

PLEDGE OF ALLIEGENCE

Led by Mayor Pro Tem Petty

OPEN MEETING

Roll call taken by Mayor Pro Tem Petty

Tim Cooke PRESENT, Eric Boncuk PRESENT, Ben McMains ABSENT, Kelly Petty PRESENT, Mark Stewart ABSENT, Franklin Hodges PRESENT

Call to order at 6:30 p.m.

Approve Agenda.

Motion by Cooke to approve the agenda. Second Boncuk
Cooke AYE, Boncuk AYE, Petty AYE,

Hodges – I've got a question. He resigned so we're short a man.

Petty – That's an agenda item further down. It's the first one under old business. But we can't talk about it until we approve the agenda.

Hodges – Okay. Well since he quit a month ago, you know, he shouldn't be sitting here on the Board.

Petty – So we can talk through that as the first item on the agenda as soon as it's approved.

Hodges – Okay.

Petty – We have 3 Aye's.

Hodges – I've got a no.

Petty – Okay. Agenda has been approved with a vote of 3 to 1.

Public Forum (Agenda items only)

Old Business

ACCEPT ERIC BONCUK'S RESIGNATION AS WARD III ALDERMAN

Discussion

Petty – Mr. Boncuk, you asked to be able to speak.

Boncuk – Yes. So, when Sara posted the guidelines for the upcoming election in April for the 3 Aldermen positions and the Mayoral position, my wife and I discussed it, we prayed about it and

we made the decision together that I was going to run for the Mayoral position. I came in to talk to Sara to find out what more is entailed in the position and then I called Mayor Pro Tem Petty and let her know that I would be doing it. Throughout our discussion it came about that it might be helpful to her if I would be willing to take some things off her plate by assuming the Mayoral position. There was no grand, I conveyed this to a couple of the other Board of Aldermen that called and asked what my part was on this, why I was doing this and I told them there's no Machiavellian plan here. This is me trying to be helpful to fellow Alderman and what I consider a friend also. With that in mind, knowing now that Mr. McMains is resigning as an Alderman, I am going to rescind my resignation and fill out the term as an Alderman and then run in the election for Mayor.

Petty – At our last meeting, Mayor applicant Roy Kirkpatrick cited Missouri State Statute 355.341 which he believed to apply to Alderman Boncuk's resignation. After review of the RSMo, it applies to corporations, associations and partnerships, not fourth class cities in Missouri. The rule for a fourth class city in Missouri reads in part "Resigning for a city office requires two things: an offer by the official and acceptance by a quorum." After contacting Missouri Municipal League or MML to verify this information, they confirmed that a resignation must be accepted by a quorum of the Board of Aldermen in an open meeting for that resignation to be in effect. Because of this rule, Alderman Boncuk has not stopped serving as an Alderman and has the right to rescind his resignation.

Hodges – I want everybody to know here that lives in Fair Grove what's going on. You've had 3 other people that applied for Mayor. Not me, the rest of this Board has refused to put them in place for reasons because they've had disputes in the past with the City on something and I just feel it's wrong what's going on with the dealings that we're having to put up with because what they was trying to do is gonna put Eric in and I like Eric, I know him but I don't like the way it was going down about putting him in position when we just turned him down last week.

Petty – So we've received 3...

Hodges – And I said, I said it's wrong the way we do it. We've had 3 other people last few months that wanted to be Mayor and this Board refuses to put them in cause they got an issue with them cause they had disputes with the City of Fair Grove and I've two of the members here have told me this so it's not coming from me, it's coming from the other Board members. So if that's the way you want to run this City, then run it that way but that ain't the way I was brought up to run it. You be honest and up front and like I said, all 3 of the people that has applied for to be Mayor qualifies to be Mayor and the residents of Fair Grove.

Petty – So we've had 3 applicants for the Mayor position. In order for an interim Mayor to be appointed to serve out the remainder of this term, a member of the Board of Aldermen recommends them and they then have to be voted in by a majority of the Board. He's right that every person that has applied to the Mayor position has been qualified by the required Missouri

State Statute law. They're over 18 years of age, they have lived within the city of Fair Grove for one year and they don't have felonies and they have paid their taxes. Those are the four qualifications. We've only had one motion that failed for second to appoint anybody as Interim Mayor for the remainder of this term but ultimately a lot of discernment goes into those decisions and if any member of this Board wishes to proceed, they are welcome to bring it forward for vote and then it is up to the 5 members of this Board to then approve them.

Cooke – Sara, of those 3, how many met the deadline to apply and be on the ballot for the general election?

Davis – If we're talking about...

Cooke – For the Mayor position.

Davis – If we're talking about Tommy reapplying and including Roy and Brian Zebel, none but if we're including Eric in that, then one.

Petty – So another piece of this with Mr. Boncuk is we received a, which it's further down on the agenda, a resignation from Ben McMains. There is also, within the Missouri State Statute, a requirement for city's to be able to continue to conduct business. That is why the Board is allowed to not accept a resignation from an Alderman if the City is in jeopardy of not having enough Aldermen on the Board to be able to continue to sign checks and continue to uphold the responsibilities. If that had been the case, we would not have had a quorum with Mr. Stewart out and with Mr. McMains' resignation. So, my recommendation is that we accept Mr. Boncuk's request to rescind his resignation to the Board. That does not have to go for a vote but a majority or approval. If anybody else wants to make a motion to accept, you're welcome to. Any further discussion up here?

Hodges – Why is it not going up to a vote?

Petty – Nobody here has made a motion to accept it but I would like to open it up to public comment first.

Public Comment Open

Roy Kirkpatrick – Not to be disrespectful but I don't want to go up there. Would you please recite that RSMo, please?

Petty – The one that you said last time?

Kirkpatrick – Yes ma'am.

Petty – 355.341.

Kirkpatrick – Okay. Could you read that please?

Petty – This is under Missouri State Statute Title 13: Corporations, Associations and Partnerships. In the Missouri State Statute book, Missouri Fourth Class Cities is under it's own title with it's own guidelines and laws but the one that you read that is for Corporations, Associations and Partnerships is Resignation of Directors: "A Director may resign at any time by delivering written notice to the Board of Directors, it's presiding officer or to the President or Secretary unless otherwise states by the bylaws or Articles of Incorporation. A resignation is effective when the notice is delivered unless the notice specifies a later effective date. If a resignation is made effective at a later date, the Board may fill the pending vacancy before the effective date if the Board provides that a successor does not take office until the effective date." But, this does not apply to Missouri Fourth Class cities.

Kirkpatrick – It doesn't?

Petty – No. And we did get confirmation, we reached out to Missouri Municipal League who is a team of lawyers that provide legal assistance to municipalities...

