've got a gap there that was part of Phase I.

Phase II actually takes it from the driveway on the far side to the Senior Center, which that's actually shorter distance than from the gravel driveway of the park to the asphalt driveway and there's a crosswalk that was part of that plan and would have a little landing on the far side where you would exit onto the driveway to walk up. That was all cut from Phase I. That section that's cut is not included in any of our plans. So we're going to have a gap there if we don't do something. And it's too late to include that in one of the Phases. We've got Phase II and then we've got Phase III after that but it's too late to include that. So I thought of that over the weekend. I met Richard this afternoon at Kum and Go and talked to him about it and he said he thought about that too. So I would like to use the \$30,000 to try to cover that gap there. When we get Phase I paid off and we see what's left in capital funds, and you know, we've talked about this Roy, which there should be some money out of the capital funds that could cover a used car at a later date. We're just trying to figure out a way to make sure that we get that gap filled. After thinking about it, that was an idea two of us came up with. It's for the Board to decide.

Stewart – When do we think we're going to pay off and know how much we have in capital to be able to potentially buy a car?

Roe – You know, that's move a lot slower than I expected because OWN Engineering and Emery Sapp, that did the work, they've taken a long time to figure the work out, how to pay for the rest of the project because there was a lot of changes in the Phase coming up the hill here on Orchard. That's just been decided on last week and I haven't gotten an update from them yet.

Icenhower – Well, there was some issues with MoDot too, wasn't there?

Roe – Yes, there was some issues with MoDot. So, I still can't give you an answer.

Stewart – So, outside of those funds, are there any other funds that would be something we could use if push came to shove and we had to get another cruiser?

Icenhower – Not at this time. Cause we're stretched out over this sidewalk deal. See, what happened is when that sidewalk deal was originally started, it was for so many dollars. Well by the time that everything went through and we got all of the easements and everything signed off on with the project, the price increased to, how much was it, Dennis?

Roe – I want to say \$40,000 to \$50,000.

Icenhower – I think it was right at \$50,000.

Roe - \$50,000 the price went up. Inflation hit us hard. We had problems getting the easements. I'll just put it out there. With property owners on Old Mill Road and that delayed us a year to be honest, but we worked through those, we've got a sidewalk that people use. I just can't change the past.

Icenhower – And MoDot, they didn't change their money input. They just gave us so much money and that was it. The rest of it is on us. So that's why we don't know. MoDot, their original deal was so many dollars and it's still that. Once they sign off on it.

Petty – Do you think we'll be reimbursed before we have to pay for Phase II?

Roe – We have to because we can't enter Phase II without being reimbursed.

Petty – I think to Mark's point, we're spending the money on both things anyway whereas, does the need for a police car for all of our officers, is that a more immediate need than finishing the sidewalk I think is what the question is.

Stewart – Pretty much. Better than I did, well done.

Petty – Do we have enough cars for all of our officers or are you sharing right now?

Chief Howell – I've had to bring my car once, almost twice the other day for reserves to use. We are stretched just to enough cars the way it is, so when a reserve comes in, we have to.... Jeremy will be coming out of the FTO program in probably another week so his car will now leave, that leaves one car, which is Brian's and Brian is doing fairly well, he will probably be done the 1st of December before we send him out on his own and then his car will be gone. Then we will have no more cars left here. So when a reservist comes on duty, there are no cars here. Sgt. Faulker had call me one day on my day off to bring him my car so he could patrol the city.

Roe – It's up to the Board to decide, it's a tough situation.

Voorhis – The sidewalk, just my opinion, we need the sidewalk, I want the sidewalk, but it's still going to, how many people are going to use it to walk to the senior center? Just the residents around here. So we think about who lives close to the Senior Center that walks to the senior center, right. We have one neighborhood right over here just to the north of us of people that would walk to the Senior Center, right.

Petty – It's also going to go up to City Hall.

Voorhis – I understand that but how many people are actually walking this way because it already ends here at the driveway. So we have one subdivision that it's not helping. But with the sidewalk coming all the way up here to where it is now, there still being able to use it to come to City Hall. Being able to use it to go to the Senior Center....

Roe – The Senior Center is part of Phase II so the main thing is getting the sidewalk to the driveway of City Hall. It's mainly for the library for the kids, families.

Veach – Okay. We’re going into the winter months, how many people are going to be using that sidewalk?

Roe – I have no idea.

Icenhower – Well, the thing about it is, it won’t be done this winter because it’s got to be engineered and put out for bids and all of that.

Veach – I know, but still.

Icenhower – So it will be spring before it’s ever done.

Petty – By that time, will we have the funds back?

Icenhower – By that time, we should have the funds back from the other sidewalk.

Veach – So what funds we’ve got could go to a patrol car and then we would have the funds back from Phase I.