Kirkpatrick – Could you repeat that? I'm sorry.

Petty – The Missouri Municipal League.

Kirkpatrick – Does this, does this courthouse or this community buy into that? I mean, they just back you? Is that what you're saying?

Petty – They...

Kirkpatrick – The Missouri Munici, I'm sorry.

Petty – Missouri Municipal League is a, are they an entity, what is their official term?

Davis – I don't know. They are a group of attorney's for cities that help us guide our way. Steve knows what it is.

Stephen Short – Yes. It's a *inaudible* of city's that pay dues into it and they provide opinion, not necessarily a legal opinion but they do give many years experience.

Petty – They provide their interpretation of the laws for cities.

Kirkpatrick – So does Fair Grove pay for that?

Petty – We do pay dues for that. It provides legal direction that does not cost as much as having to ask our city attorney.

Kirkpatrick – Good, good.

Petty – So trying to be respectful of our budget. Yes.

Kirkpatrick – Good. Good to know.

Public Comment Closed

Petty – Aldermen are welcome to make a motion if they wish to accept the resignation of Eric Boncuk as Ward 3 Alderman.

Hodges – I make a motion.

Petty – Can you say the whole thing?

Hodges – Do what?

Petty – Can you say the whole thing please.

Motion by Hodges to accept Eric's resignation.

Motion dies for lack of second

Petty – So, Mr. Boncuk, the Board has chosen to not accept your resignation. Therefore you will continue in your position until the next election which you have said you are running for Mayor on the ballot.

Boncuk – Correct.

Hodges – You don't have to vote on it?

Davis – If there's no second, then no.

Hodges – No, to accept his resignation. Someone has to make a motion to accept it and vote on it.

Petty – You made a motion, somebody has to second it for it to go to vote.

Hodges – Right.

Petty – There was no second so it does not go to vote and it dies.

Hodges – But don't you have to vote on it to accept his resignation then?

Petty – No.

Hodges – Why not?

Petty – Because we're choosing to not accept his resignation.

Hodges – Do what?

Petty – We're choosing to not accept his resignation.

Hodges – You need to do it as a vote.

Davis – You can't vote on it if no one seconded your motion.

Hodges – Not do mine, to accept his resignation. Someone needs to make a motion to accept it then.

Davis – You made the motion.

Hodges – To not accept his resignation then.

Petty – We don't have to do that.

Hodges – Alright. Seems wrong but let's roll with it. That's it.

Kirkpatrick – So we're class 4?

Unknown Male - Fourth Class

Kirkpatrick – We're a fourth class city?

Petty – Yes.

Kirkpatrick – Man, I'm getting conflicting, I guess I would like to, I'm sorry. I'm speaking out of turn.

Petty – We can talk after if you'd like or there's another resignation that we'll be accepting that might be relevant to speak about that. This agenda item is complete.

Hodges – If you say so.

DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE PAY SCHEDULE FOR BUILDING INSPECTOR

Discussion

Petty – At our last meeting, we had asked Sara to reach out to surrounding cities to find out what their pay schedule is for their inspectors, and she did.

Davis – I reached out to Battlefield, Seymour, Strafford, Ash Grove, Willard, Rogersville, Republic, Walnut Grove, Buffalo, Bolivar and Marshfield. So far I've heard back from Battlefield, Rogersville, Republic and Marshfield and all of them pay a full-time person hourly to do it. I just wanted to update you guys on that and we can let it rest until I hear back from everyone else.

Petty – Can you list those cities that you've received responses from?

Davis – Battlefield, Marshfield, Rogersville and Republic.

Hodges – Did you get a list of everything from 'em?

Davis – No because they pay hourly which is different than how we're....

Hodges – They don't charge per deal.

Davis – I didn't get that, no.

Hodges – Okay. We need that.

Davis – Okay.

Hodges – So we can compare it to ours.

Davis – Okay. What they charge?

Hodges – What they charge...

Davis – For building permits? Okay. Yep.

Hodges – For inspections and everything so we can see what it's costing.

Davis – Okay. Yep. I can do that.

Petty – So you're going to reach out again to the other...

Davis – I'll reach out again to the ones that I have already had contact with and then I'll follow up with the others.

Public Comment Open

Kirkpatrick – Anybody else have anything to say? Didn't you all agree that the guy gets a percentage off of per deal there?

Petty – We did but there was still an outstanding part of that discussion that Alderman Stewart asked what other cities pay and had asked Sara to reach out and she's....

Kirkpatrick – And that was the last city council meeting, correct?

Davis – Yes.

Kirkpatrick – Cause the minutes aren't being updated so I'm trying to recollect.

Davis – I'm getting them done as quickly as I can. My grandpa died the day of our last meeting.

Kirkpatrick – Wait a minute. I'm not sure what that was. That was not a personal attack, I'm sorry.

Davis – It's okay. I'm just letting you know that I'll get them done as quickly as I can.

Kirkpatrick – Well they haven't been done since September, I think.

Davis – No. They're on there. December 9th...

Kirkpatrick – I'll double check. But anyway, trying to follow up with City Council because it's hard to go back and read the minutes is all I was saying.

Davis – Yeah, they're up there since December 9th I think.

Kirkpatrick – Not from the last meeting but anyway, if we agreed with a certain amount this guy was going to get paid, why is he allowed to ask for more? Let's just move on and find somebody else.

Petty – I would say....

Kirkpatrick – The agreement has been broken.

Petty – It was a request from the last meeting from an Alderman to the City Clerk to source information and it is her responsibility to report that back in this forum.

Kirkpatrick – Okay then.

Hodges – I’m against paying for hourly cause I think it could be milked to death. It could cost the City of Fair Grove more money then what we’re going to collect this way, the way we been doing it. Because I can see it happening.

Kirkpatrick – Do we have that many permits?

Hodges – Two or three, isn’t it?

Petty – So, to be clear, the Board did, at our last meeting, say that we are going to continue with our current pay schedule that the inspector agreed to upon hire. It’s just the additional information that we have requested. So at this time, there is not an open action from this Board in consideration of the inspector’s pay for the work that he’s doing for the City.

Kirkpatrick – I just want to point out that it looks like this guy is looking for a full-time job and I don’t think this town needs a full-time inspector.

Hodges – We don’t.

Petty – I agree.

Public Comment Closed

DICUSS AND/OR APPROVE CONTRACTOR REQUIREMENTS (Inspector Coburn)
Discussion

Petty – This was a request from Inspector Coburn but he is not present so we will, do we need a motion to table this?

Davis – If you’d like.

Hodges – Why is he not here?

Davis – He’s snowed in.

Hodges – He wasn’t here at the last meeting.

Davis – No. He normally appears at this one but he’s snowed in. He messaged Chandra earlier today.