Roe – Typically, and I’m not throwing darts at you Chief but typically when we use these funds, we rotate departments and we used the funds last year to get two police cars. Tom Faulkner and I and Chief John Ewbank, we went to Kansas City together to bring those two new cars back. I sympathize with you in needing more cars, I’m just saying I understand where you’re coming from, we need more cars.

Icenhower – But there’s not anything written in concrete that they can’t share either.

Roe – That’s what we’ve done in the past.

Stewart – Share the cruisers?

Veach – Yeah.

Petty – Besides the take home car...

Stewart – The take home car policy is going to be the hangup there. We would have to take that privilege away with all future new hires.

Veach – Sometimes you may have to just give a little for a time. You know, you can’t always have everything you want right when you want it and you may have to wait.

Voorhis – Well too, on the positive note, if we were to hire a new officer, they're going to be on FTO for four months, three or four months. We're already out of the winter months, we are already into next year, we'll have a better understanding of our budget so we can take that money, I mean, they're going to be on FTO so right now we are having a little bit of problems obviously with our reserve officers but like Ms. Veach said, we can share for a time being and by the time the new officer gets off of FTO, we'll be into next year. Right, we are in November so even if Chief Roy brought up a person amongst this council to hire in December we're looking at three to four months potentially until their off of FTO, right Chief?

Howell – Correct.

Stewart – When does this money come in?

Icenhower – Well I'm not comfortable hiring any new officers until we get all of the officers we've got out of training. I'll put that out there.

Davis – It comes in March.

Stewart – I don't have any ideas directly for what to put the money for but would it make more sense to put it towards something that we know we're going to have that bill for, like I don't know, a new sewer pump, put it towards that expense because we don't know for 100% that we need another cop car. What if Brian decides he doesn't like us anymore and leaves us. If we ended up having a shortage of officers and we don't need another car then why would we spend that money there. Why don't we put it on something that we know we'll have the expense for? Does that make sense? Am I articulating that well? And then, obviously we can have that surplus of \$30,000 towards a car if we needed it.

Roe – We've got an update that's going to cost us \$90,000 for an oxidation ditch and that's going to happen ...

Hokanson – Hopefully the first of December.

Roe – The first of December. So, when that happens and that bill gets paid and we budgeted for that for this year, so that's going to take care of some issues with the oxidation ditch. We still have some older pumps down there, it's just a question of when they will need more maintenance, however we do have an annual maintenance agreement now with Fluid Equipment and they pulled them and checked them. They've pulled all of the pumps at the plant, right?

Hokanson – No cause we just put the two new ones in.

Icenhower – We just put the two new ones in.

Hokanson – And they haven't pulled the influent pump.

Icenhower – They still go one of our pumps in Kansas City.

Roe – Right, I knew that and there's still one pump out at E Highway that they haven't pulled. There are additional pumps that need to be checked.

Petty – The thing is though, if we use the money for sewer stuff, we can't then transfer money from the sewer budget and use it on something that's not sewer related, so we're still kind of stuck within our budget perimeters. We can't transfer across accounts but it's a very good thought.

Roe – Yeah, it is. I appreciate you thinking that.

Voorhis – So I've had the opportunity to talk with Mr. Larry. If we put it in the street fund, somewhere in the street fund, and it came down to talking to Larry or our accountant, we can transfer money out of the street account to the police department as they patrol the streets. There's limited action on it but it can be done. So if we take that money and put it in the street fund...

Petty – But it has to be designated for a specific thing, right? We have to decide what we're spending it on so we would have to spend it on something from the street fund and then the surplus would be in the street fund.

Veach – If I remember right, years ago, they tried to take street funds and use it for something else which you cannot do.

Voorhis – Yeah, Mr. Larry....

Veach – And if I remember right, they tried to pay for streetlights out of the street funds and that was, you can't do that, they got in trouble for that.

Voorhis – Like I said, I'm sure you're right, just talking with Mr. Larry about what he had said so obviously I wasn't here at that time so that's good information to know. I just have to go off of what he told me.

Veach – I think I'm the only one that was here at that particular time.

Petty – Ben, do you have a recommendation?

Lord – We've got 5 cops, whenever he's off in December, we've got 5 cop cars. It just leaves our reserves without a patrol vehicle. I think it's important to like, what would the community want?

Would they want cop car number six out there or would they want a sidewalk to service City Hall and the new library and the Senior Center? You guys know how hard projects like this are to fund? This is a large sum of money that we could throw to that. That's the way that I'm going to vote is for the sidewalk. On the flipside of that, you guys have heard me say this before but we said we would get these guys take home cars and we use that as a hiring incentive, as a recruitment tool as a retention tool and we can't back out of that. The Chief may have to make his patrol vehicle available for the reserves in the meantime but at some point we're going to have to pay the piper on that. I mean, we put that out there to recruit people, to retain them and now here we are with 5 cops and we're kind of backsliding on that. I'm not putting that on you guys, I'm just saying we're kind of up against the wall on that. We reap the benefits of it, you know we've got these cops and we're going to have to put our money where our mouth is on that. With that said these funds, I say let's put them towards the sidewalks and address the take home cars when we really have to.