Public Comment Open

Public Comment Closed

Motion by Boncuk to table Contractor Requirements until the next business meeting. Seconded by Hodges.

Cooke AYE, Boncuk AYE, Petty AYE, Hodges AYE

New Business

ACCEPT BEN MCMAINS RESIGNATION AS WARD I ALDERMAN

Discussion

Petty – Do you want me to read it?

Davis – You can if you'd like.

Petty – Mr. McMains sent on January 13, 2026 at 5:15 p.m. Members of the Board of Aldermen: This letter serves as my resignation from my position as Alderman. I feel that by remaining on this Board I am doing an injustice to the citizens of Fair Grove. I know this decision will disappoint some and likely please who work there. When I began serving as Alderman I believed my Tuesday evenings would be available, instead they are now filled consistently with sporting events and I would much rather spend that time with my family. For these reasons I believe that it is best that I step aside and allow someone else to serve in this role. Benjamin McMains

Hodges – Ben called and talked to me. Let me know that he resignation. There's more to this than what he said to me. He felt that coming to these meetings was like beating your head against the wall cause of the way everything gets done up here. So that's some more of it cause of what happens at these meetings and it is part of his kids and I told him, the kids come first, family comes first over this city. That's for everybody. That's it.

Public Comment Open

Ricky Icenhower – I've got something to say. Ben come on this Board with an agenda. That's all it was and he didn't get it pulled off and now he's gonna go home and do whatever he's gonna do. He wasn't on this Board for the people of Fair Grove. He was on this Board for himself and his family and what he thought was right, which that's everybody's differing opinion, but he's one of the reasons why there's holes in this council up here and you know, the people spoke. They voted off two people that had the most experience in this whole town which was my dad and Jeff Danderson and this Board's lost it's direction, the City's lost direction and a lot of experience and that's what this Board is gonna lack. You can have all the desire you want but I don't care, you've got to have experience. You've got to have experience and knowledge. You've got to understand how this all works. Those guys did. There was no personal agendas, there was no any back door stuff going on. That's the biggest bunch of B.S. I've ever heard in my life. That kind of guy is the one with that kind of stuff going on. So good riddance as far as I'm concerned. I hope this Board can get some experience cause you didn't only lose two there,

you lost some other good people that could see where this Board was going and didn't want any part of it because the cornerstone wasn't here anymore. That's all I've got to say.

Kailey Newbrough – Can I just ask what's a quorum for you guys just for my own personal?

Petty – 4.

Newbrough – So does the Park Board require 5? I know it's not really.

Davis – How many is currently on your Board?

Newbrough – 6.

Davis – I think so. I think it's 5.

Hodges – Ricky, I want to respond to your deal. Everybody's got a reason why they want to be on this Board. There's something that's happened they disapprove of that's going on in this city. Just like with Ben and everybody else that sits on this Board. They had a reason why. The people has voted us in and I've had my own reason to coming up here cause I wanted to hope to bring a little common sense to this Board that wasn't done and it still hasn't been doing it. And I explained to you the other day some of the stuff that's going on here with the City I disapprove of from day 1. So there's reasons why people want to be here. I've lived here for 65 years this year. I've seen good, I've seen bad and I do care about this community and I don't think you'll find a person in this town that will disagree with that. Cause I do care about Fair Grove so that's the reason I'm here.

Kirkpatrick – In all fairness I would like for Ben to set here and tell us why just like Mr. Boncuk was able to do. I mean, in all fairness. It's obvious, I mean, the last meeting he wasn't here and granted he's not here tonight but I would like to hear Ben say out of his mouth. If we can table it and maybe perhaps persuade the man to come up here.

Petty – We can put out a request that he come to the next meeting to speak on it.

Kirkpatrick – Absolutely, please.

Icenhower – I'm not sure why we would table it. He hadn't been here in several meetings. This is not his deal. He's made his comment and said what he's gonna do.

Kirkpatrick – So did Mr.

Boncuk – Eric. It's a hard last name.

Kirkpatrick – Mr. Eric.

Public Comment Closed

Motion by Boncuk to accept Ben McMains resignation effective January 13, 2026. Seconded by Cooke

Cooke AYE, Boncuk AYE, Petty AYE, Hodges NO

DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE CHECK SIGNERS FOR ALL CITY ACCOUNTS

Discussion

Petty – So we need to remove Ben McMains as a check signer. I would like to recommend, who are our current check signers, Sara?

Davis – You, Mark and Ben.

Petty – Me, Mark and Ben. What is one of your biggest frustrations with myself or Mr. Stewart.

Davis – Well, I mean a prime example is that tonight you're here and he's not and he doesn't come back until Friday, so we won't have checks ready to go until Friday and I didn't get any checks for the Park by the way.

Petty – Eric, you're here throughout the week?

Boncuk – Yes.

Petty – Most of the time?

Boncuk – Most of the time. We go on about 3 vacations a year for about 2 weeks at a time. But I usually know long in advance just like this past one. I knew back in October that we were going to be gone for two weeks..

Petty – I would like to recommend to this Board that we add Eric Boncuk as a check signee.

Public Comment Open

Public Comment Closed

Motion by Cooke to remove Ben McMains as a check signer and add Eric Boncuk. Seconded by Petty

Cooke AYE, Boncuk AYE, Petty AYE, Hodges AYE

DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX SIGNERS

Discussion

Petty – Same situation. Ben is on the safety deposit box account. We also have Cooke and Hodges as safety deposit box signers. I would also recommend that Eric be that person just because of his availability.

Public Comment Open

Public Comment Closed

Motion by Cooke to remove Ben McMains from the safety deposit box and add Eric Boncuk.
Seconded by Petty
Cooke AYE, Boncuk AYE, Petty AYE, Hodges AYE

DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE COMMITTEE LIST

Discussion

Petty – Because Ben McMains was the appointed representative on the Planning and Zoning Board, or Planning and Zoning Commission Board of Aldermen representative, we need to backfill him in that responsibility. As Mayor Pro Tem, my recommendation is to assign Eric Bonck as the Board of Alderman representative for the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Public Comment Open

Public Comment Closed

Motion by Cooke to accept Mayor Pro Tem Petty’s recommendation and assign Eric Boncuk as the Planning and Zoning Board of Aldermen representative. Seconded by Petty
Cooke AYE, Boncuk AYE, Petty AYE, Hodges AYE

**RESOLUTION NO. 26-01 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF FAIR GROVE,
MISSOURI ADOPTING THE 2025-2030 SPRINGFIELD-GREENE COUNTY HAZARD
MITIGATION PLAN**

Discussion

Petty – Do you want to speak to it? You attended all of the meetings.