Roe – Maybe I'm just a little bit slow tonight but Sara, you said we wouldn't have the money until March?

Davis – Correct.

Roe – So we would not get any of these cars? They wouldn't hold them until March, would they?

Howell – No.

Roe – That's what I thought.

Lord – Is there some sort of deadline?

Davis – We need to turn this in by November 30th. As far as the funds go, we have always taken it out of capital improvements and then just replaced it once we got the money in.

Roe – That's what we've done in the past?

Davis – Yeah.

Roe – So it could be spent now?

Davis – Correct.

Stewart – If we did the sidewalk we wouldn't spend the money on the sidewalks until...

Davis – We had the money.

Icenhower – Realistically, by the time we get it engineered and put out for bids, it would probably be February, March before they could ever get the project.

Lord – On that, there's an unknown factor there too. \$30,000 is not going to run it from the gravel access road all the way to the Senior Center. We're going to be looking at putting money into that as well. I would say that we would put that much or more would that be fair? If we knew exactly what that dollar amount was, I think that would help us make this decision.

Roe – I know, it would help but I'm talking about not going to the Senior Center because that's covered in Phase II but just getting it up to the City Hall driveway.

Icenhower – What did that down yonder run? Do you remember?

Roe – Well, it's \$170,000 and I don't know how many feet of sidewalk we got for that.

Icenhower – So that gives you an idea. It's \$170,000 all the way down 125 and up to this point here.

Roe – Then we had a change order that added almost \$9,000 on top of that with extra concrete.

Veach – You said that it went up \$50,000 higher because of cost inflation, right? And they cut it short right there so wouldn't you assume that it would be about \$50,000 to bring it on up?

Icenhower – Well no, not necessarily. The state put up so much money, I don't remember now, do you Dennis?

Roe – No, no I don't.

Icenhower – MoDot put up so much money for this sidewalk. When the bids came in, the bids came in \$50,000 more than what the original cost was. Well, the state only puts in so much so then that \$50,000 come over on the city and we have to step up and pay for it.

Stewart – So did we save the \$50,000?

Icenhower – No.

Stewart – How much are we still out?

Icenhower – That's as far as it went there.

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Roe – Even cutting that off, we’re still way over of what we had budgeted that we thought it would be. That’s the problem.

Stewart – This might be unique but I disagree with Ben. I think that the community in my opinion is going to want more cops on the street than a sidewalk in that little section there.

Icenhower – Well I’ve had the comment made to me at one time why did we build a sidewalk that goes nowhere. Theoretically that’s what we’ve done.

Stewart – I agree. I think it needs to happen for sure, 100% we need to have a sidewalk connecting to something. It would be silly not to.

Petty – Knowing that we had funds that we were going to spend on a cop car, I think it’s just down to which one do we want first. Which one do we want to fund first? Which one is the greater need first?

Roe – I’ll agree with Mark on public perception. I get more calls about why aren’t the police patrolling. So, if you look at it that way.

Petty – And looking at the season, the weather, we’re not going to have...

Roe – It’s not going to be used this winter.

Petty – It’s not going to be done.

Roe – The earliest will be spring next year.

Veach – And the other money comes in March?

Davis – Correct.

Icenhower – So we can’t buy the cop car today anyway.

Petty – But we have to tell them what we’re spending it on.

Lord – Yeah, you’ve got to earmark it.

Icenhower – Well, they’ve been told all along that we wouldn’t consider another cop car until this sidewalk deal was done. Remember that?

Lord – Yeah.

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Icenhower – So that’s the moral of that story. Until we got the money back from this sidewalk deal, the cop car was on hold anyway.

Roe – Yeah, that’s a great point. That money doesn’t come in until March.

Petty – But you also said that the project has been delayed significantly and the funds being returned has been delayed significantly when that recommendation was made to...

Roe – Yeah, that’s why we pushed off buying a police car. The Greene County ARPA funds we had to pay for it, submit a canceled check and two months later we would get it replaced. In one situation it was two months, another situation it was one month, it’s very slow. I don’t know what this one will be like.

Veach – Well, how often will they have to share a car if we didn’t get the car?

Howell – It’s about 4 times a month.

Stewart – That’s more than I thought.

Howell – Well that’s including that a car doesn’t break down cause right now we don’t have a backup.

Roe – I understand. But with this money not coming in until March, Richard’s right, we put off getting a police car because we worried about running the depreciation fund too low by, real low, not too low but real low by paying off this sidewalk project. We have to pay the full bill and now it’s almost \$9,000 higher.

Veach – We need to pay the bills first.

Roe – Yes.

Icenhower – Yeah, they don’t send us a check first. We have to pay for it.

Veach – Right, we need to take care of the bill that we’ve got.

Icenhower – We have to send a canceled check in....