Greg Porter – Basically the Hazard Mitigation Plan is in collaboration with Greene County to identify any risks that pose Fair Grove, if any funds become available for us to apply for any grant money or anything of that nature, you have FEMA dollars, it has to be within that Hazard Mitigation Plan. So, for you guys to adopt that, if there’s anything that was put into that plan like flooding on Main Street is in the plan so if there’s any Hazard Mitigation money that comes available through FEMA or through the State then with that being in place then the City of Fair Grove can apply for those funds to offset any costs to mitigate any of these risks. It’s been a while since we looked at it and written it so I can’t tell you all of them, I know the flooding on Main Street was one of them. Unfortunately, we can’t do CC because that’s a state highway so the state has to do all of that but it’s threats that we have looked at and kind of have identified

with County and talking to people from the city and like I said, that doesn't mean that we're going to get the funds but it opens it up for us to apply to attempt to receive those funds.

Petty – Does it allow us to only apply for the ones that you have identified as relevant to the risk profile of Fair Grove?

Porter – For that 5 year period. So if there's any other things that we identify...

Petty – After the fact?

Porter – for the 30 to 35, threats or anything that we want to try to mitigate in the future, we can put it into that plan. So, if we identify it now and it's not in the plan then we *inaudible* It's got to be in the plan as of today.

Hodges – Was there any money out there for the snow removal or anything? That we'd qualify.

Porter – That would only come if the President declares a natural disaster and as of last I heard, that's not been done.

Hodges – I thought the Governor or somebody in Missouri...

Porter – The Governor isn't. The President is the one that releases the money for FEMA.

inaudible

Porter – The Governor provided resources to assist agencies within the state is what his declaration does but to receive any funding or anything that typically comes from FEMA and that has to come with a declaration from the President.

Hodges – So this here will help us get money for that later on?

Porter – That would allow us to write for grants, yes.

Hodges – K.

Public Comment Open

Kirkpatrick – Given the current state of our union, is that a good idea to bring the feds in here? I'm just saying.

Porter – We don't bring them in here. They basically release the money to the state, we apply...

Kirkpatrick – FEMA is the feds, right?

Porter – FEMA is fed. Basically the way it happens is the state, even like my EMPG grant, the state writes a huge grant to offset mitigation projects that they want to adopt and whatever money's left over then we apply to the state, not directly per se to FEMA so we're not necessarily bringing....

Kirkpatrick – So this is for emergency reasons?

Porter – Yeah. So like Main Street flooding all the time and it getting shut down...

Kirkpatrick – My front yard floods all the time, so. I mean, Main Street, that means nothing to me.

inaudible

Porter – So Main Street and Saddle Club, a lot of times it floods so if there is a project that we can create maybe make a bridge that goes over that or we can raise *inaudible* so that road does not flood out so emergency services can go through, people can pass through and not have to deal with a flood making the roadway safer. Things of that nature, projects we can do to mitigate or take care of...

Kirkpatrick – So to broadly expand that, would that not be wastewater management?

Porter – It would all kind of go into that.

Kirkpatrick – I mean what the City has now, does that not involve wastewater management? Cause the ditches are wastewater, right?

Petty – They are and yes, we...

Hokanson – No they're not, no.

Davis – Stormwater.

Petty – Oh, I'm sorry, I'm sorry. I apologize, stormwater management.

Kirkpatrick – Oh, okay. I didn't know if that's what it was called or not. That's why I'm asking.

Petty – Thanks for correcting me, Kennie. We have wastewater management which is at our wastewater treatment plant and then the City also has stormwater management for a lot of our culverts underneath our roads and we also have requirements for contractors and builders in town to have stormwater management when they develop. We do have our bond that passed this year

that a portion is dedicated specifically to stormwater management to updating some of the aged culverts in town. We've identified 5 on the list for potential....

Kirkpatrick – Only 5?

Petty – So \$500,000 of the \$1,000,000 grant, the cost of each culvert is pretty substantial. Just the one on South Main Street, I think the bid came in at like \$125,000 just for the one. I know \$1,000,000 sounds like a lot but in the grand scope of things...

Kirkpatrick – Oh, I can live on \$1,000,000 the rest of my life so yes, you're right.

Petty – But in the grand scope of construction cost and the amount of labor required to get these projects done, it does not go as far as you would think so this is a supplement to what the City already has the funds to do for things that are outside of scope that this bond is not able to cover and that our normal business operations is not able to cover with the amount of dollars that the City brings in. So this could open us up to potential government funding for these other things that we have identified as risk points for the City of Fair Grove. It's a pretty extensive project that he comes with a map, I'm sure, and a list of all of the different ways that we could be at risk in an event of either a natural disaster or there's other hazards. There's a whole list, fire, flood, all of your naturals as well as...

Porter – Earthquake, hail storm...

Petty – There's a category for terrorists. There's a whole gambit of potential risks for the city. He comes with his recommendations, one of those recommendations was tornado sirens. One or more of them are aged and is due for repair/replacement so if that specific type of item got opened up with potential grant money, we could then apply for it and request that they give us money to either replace or fix our tornado siren because he added it to the list as a potential risk point for our city. Now risk, there's different levels. It's not going to go out tomorrow but looking in the future over the next 5 years, it will likely be due for repair or replacement.

Kirkpatrick – As everything does.

Porter – Exactly.

Kirkpatrick – Is that just main roads or is that residential as well?

Porter – If it is a risk to the city of Fair Grove, now it can't be a single residence but it has to be a threat to the city.

Kirkpatrick - *inaudible* if it rained 2 inches. I couldn't imagine *inaudible*

Petty – So we have the 792 page document that we can share. We can email a file over if you would like to review the entire thing. It's public property if you would like to look at the specific projects that Mr. Porter got approved.

Kirkpatrick – I'm not discounting that it needs to be approved, I'm just saying I thought, there's certain aspects of it I question whether or not it should have already been addressed if we're asking for grants, you know. Dig out my ditch, fix my neighborhood, you know what I mean. I'm not saying that...

Petty – So the ditches are...

Kirkpatrick – I think it has positive effects and that's what we need but is there things that should have already been done that we're asking for grants from other sources and it should have already been taken care of. That's my question.

Inaudible

Petty – I believe all properties are responsible for maintaining their own ditches.

Kirkpatrick – Are they?

Petty – Yes.

Dennis Roe – Yeah. I'll speak to that. There's a city ordinance that says if stormwater crosses your property you are required to maintain that whether it's a ditch or whatever.

Kirkpatrick – Right.

Roe – The homeowner is required. It's a city ordinance.

Kirkpatrick – If it's a city ordinance so I don't need a permit if it's my responsibility to take care of it.

Petty – Permit for?

Kirkpatrick – If it's a city ordinance that I take care of my ditch, right, that's what you're telling me, so I don't need a permit to dig my ditch out.

Roe – It's only if you're replacing the culvert. I think that needs to be inspected by our Public Works Director.

Kirkpatrick – Who's the Public Works Director?

Hokanson – That'd be me.

Roe – Because it has to get done to a certain criteria.

Kirkpatrick – I'm not necessarily saying the culvert, I'm saying the ditch.

Roe – And I said if it involves the culvert, that could require a permit because it has to be inspected.

Kirkpatrick – So I can just dig a hole right there in my ditch?

Hokanson – As long as you get a One Call to make sure there's no utilities in that area to tear up.

Kirkpatrick – You know where I live.

Hokanson – I know exactly where you live.

Kirkpatrick – My water line runs right across that ditch.

Hokanson – That's why I say, as long as you get locates so you know where the utilities are in the ditch.

Kirkpatrick – Okay.

Petty – Okay, thank you, Mr. Porter.

Public Comment Closed

Motion by Boncuk to approve Resolution Number 26-01. Seconded by Hodges
Cooke AYE, Boncuk AYE, Petty AYE, Hodges AYE

ACCEPT SHAWNA PATRICK'S RESIGNATION FROM PARK BOARD

Discussion

Petty – I'll read a portion of it. There's a personal matter in there that I don't want to share. I would like to respect her privacy. "Dear Members of the Park Board, I'm writing to formally resign from my position on the Park Board effective immediately. While my time on the Board has been brief, it has been a privilege to be a part of such a dedicated group. I wish the Board continued success in all of it's efforts and I will remain a strong supporter of the important work you do for our community." Sincerely, Shawna Patrick.

Public Comment Open

Kailey Newbrough – I'll just say that we'd be happy to have her back at a later date if she ever had time.

Petty – Thank you.

Public Comment Closed

Motion by Cooke to accept Shawna Patrick's resignation from the Park Board effective August 18, 2025. Seconded by Boncuk

Cooke AYE, Boncuk AYE, Petty AYE, Hodges AYE

DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE PROPOSED EVENT PERMIT (Chief Riggin)

Discussion

Chief Riggin – I don't think at this point it's probably let's approve it tonight. What I'd like to see done is you guys review it, talk about whether you feel like it's a need and then if you do and you like even what I've provided for you, see if the attorney would like to review it as well. Here's why. One of the things I noticed when I first got here is, and it's not that it's a broke concept but I get a phone call saying hey, we want to do this thing and board member so and so said it's okay, I have to get your approval and let's say it was a significant enough event where they wanted to alter traffic, increase traffic and bring a large number of people to a property or a place where now they're requesting us to either block traffic off or give security. Then I would say that I don't know if it's my place to approve or not. I can provide what I can provide but do you have other mechanisms in place for insurance if that's needed or any other city, things like barricades or whatever. Well there's no system in place or there's no mechanisms in place. So what I did was when I reached out to my other Chief friends, most cities have some sort of mechanism so that for continuity and consistency purposes I don't get a phone call, you guys don't know what's going on or you get a phone call and I don't know what's going on. But there's a mechanism now that we would be proposing that says hey, we want to have a parade in town, even if it's only 20 or 30 people but we're talking about altering, slowing or blocking traffic for example, we would want somebody to say hey, we're going to fill this out, review it to make sure, do you need insurance, is the City liable, are we inviting liability to ourselves or do you need police presence, do you need security, does Kennie need to do something. Or, in some cases, you may have somebody say hey, I want to rent the park and I want to bring 500 people, are they going to need electricity and on and on and on. I felt like there needed to be a mechanism so that everybody was at least checking a box saying I reviewed this, it looks safe. I've reviewed this, it has security or I've reviewed this and it has insurance because there are some things that happen where I would question, do we need more security, maybe we don't need any at all. So, what this would be doing is if you review this is I put together concepts of like Republic, Nixa, Ozark, Willard, Strafford and say what do you guys require for, and I named a few events and this is basically a condensed version of what they require in their cities. Because one of the things I question is if somebody has an event, what liability do you absorb if you have no clue what's happening. If they're inviting 500 people here or 30,000 or 50 and they're using our streets, our parks or our properties and we don't know what's going on, if

they're doing something that could be liable we may incur the problems if someone gets sued or someone gets hurt, killed, electrocuted and on and on and on. So I think this at least develops a process and if you look at the last couple of pages, there's check boxes that would say here are the people that should probably review it and maybe people that should be alerted. For example, like when we had the fall festival, I called every law enforcement agency around here including the Highway Patrol, Greene County Sheriff's Office, everybody and said hey, this is what we're doing and they were like thank you so much because now they knew, hey let's watch 65 or let's watch Strafford in case people start exiting that way. So there was a lot of check boxes that I felt like I was doing naturally because it comes natural to me to think that way that I think as a City we need to codify into some sort of process, that's what this is. I do think the attorney needs to look at it because there may be insurance incurred by some of these people or need to be presented by some of these groups that we should have on file with this application because we may want to review it and go that's not enough or that's good. And then for example, like security needs, that will definitely be part of this. If we're inviting a lot of people, I may only have a minimal staff so I need to think about, do I need to hire people off duty, do I need to bring in reserves and stuff like that. So that's what this mechanism really helps with. Questions?

Cooke – So right off the top of my head, the one event I keep going to as you're discussing this is our fall festival. Would something like this incur a cost to the Historical Society that's not currently there to adopt this?

Riggin – Possibly. We would have to decide, you would have to decide if you want to charge a fee just to go through the process. Let's say for example like this last fall festival, I had no officers to answer calls for service for the city because what officers we had left were dedicated to the needs of the fall festival. So we paid a little bit of overtime and a little bit of reserve time to do security when there were no needs met for the city, if we had any. In this case we may say well, based on the numbers that we get, whatever those numbers are historically, we may need 7 security officers to secure 25,000 people. At this point I had, I think Sunday, two. So what I'm saying is, if I reviewed their plan, which last year was a good indication of what every year will be, I would suggest they need more security. So the question then for you is do you want to pay for the added security, the reserves and the overtime or would you say to a private organization that's not affiliated with the City itself, you need to incur that cost because I could end up spending \$3,000 on extra security. And if you say yourself, this is why this is more of a let's ponder this, we don't care about that, it's not a big deal, then the question you should ask the attorney is do we incur that liability when I bring \$30,000 people in and have 2 cops for security. That really is a question for our attorney. I can tell you what my professional friends tell me but you really probably need to ask that question. So really I am presenting something more from the security side that also touches other areas as well. Because I've had to answer the security question for every event that I've been handed to include the traffic control and so on. So the short answer is possibly, yes.