Roe – So my point is if it’s designated for a police car, we can’t buy a police car right now because of running the depreciation fund real low.

Petty – We would have to wait until the funds came in.

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Icenhower – That’s the reason why we said all along that we would not buy a police car until we got the sidewalk built.

Veach – I think we need to take care of the sidewalk.

Stewart – So if we do the sidewalk, it’s not going to be installed until March and the funds come in in March is that an issue or can we take the funds and put them away until after the project is done and we’re ready to pay for it. Does that make sense?

Davis – I’m sorry, could you ask me that again?

Stewart – So if we’re going to do the sidewalk out here and we go through the engineering process and all of that and they get it installed, our first bill doesn’t come until let’s say April, but those funds are available to us in March. Are they okay with waiting until we have that expense or do we have to have that expense by March?

Davis – So I have to tell them what the expense is for, then we get the check sometime in March. Then by maybe October 1st next year, I have to submit all of the receipts showing them what we used it for.

Roe – So that’s how it works, okay.

Petty – So would we actually have the sidewalk completed by next October, right? Or would we just have to have it paid for?

Davis- Have it paid for at least.

Petty – By next October, got it.

Voorhis – Have we already paid the bill for the other sidewalk that we put in? We paid the majority on it, right?

Icenhower – No.

Roe – We haven’t paid a dime on it. All we’ve paid is engineering services.

Icenhower – We won’t pay for that until everyone has signed off on it. Then we send it in and then 60 days or whatever.

Voorhis – Well what is that going to run us? I know the \$9,000 change order, but..

Roe – It was \$171,000 plus \$9,000 so that’s going to be \$180,000.

Voorhis – Our last update by Larry, we had \$314,484.18 in our capital improvements tax account.

Roe – So Larry, our Treasurer, he'll tell you don't go below a certain number or percentage. Yeah, there's money there but we've got to closely monitor how low we drain it.

Voorhis – Yeah, that will take 75% of the fund away.

Icenhower – You never get that below where you can operate for 90 days without any income at all.

Roe – That's the magic number.

Voorhis – I think going below 75%, I don't think...

Icenhower – The general rule of thumb is to have enough to operate 90 days with no income.

Stewart – So it sounds like what we're saying is that no matter what, once we get reimbursed for the sidewalk, we will be looking at getting a cop car anyways, whether we use these municipal funds to get it or not.

Roe – That's correct.

Icenhower – That's been the plan all along.

Roe – If we don't get the money until March, we can't buy a cop car right now because the depreciation money is already spoken for with the current sidewalk project that's not paid off yet.

Veach – I would say tell them it's going to go towards the sidewalk...

Davis – Is that a motion?

Motion by Veach to designate 2025 Municipal Partnership Project funds for sidewalk to run up to city hall driveway. Seconded by Icenhower

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

DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE BODY CAMERA BIDS. (Stewart, Roe)

Stewart – Chief Howell gave me this bid for 2 body cameras, \$525 each. This would give us as many body cameras as we have cars. Everybody would have one but the Chief and the reserve officers would share a body camera.

Icenhower – So are you saying that you need 3 or 2?

Stewart – Well this is for two and I'm thinking if its this cheap, Chief Howell said we will have to get a base, which we aren't sure how much that cost but it's not going to be much because the base is included in one of these. I say we see if we can get a bid for 3 and just get all 3 and be done with it. If we need to come up with \$525 from the general fund or whatever to scoot over to the police department, so be it.

Veach – I don't think that we need to have anybody going out without a body camera.

Stewart – I agree. I think everybody should have a body camera. And that way if we have one go down, we've got a backup.

Petty – Is that standard practice?

Stewart – Oh yeah. The way Springfield operates, everyone has their own body camera and then they've got a whole closet of backups.

Petty – So do we need a new quote?

Veach – We need a quote for 3 instead of 2.

Icenhower – Well it's \$525 a piece, isn't that what it was?

Veach – Yes.

Howell – Actually, there's a license fee inside of that cause each camera has to have a license fee, the camera, the mount. So this quote actually is for the mount, one camera, one license fee, the other one is just for the camera. We have the license for that camera already and the dock for that one still works. So the only thing that we're getting is the camera on the one but we're getting the full set up on the second one. So it could be a little bit higher than \$525.

Stewart – The way that this is written it looks like...

Veach – A two set up.

Howell – It does but it's not. The way that they quoted it, I know it looks like that but it isn't. It's one garment clip, with a camera because it says single camera docking station so it's for one single camera docking station.

Veach – We need it quoted for what each camera needs.

Howell – We need 2 full set ups if that's what you want to go with.

Veach – 3.

Howell – And just the one camera.

Stewart – Do you have the budget now to cover this \$1,150?

Howell – That right there, I do.

Stewart – So you would only essentially need assistance with the third camera, whatever that is going to run us?

Howell – Correct.

Stewart – I say we have him go for a third and see how much more it cost.

Veach – Yeah, that's the way I would go.

Icenhower – I agree. Get 3 of them.

Veach – Get 3 with everything that you need and make sure that we don't look at it and say okay, we need something else now. I want to know what the total price will be.

Voorhis – It's \$1,575.

Icenhower – Well will \$1,600 cover you for 3?

Motion by Icenhower to approve Body Camera Bid by Provision in the amount of \$1,650 for the purchase of three (3) body cameras.

Stewart – Now are we saying that we're going to take that out of one of our budgets?

Voorhis – Well the budget is all the same. It's in the general revenue fund. We separate it when we come to meetings, and we approve the budget each year but it all comes out of general revenue.

Icenhower – Well no. That's not necessarily true.

Voorhis – For the police department?

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Icenhower – Yeah.

Voorhis – In the pooled operating account. General revenue, when he submits a record for payment, it's all coming out of the same fund.

Icenhower – Yeah, but he has a budget.

Veach – It comes out of his budget.

Stewart – So are we saying that the \$1,650 is coming out of his budget?

Veach – Yes.

Stewart – Or is it coming out of extra...

Veach – No. It will come out of his budget.

Stewart – Well he can cover \$1,050 right now in his budget comfortably.

Icenhower – Do what?

Stewart – He said that he has enough in his budget to cover \$1,050 right now. I don't know if you have the budget to cover \$1,650.

Howell – This early in the budget year, there are still things that can go on, things that could happen and I don't want to push it. The two cameras I can cover. That's the bare minimum of what we need to get us by.

Icenhower – Well we're still short one officer so there should be that money somewhere. Isn't that right?

Roe – Well, kind of. It depends on what other areas go over budget. Because like the Mayor said, it comes out of general revenue. Police Department's budget is a portion of that.

Icenhower – Well, they all get a portion of that. But you've got to budget.

Roe – Yes. What I'm saying Richard is last year, our lawyer fees far exceeded what we budgeted. I brought that up in a meeting several months ago.

Icenhower – I know that. We don't have a budget per se for legal.

Roe – We do. We do. There's a budget in there. And we far exceeded that last year.

Icenhower – I think we're going to this year too the way it's going.

Roe – I know but it is what it is.

Stewart – So is there a way of approving him to spend \$600 outside of his budget. How does that work? Talk to me like I'm 5.

Voorhis – He's got a spending limit of \$500 he can do and submit receipts for. So it's a extra \$100 that we are approving ...

Roe – We can't split it up.

Voorhis – But we cant split it up like that so it's all got to come out at once so we have to approve it.

Roe – If Roy is not comfortable with the \$1,650 coming out of his budget then I think we need to stay with...

Stewart – That's what I was saying.

Roe – He needs to put a proposal before us. I can't say I don't know what come the end of the budget year what's going to be in the general fund.

Veach – Can they share a camera when one is off?

Stewart – That's what I was going to say they might have to do.

Howell – With the two, that's what we would be doing. That would get us by. We would be able to share the one and the others would be designated to the officers that come on and go off. Because they're overlapping when they show up and go.

Veach – Well as long as anybody that's on duty has got a camera on.

Stewart – The only time that you'd have an issue is if you had a reserve on, Chief Howell on and then have all of the patrol guys on. Then you would have one person without a camera.

Howell – That's a very rare incident. That's why I'm saying that right now, just these two cameras, that will get us by.

Icenhower – Well if he don't think he's got the budget, then go with two.

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Veach – And share.

Roe – Have we done a vote on the motion?

Davis – No. I don't think we got a second either.

Motion dies for lack of second.

Motion by Stewart to accept the bid by Pro-Vision for two (2) body cameras Quote #
MASQ36057 Seconded by Roe
Icenhower AYE, Roe AYE, Lord, AYE, Stewart AYE, Veach AYE, Petty AYE

DISCUSS IN CAR CAMERAS (Stewart, Roe)

Stewart – I put this on the agenda just to bring it to everyone's attention. Currently we have how many cars without cameras?

Howell – Three.

Stewart – Three cars without cameras. To me, that's unacceptable. I understand after the conversation that we just had we don't have the money to do that but something that we need to be thinking about is we need to be outfitting these cars ASAP with cameras. A camera runs approximately \$3,000?

Howell – Yeah, about. That's not counting install.

Stewart – So, ideally as you buy new cars, you throw new cameras in it and throw it in as a package deal. The way that we're sitting, we need to go ahead and start throwing some cameras in cars. I like the idea of having cameras in our cars, cameras on the dash. I know that they have body cameras but that steering wheel is right in the way.

Voorhis – And is it asked that this come out of the city budget or Chief Roy, do you have money in your account that you are planning to spend for this?

Howell – Not at this time.

Stewart – This was all me just wanting to bring it to your attention and just start thinking about it.

Veach – Okay. We'll start thinking about it.