Boncuk – If this was something that we did end up passing the cost on if according to the city attorney it'd be best not to incur these things ourselves because of liability. Would we, ahead of time, be able to get them an estimate of this is what we believe your cost will be for this event?

Riggin – From me? Yes.

Boncuk – Okay.

Riggin – From the rest of it, I don't know. So let's say for example, I had heard that MoDot was going to stop providing certain barricades and road mitigation devices. So for example, at the fall festival, we would put the signage out in 3 or 4 places.

Boncuk – Like the one on 65?

Riggin – Correct. If that is a requirement and we feel like that's something that needs to be done for safety and they won't provide it, we may have to hire a company to do that for us to include barricades and any other traffic mitigation devices. If the City wants to pay for that because they feel it's a security need, you guys can decide that. What I've noticed is most cities say we're not paying for that, it's not our city sponsored event. Now the parks department held an event in the park. That's a city sponsored event. This wouldn't apply to them. So they called us and said we have a city sponsored event on city property, can you guys help us, you know, for security, we made those arrangements. They even paid for our reserve officers to be there out of their budget.

Hodges – When you add officers on during the fall festival and stuff, month or two ago you brought this up and you were talking about it trying to put money to the Historical Society to have to pay for it. I don't feel that we need to do that because we get what, probably \$3,000, \$4,000, \$5,000 in permits and stuff.

Davis – I think last year was \$2,500 or \$2,300, something like that.

Hodges – We're not supposed to be a bank making money. I just feel that we ought to take that money and put it to your officers. I was gonna suggest to ya in our next budget meeting we have with your officers and stuff, with you, try to figure out how many more officers you'd like to have for that weekend and put it in your budget.

Riggin – Are you meaning like, every officer that I had was there.

Hodges – Whatever you think you need extra to take care of the festival.

Riggin – So are you talking about full-time employee addition or hiring outside of Fair Grove?

Hodges – Your decision, you know, use your smarts on it. But like I said, that’s my opinion. The Board can do what they want but that’s my opinion. We got money here that’s being made from the festival and I think we can spend it back in the police department. But like I said, you brought up some good points. Like I said, we don’t think about some looney toon coming into town and shooting up people. We don’t think about that but like I said, you said you’d like to have officers, whatever you feel, try to figure it out and put it in this years budget so you’ll have it. I’ll vote for it.

Boncuk – If we were to go outside, where would you normally get officers from?

Riggin – The only officers would be Greene County Sheriff’s Department.

Boncuk – And they have a flat rate for this service then?

Riggin – Their flat rate is \$40 an hour but you won’t get a deputy here unless it’s \$50 an hour and then I think they have a 4 hour minimum. When I called, that’s what I was told by their coordinator. They said typically it’s \$50 an hour, you need to hit them a couple of months ahead so they can put it on the list.

Petty – So this isn’t defining the security requirements for events.

Riggin – No.

Petty – This is giving us a way to make sure that we are checking all of the boxes to make sure that...

Riggin – Right, security is one component of about six.

Petty – Right, to make sure that we have all of the pieces in place to make events happen successfully when it requires the City’s involvement and/or support. When it comes to deciding what is and is not appropriate security coverage, I think that would go to the City’s attorney to discuss liability in an event and what their recommendation is.

Riggin – Right. Cause we already have an MOU to hire officers off duty. So that’s already done and approved by our attorney. This is to say what other insurances need to be provided for what types of events and you may have somebody fill this out and go I’m only going to have 50 people in the park and only 90% apply but we need a mechanism as a guide on that event to say what else could we provide, should we provide or is this an event we approve of.

Petty – Is there a threshold for when to or minimum requirements for once met you have to have a permit to have your event? Obviously taking your family to the park isn’t but what’s that liable that’s okay, this is an event that I probably need to take to the City and request a permit for?

Riggin – I think it would be great for you guys to decide that as a City.

Petty – K.

Riggin – Because I brought it up because of how it affected me and the police department and when I did my research with other cities, not one Chief houses this system. They are a part of it. It comes to them after City works, and on and on and on. It should go to the clerks, city works, they call the fire district, you guys need any part of this, they'd say no, and so on and then it comes to the Chief and the department to see what their part might be. Does that make sense?

Petty – Absolutely. It also helps provide, I know whenever you started, the first festival that came up and actually I think it was, was it the Ice Cream Social. There was an event and the question was, is the police department going to support this event and I think his response was, what does that mean, am I supposed to have people there. It wasn't the Ice Cream Social, it was something else.

Riggin – There's been two or three events cause it's all new to me to start with so the natural question is what is our part and since there were no mechanisms in place to define whose role does what, I feel like, I'm just that OCD guy, I feel like a mechanism is safe for all of us.

Petty – It was somewhat haphazard cause I also didn't know. This Board is new, hasn't been involved in every event and planning for that. I think it's a great proposal and I would like more time to look through it and run it through the attorney.

Riggin – And really that's my intent is to bring it to you to discuss, to vet it out but I think a mechanism that brings continuity moving forward is what's needed and I think it helps everybody because then it sets the expectation for those groups too. Their expectations are always set, there's no questions. There's not who does what.

Boncuk – I think that also eliminates the, if there is any question about favoritism, it's like no, this is what we go by, this is what you're asked to follow along and it's the same for everybody.

Riggin – And to be fair really, what the Historical Society has done has set a pretty good standard. They're doing everything essentially here. They've set kind of a standard. I'm trying to codify into a system what I began seeing bits and pieces of as I made phone calls last fall. So really kudos to them for doing what they've done for all these years cause it works very well.

Cooke – Agreed.

Riggin – They gave me the idea really, they just don't know it.

Petty – And as far as the permit fee, that would be proposed and decided by the council...

Riggin – That's why it's blank.

Petty – Do you mind if I open it up for public comment?

Public Comment Open

Brittany Counterman – I just have a question regarding the Parks. I know that you were talking about like events on park property, and obviously it would be a further discussion with how many people are included but when we host our back-to-school event, we have anywhere from 300 to 500 people there at one time. We don't typically ask for security, maybe we should be, but are those kinds of things, since we are the park and we're on park property, are we excluded from that and more so than just our back-to-school event. Let's take baseball for example, during baseball I have 415 kids playing so on an average night we're probably seeing 250 to 300 people cause we play 4 nights a week so like if they determined any event with over 50 people would require this, do I have to fill out that request for every single game night, every single back to school event. Is that something that we're going to have to file every single time we have people at the park?

Riggin – This is a park sponsored event, right?

Counterman – Correct.

Riggin – Which is a City function, correct?

Counterman – Right.