Roe – It was \$3,000 plus per camera. That was mentioned at the last meeting because I wrote that down. And we have three cars that...

Howell – Without cameras.

Roe – Without cameras.

Howell – Without in car cameras.

Stewart – Those go inside the car. They have body cameras but those are useless until they get out of the car.

Howell – So to give you guys a better understanding. You get going after a car, all your seeing is a steering wheel, you're not seeing the perspective of what the officer is seeing. All you're seeing is a dash and a steering wheel. You're not seeing what is going on in front of you. So if that were to ever come up in court, there would be some issues. Because all they're taking is the perspective of what they can see as the dash, not what's going on in front of that officer.

Stewart – Worse case scenario is they get into a shootout right there and we don't have any of that leading up to it. All you have is the officer pulling his gun as he exits the car.

Roe – That seems to be a bigger need than a new car from what I'm hearing. Can you get a bid on 3 new car cameras installed?

Howell – Yeah, I can come up with a bid for them. Our two Dodge Durango's have Provision installed in them. Apparently that's what was recommended when the cars came to be outfitted. So we would look at keeping them all the same cause that's what we have right now. So there's no reason to start changing it. So we would go with three new Provision cameras. The only concern that I have, and I brought this up to Mr. Stewart, is we start outfitting cars that we're looking at getting rid of. The Explorers that we have are the ones that we are going to be getting rid of soon. They all have about 105,000 miles. Explorers are all known till about 150,000 – 175,000 miles you are going to lose the trainee on it. They are going to start eating it up in expenses.

Veach – Yeah, but can't you take the cameras out of the cars and put them in new ones? Put them in another car?

Howell – You can, but your installing, putting money in a car that in a year or two, you're going to be pulling out again.

Veach – I don't see any reason why you can't use the camera from this car that you're going to get rid of and put it in a car that you get later on.

Petty – What's the installation, removal and the...

Howell – That's kind of almost the exact same cost as the camera.

Roe – Really?

Howell – Yep. They charge you a pretty penny down at NRRoute.

Veach – Yep. But if you are getting a camera, paying for an install here, when you take this and put it in this car, your not paying for another camera. All you're doing is paying for an install.

Howell – Correct.

Veach – So you are still saving the money. So you're only paying half the price just putting it into another car.

Stewart – Well, I think the bid will clear that up for us, right? It will be itemized on there and we will be able to see exactly how much that cost is.

Petty – Yes. Just don't bundle it like the other one. Make sure they split it out.

Roe – So are you saying it's only the Dodge Durango's that have in car cameras?

Howell – Correct. All of our Explorers, which are all at 105,000 miles, do not have in car cameras.

DISCUSS VACATION TIME CARRYOVER (Stewart, Roe)

Stewart – This one was brought up. So Chief Howell has 3 weeks vacation time that he has to burn by the end of the year or lose them.

Icenhower – That's not right.

Roe – That's not true.

Stewart – Okay. Clear me up on that then.

Icenhower – It's anniversary date.

Roe – It's anniversary date. I've got the vacation policy here.

Icenhower – It's not by the end of the year, it's anniversary to anniversary.

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Roe – The first sentence says a fulltime employee accrues annual vacation leave with pay on their anniversary date. So you do have until your anniversary date.

Howell – Well I was talking to Sara and...

Davis – Right. December 31st was supposed to be the date.

Petty – What is your anniversary date?

Howell – March

Roe – It was towards the end of March.

Davis – March 25th.

Stewart – The concern was that he was just going to have to burn time and prolong the FTO program even more and I didn't want to see him do that. That doesn't seem to be a problem so, next.

Roe – Part B says employees must take all vacation in that year because we don't allow it to carry over.

Stewart – So he carries it until his anniversary date?

Roe – Right. Anniversary date, not the calendar year.

Howell – Okay. I was understanding calendar year. That's why it was an issue.

Roe – I didn't know because Sara had asked.

DISCUSS DOORBELL CAMERA (Roe, Icenhower)

Roe – I asked Sara to put this on here and Chief, we need to determine ownership of the camera. As of last Friday, there is no invoice turned in for it and I remember you saying something about you bought it because you found it on sale it was a very good price so you went ahead and bought it. I assume that you did that with your credit card. So what is your intent?

Voorhis – Yeah, I can go ahead and speak on this. Chief Roy has submitted all of the proper paperwork for reimbursement of this camera. He has submitted it to Sara along with the receipt. It is city property.

Icenhower – Well I have a problem with it. I don't think it should be recording audio.

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Stewart – Is it a blink camera?

Howell – It is a doorbell camera, like a blink camera, it's just a cheaper version.

Petty – Didn't we approve audio for outside that door?

Voorhis – We did.

Veach – And not the front.

Petty – Because that's where they could potentially be bringing people in for the alcohol test.

Stewart – Something that we discussed, Richard and I was maybe turning off the motion activation on there so that it doesn't activate when somebody is just out there taking a break but when they hit that button, it does activate, turns on the camera, they can open up their app, see who's out there and it is activated.