Riggin – So you guys have your own insurances, you have your own policies, procedures, you have your own board, all of that's already covered. What happens is when you have a private group, they are not associated with the City, they have their own bylaws, their own agreements, their own insurances, we need to transfer that to us so we are not held liable if something goes on. Their insurance will cover us, so no.

Counterman – Right. So if somebody wanted to rent the Park for a birthday party, that's when this would come in?

Riggin – I think so.

Counterman – Okay.

Riggin – If they decide a threshold is we have 10 people, well if you go to Springfield and you want to have a birthday party in the park and you don't have a permit, you're getting run off by the park police.

Counterman – And I'm assuming that's something where the Board of Aldermen would have to determine if they're renting the Park, what portion of that goes to the City and what portion of that comes back to the Park then I'm assuming cause we would have to staff those events. I mean, I typically work them but I'm assuming that would be a discussion when the Aldermen decide if they're going to implement this what that looks like. It would be a discussion with the Park Board.

Petty – Yeah and I think that's a good collaboration point between the City and the Park. If we adopt this and there is a portion that involves renting the park for some fee, I think you should be part of that discussion so that we can talk through what that looks like and make sure you are included in that decision making on what's provided, what's not provided.

Riggin – See, it's already happening. This is the collaboration that a system like this starts to bring to the table so that nobody has questions. So I don't have to get on a phone on a Monday morning and go I have no idea what's happening at the Park, there's 400 people.

Counterman – So in the meantime, we have adopted an opportunity for people to rent the park and then we have our bounce houses that we rent for birthday parties, obviously it's winter so we're not doing very many of those but should we be putting those on hold until the Board of Aldermen makes a decision?

Petty – You are your own entity under the umbrella of the City with your bylaws and your rules and your business operations.

Riggin – The top of this says for private citizens who are wanting to rent, use, modify City property, streets or anything like that. Private groups.

Boncuk – *inaudible* National Night Out *inaudible* Tim and I with the PCAC, because we are not an entity with the City.

Riggin – Yep. Same thing. You're inviting, say 200 people to public property, what are the rules.

Boncuk – Okay.

Lauren Cunningham – I have a question. I'm on the Chamber, so we have an Easter Egg Hunt that is held at the Mill at the pavilion, we don't shut down any streets, we don't generally...

Riggin – So it's not on City property.

Cunningham – So it does not include you guys, right?

Riggin – Yep.

Cunningham – Okay. There's a lot of people involved so I just wanted to...

Riggin – Once you start asking us to modify traffic, or modify behavior in town, so much so that it requires changes, yes we need to go by it, my opinion.

Cunningham – I mean, I don't know how many people typically show up to it but it's on private property.

Riggin – That's your yard. You can have a house party on your yard.

Ricky Icenhower – Let's go back to the festival. If we had 3 additional officers, 10 hours a day, so that's 60 hours at \$50 an hour that's \$3,000 so do you just allocate that in your existing budget now to cover for that?

Riggin – I believe that's what Franklin was saying. So I believe at next years budget...

Icenhower – Not add it in the budget, stay in the existing budget.

Riggin – Oh, the one I have now?

Icenhower – Yeah.

Riggin – Probably since I'm always so short here. Like we're currently two positions down, probably could for this fall but if I was to hire 2 officers right now, the additional cost, so instead of the \$66,000 a year to have an officer, I would be like \$80 something to hire two your first year right cause that's first year startup, plus insurance and all that, I don't know what that would look like.

Roy Kirkpatrick – So ideally, how would you, this year, what would you want this year, ideally, to cover the fall festival?

Riggin – I don't really want to talk about all of my operational *inaudible* I really don't.

Kirkpatrick – That is the question cause that would open up the ideas.

Riggin – We've already talked. We're going to have a conversation with their Board that the Historical Society will agree to so that's a conversation that I feel like we need to have with them

before we address it publicly so I would rather not tell everyone in Fair Grove what I think I want to staff that with.

Kirkpatrick – Cause I would like to think in a sense we have sort of a super weapon cause Arnott is from Fair Grove.

Riggin – But Arnott doesn't want to pay our bills.

Kirkpatrick – I understand that but how much can we lean on him a little bit to maybe want to bring in a few officers because my next question would be how many officers per capita, would you say 1 officer for 10,000 people, would you say 1 officer for 1,000 people, what would you look for?

Petty – I think that's a different, a separate discussion more specific to the event that he would provide us a recommendation but ultimately the decision comes down to the City and what the City is willing to support the Chief on providing.

Kirkpatrick – I understand that but doesn't the City reflect what the people want?

Petty – And then we would get a recommendation from the attorney as far as what we are liable for and what is recommended.

Riggin – Some insurances require a certain amount of security and I have not seen the Historical Society's insurance writer so I'm not sure what their insurance would require if it does at all. Besides that, if I invite 25,000 people and I have 3 officers for security, that's not security because I can't secure the roads. You have one car drive through the crowd, you've got 45 casualties and 150 people down. If you get one shooter, I don't have enough officers to respond to stop the shooting and then stop the dying so now I have triage that I'm not able to do. So it's complicated and it's not a conversation I'm going to get into tonight.

Petty – So is there anymore discussion about Chief's proposal for us to consider and event permit?

Chari Burrell – Excuse me, Ms. Kelly.

Petty – Yes ma'am?

Burrell – We're not completely done with public comment.

Petty – Okay.

Burrell – Okay. Mary's first and then me.

Mary Terry – I think, you know, I appreciate him saying that we do a great job. We do show that we have insurance, the requirement I believe, so I don't know what else that you need from us showing that we are insured. And again, you kind of separated out in your own regulations regarding the Heritage Reunion so we have been following those to the best of our ability. Is this, again, is this something else we're going to have to fill out too beyond the ordinances?

Burrell – Ordinances.

Terry – That allow us the permit to have the festival.

Petty – So, that's a great call out. Thank you for bringing up the fact that it is an ordained city function and would likely fall under a different process. All of this is just theoretical discussion and it's not your event specifically. There's no penalty or anything that we've identified as wrong with what's happening with the festival. There are other events that happen in the City that have been the hey Chief, I'm doing this, Alderman so and so said I could, I need you and nobody knows what's going on. Your event is very organized and you do, you follow all of the steps, you follow the ordinances to a tee, you provide insurance to the City. All this would do, if we adopt it and if it does include you, it may not because I would like the attorney to take that into consideration that we do have ordinances that cover the festival, all of that to say it's just something that puts it on paper that's traceable that says the Historical Society has told us that they do X,Y,Z every year and this paper says they did X,Y,Z this year. As far as the fee, I don't know what that would look like or even if that cost would be transferred onto the Historical Society or anyone. All of this is just up for discussion and there is nothing that the Historical Society has done wrong or isn't doing right and is being asked to change at this time.