Icenhower – Now was this camera ever authorized?

Stewart – We voted on it last meeting. Does this have the function that you could turn off the motion?

Howell – I don't believe so but I would have to go in and check it. This camera has worked 3 or 4 times now. We had one or two people today alone. I was at home, off duty, I had my work phone with me because that's what I do. Somebody came up to request a report, I was able to direct them to come back the next day and one will be provided to them. This camera is a service to the citizens. It's also a safety to the citizens that are out there in the park because it's catching motion. It's not going to be any different than that pan, tilt, zoom camera that's going to go out there and catch the same stuff. It's just another avenue to help the citizens and the public when they come up to the police department and for the officers safety.

Stewart – With that camera on the back door, now you can lock it and they can ring the bell to enter the police department.

Howell – Correct. They ring the doorbell, we're sitting out here on Orchard and Saddle Club and we were able to answer the guys questions and then come down here and meet with him and talk with him personally. We had a notification that somebody was there first, so we could look at it, it was just catching a motion. It's not picking up sound at that time, it's just picking up the motion and then when the bell gets rang its recording.

Stewart – So it doesn't record audio?

Howell – Not until the bell is rang. I could live view it and you're going to hear sound but that's not going to be any different then the pan, tilt, zoom. It's just an added safety function for these officers and added service to the public.

Voorhis - And we got all of the proper paperwork submitted so it is a City owned camera. Any more discussion on this doorbell camera? We'll go ahead and move on.

DISCUSS S.R.O. POLICY (Mayor Voorhis)

Voorhis – I've had extensive conversations with Superintendent Mike Bell. Lots of email conversations. I've passed out a copy of what the proposal is for that. As it sits now, talking with Chief Roy Howell, we don't have an SRO policy. As we all sit up here, we all know that we've had several issues amongst with this SRO and trying to make it work to the best of our ability and keeping a long lasting relationship with the school. With keeping the police committee informed and attached to the emails and Superintendent Mr. Bell, this is the policy that we have came up with. As I know, there might be some pieces along the line that we might have to fix and adjust. Mr. Bell is in agreeance with this. I had provided this to Chief Howell last Thursday of what the agreement was with Mike Bell and so I'll be asking that....

Stewart – Has Holly also gone over this?

Voorhis – Holly did. I can tell you what Ms. Holly stated to me to go along with the MOU, it's not worth the paper it's on. I don't want to go back to that but she stated we could have a policy but he's not a city employee so when it comes down to it, we can't do anything. He's a school employee so her exact words were our MOU and our paper, this policy isn't worth the paper it's written on. She said it looks good, when it comes down to it, no matter how we look at it, he's not a city employee.

Petty – Well, issues would be addressed between you and Bell in regards to any concerns that would potentially breach our agreement.

Voorhis – Yeah. So right now to go into further conversation, we signed an MOU with the school, we have policies with the police department. The school has some issues with some of the policies that are in place with our police department. We signed a contract or an MOU with the school that said they would follow all police department policies. That's what it states on the MOU. We have policies in place that the school is not following. The school does not want to follow them. Mr. Bell has made that clear to me on certain avenues on many different things when it comes to body armor, when it comes to having two less lethal weapons, so on and so forth when it comes to report writing, the school wants it their way and doesn't want to follow what's in place right now with Fair Grove Police Department. Well obviously we know that puts a little pressure on Chief Roy and Mr. Bell and even myself and this council. So when Chief Roy had said something to me that they're not following the policy, well he's absolutely right. The school is not following the MOU policy that they signed and agreed to. So then we get into an

argument of who's in charge and who's in control on what's going to go ahead and move forward. Chief Roy's right. They signed it, they're not agreeing to it. Mr. Bell will not agree to it.

Veach – Well, it is an employee of the school. And that's what we have to go with.

Voorhis – Right. So I worked with this policy with Mr. Bell. We came up with this that he said he would agree to. This gives us some avenue within our police department that we have a policy because as of right now we do not have a policy at all that would regard an SRO. If you look through it, it talks about the reporting, accountability, training, professional development, rules and responsibilities, employee oversight, less lethal weapons, weapons, so on and so forth, gear, that is what the school wants.

Petty – So this basically gives the school a way around following our policy, our police department policies? Because it directly....

Voorhis – I am saying some of this handles the arguments between Chief Roy and the Superintendent Mr. Bell on whose going to follow what policy.

Petty – And that's just this policy then is what we're basically saying? You have to follow this one only then?

Voorhis – Right, it deals with just the SRO and Mr. Mike Bell has agreed to it.

Icenhower – In reality, this takes the Chief out of it.

Veach – Yes.

Petty – He's in here.

Veach – Pretty much, yes.

Voorhis – There is portions of this that they will have to directly communicate with the Chief and anything that relates to law enforcement duties that the school would not be privy to as law enforcement officers would need to know. He has to directly communicate with the Chief of Police. Other than that, any communications will be done by his supervisors and with Chief Roy. But other than that, it talks about his training. Mr. Bell has made it very clear that the SRO will be attending training with the Greene County Sheriff's Office and outside training to keep him up with the state. If you read through this, it states that they will submit any training requirements documentation to the police department as long as we are providing him with a commission to keep him all certified up with us.

Stewart – Is this a new agreement that we would be entering into?

Voorhis – It's not an agreement, it's a policy that we would adopt as the city council. I would email this policy to Chief Roy and have him put it into his book and this would be the SRO policy. So we're already in agreement with an MOU that states that they will follow all City of Fair Grove Police Department policies.

Veach – Because the SRO works for the school.

Stewart – This goes back to talk to me like I'm 5. City council writes policies for the departments or do we just do ordinances?

Voorhis – No. We approve policies. If Chief Roy wants a policy. Yeah, you can say I wrote this policy. I worked with Mr. Bell to do it. I provided it to Chief Roy. I know he probably has his own concerns about it but I can assure you that this is the best option that we have with the school and the city of Fair Grove.

Motion by Lord to accept and approve the School Resource Officer policy effective immediately
Seconded by Veach

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

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Icenhower to go into Closed Session per RSMo 610.021 (3) hiring, firing, disciplining or promoting particular employees at 7:58 p.m. Second Roe

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

Motion by Veach to go back to open session at 8:18 p.m. Second Stewart

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

Mayor Report

Voorhis – I just want to give a little bit of an update. The Christmas parade, last time you guys heard me speak about that, we were unaware of what was going to go on. It is confirmed now. The Heritage Society will be the lead on the Christmas parade that will happen December 7th just right before our Christmas tree lighting. So, giving you an update on that. I've been in contact with them. They are going to submit all of the paperwork to Ms. Sara for insurance purposes wise and so on and so forth. The next item I would like to talk about. I've been in contact with Jerra Icenhower from the park board. They are in need of quite a few park board members. As you guys seen, we had an application from Tim Cooke.

Mayor recommends Tim Cooke for the Park Board for a term to expire June 2026

Motion by Icenhower to approve Mayor's recommendation of Tim Cooke to the Park Board for a term to expire 6/2026. Seconded by Veach

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

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Voorhis – Next thing I would like to bring up. We are going to have a meeting the week of Thanksgiving. That's our next meeting when it's scheduled. It is the week of Thanksgiving. I have talked with Mr. Roe but I believe there is some important business.

Roe – We've got that public hearing.

Voorhis – We've got that public hearing that would be November 26th unless we would like to come up with a day beforehand to do it, I don't believe there is any other option but to go ahead and have it that week.

Stewart – I won't be here.

Roe – Sara, what is the downside to putting the public hearing off until the first December meeting.

Davis – I don't think there really is one. We could put it off if you would like.

Petty – How much notice do we have to give for a public hearing?

Davis – For that one, you probably need to give 30 days.

Petty – So then we can't have it in two weeks anyways.

Davis – It's anywhere from 15 to 30 days. I wouldn't be able to get it in the paper until next week.

Stewart – So we wouldn't do it in two weeks anyway.

Icenhower – That way we don't have to have a meeting at the end of November.

Stewart – So we cancel the last meeting of November.

Roe – I don't think the week of Thanksgiving is a good time for a public hearing.

Voorhis – If things shall rise, we shall convene and handle things appropriately. Next thing I would like to give an update...

Davis – So it's a consensus of the Board to not have the second meeting in November?

Icenhower – Correct.

Petty – Yes.

Roe – And move it to December, yeah.

Icenhower – There will only be one meeting in December.

Stewart – Because we won't meet on Christmas Eve.

Voorhis – Right, because Christmas Eve would be our second meeting. Just another quick update. We are having a ceremony at the school November 20th and I would like to invite all of the council members. Obviously we know that last month, Ms. Sara, Ms. Chandra and Ms. Kelly had went up there and worked at the school. Last council meeting it came up two proclamations to announce the ice cream for the city is chocolate and that the City Hall's animal will be a dog. That is what the second graders proposed and that is what we made the proclamations on. It's going to be November 20th that we are going to present those to the school at 1p.m.

Roe – At the elementary school?

Voorhis – At the elementary school inside the main gym there. I am sure they would love to have you. We will have ice cream.

Petty – Are we closing City Hall?

Voorhis – That is one thing I wanted to bring up. If the council is okay that we shut down early that day so Ms. Chandra and Ms. Sara can attend as we present that proclamation to the school?

Petty – Consensus? Yes!

Icenhower – I don't have a problem with it.

Roe – I am good with it.

Veach – Do it.


Davis – Thank you!

Voorhis – Thank you. That is all I have.

Adjournment

Motion by Icenhower to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. Seconded by Veach

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



Sara Davis, City Clerk