Terry – Okay cause everything is already in works, not only for the festival but the ice cream social and such. Again, the ice cream social, Chari went to the Park Board and asked permission to do fireworks because we...

Petty – At this time, there is nothing in place that we are requiring anything at all from anyone.

Cooke – So the reason I brought up the festival cause that is our biggest thing that we do here and it wasn't out of question so much as concern because I personally don't want to tamper with what you guys are doing and put more stress on you. So that is why I used that as an example so don't confuse what I'm saying.

Chari Burrell – I appreciate the fact that you're saying the festival or the Historical Society is not being singled out here, but that's not the way it feels. The Park Board's exempt, I get that they're exempt because they're under you all. The Chamber is exempt except for possibly Main Street Christmas so we feel like it's targets.

Petty – Is the Chamber exempt?

Davis – The Chamber is not exempt.

Petty – The Chamber's not exempt.

Leon Burrell – They are for the Easter Egg.

Chari Burrell – Which is fine cause it's on private property....

Leon Burrell – It's private property.

Chari Burrell – They're going to have to do Main Street Christmas event, okay, alright. So my thing would be, yes, we follow all the ordinances to a tee, we study them, we know them. So we would invite some of you all to come to our meetings so that you can hear the plans that we already have in place. Because we get with Road Runner to get our own traffic barriers and things so that we don't have to put more responsibility on the Fair Grove Police Department.

Petty – When are your meetings?

Chari Burrell – The third Tuesday of every month at the fire station. 7:30.

Riggin – It's on my calendar.

Kirkpatrick – I think what Chief is trying to explain is that there is huge exposure for all of us as Fair Grove citizens.

Chari Burrell – I understand that but there is no way that anyone in this town can afford the insurance for a terrorists activity.

Leon Burrell – No way.

Chari Burrell – If that is what we're seriously concerned about happening in Fair Grove then we're going to have to cancel.

Leon Burrell – The Historical Society...

Kirkpatrick – Ma'am, I'm sorry, I'm not trying to get you riled up but I'd rather have boots on the ground...

Chari Burrell – You didn't get me riled up.

Kirkpatrick – I'd rather have boots on the ground with something to protect my back and I think everyone needs to understand that today because our climate...

Chari Burrell – I understand that, I just...

Kirkpatrick – And where we live.

Chari Burrell – I'm just saying that we cannot insure against all eventualities.

Petty – So I believe that the insurance you provide the City has been sufficient every year and this is not going to result in us asking for additional insurance or additional cost to be incurred by the Historical Society.

Chari Burrell – Just on the security personnel side of things.

Petty – Perhaps but we had the recommendation that maybe we budget for that. Knowing that this is a City ordained event that we know of in advance, is this what we want to build into the police budget for this next cycle. All of this is in favor of supporting the City sponsored events as well as the Heritage Festival and really just the residents of the community. We want people to be able to have events, attend events safely, that's what makes Fair Grove special is to bring that piece here. I would never even want to pretend to say that we're trying to come after the Historical Society because that is not true at all.

Chari Burrell – Okay.

Boncuk – If I can give an example, what I think is a good example and why I think Chief is putting something like this together. When PCAC did the National Night Out last year, a couple occasions I reached out to Kennie to say, hey Kennie can we look into, there's a food truck we want to have out here and they need this certain kind of outlet. Kennie told me that he would look into it but that's not really Kennie's place to look into that. That's not who we should have gone to about that. This gives us a mechanism now that when people come along and want to, because as we're growing the PCAC has events. The Park Board has many more events, again they fall under the office of, but as we're growing, there's more people that see hey, this is a great community, this is a great place to hold an event like this. When we did the Shop with a Hero, we affected a lot of kids and what I'm hoping is other communities will say oh hey, they did that, why can't we. This just gives a mechanism to, I believe, to check all of the boxes and say oh you need electrical, no, you don't call Kennie about it. You call this person or you go here.

Petty – For the record, I would love to have more events. They're my favorite thing about Fair Grove.

Hodges – Is there any way possible that you can go talk to anybody that'd be concerned about this? The Chamber, the Lions Club, the school and get their opinion on what you're thinking and talk to 'em and maybe have them come to the next meeting or the meeting after that?

Petty – I think that's on us, Franklin.

Riggin – I was going to say I don't really think that's my place as the police chief.

Hodges – Well I don't know exactly what he's wanting by this paper. I need to hear it from him to talk to 'em cause it's his baby. You're making this up.

Petty – He has provided the City with the framework to be a little more structured in how we support events in the city.

Hodges – I read this, like I said...

Petty – It's completely up to us.

Hodges - ...it's sort of open to a degree I mean for me, and I think a lot of people it would be but like I said, you can explain to 'em just like you're explaining to us. It's up to you. If you don't want to, that's okay.

Riggin – It's not that I don't want to. It's not my place because you guys get to decide if you want it. If you vote this down, it doesn't change what I do for my security in the city, not one iota.

Hodges – I just want to make sure people agree with it. I don't want to have a disagreement. You vote it in and they come up here and say oh, we don't know about this, we didn't understand it and stuff, you know. Stuff will probably pass over but I think we need to do our best to try and reach out.

Cooke – One final question just to kind of pick your brain on this. Once again, as an example, we'll use the festival. For security purposes, would we be looking at a mandate of having to use recognized law enforcement officers or could we rely on a citizen patrol?

Riggin – It depends on what you want. Citizen patrol, that's always helpful because the citizen patrol are really good witnesses. If you have people that have medical training and you have a medical emergency, they're extra eyes. If you want law enforcement that deal with conduct, traffic controls, traffic backups, any matter of criminal activity that might be brought to an event like this then your citizen patrol would be good witnesses but they don't have law enforcement powers. So really, I can but what it amounts to is what do you guys think, what do you see. I can tell you what I think based on all of my professional colleagues that were here at this festival and

their concerns and I agree with their concerns from a law enforcement standpoint but as police chief, I'm under your direction to say no we're not going to do this or we are going to do this. I'm going to make recommendations and I am going to go to the Historical Society's meeting to have discussions with them but currently they don't have to take my recommendations either. They just don't and that's okay if you're okay with that.

Petty – But also, we're not making...

Riggin – As your employee.

Petty – We're not making that decision. We're not even talking about that decision tonight. We're just talking about creating the mechanism.

Riggin – That is it. The only thing I presented to you was out of seeing a hole. There's no mechanism to codify the entire city government in one mechanism, one form for these events to make sure all of the check boxes are checked, everybody's on the same page and the thing runs smoothly and we're not liable or if we are liable, that liability is covered somehow.

Petty – Any other comments from the public? I don't want to cut anybody off.

Public Comment Closed

Riggin – Last thing, it will only take me 3 minutes. So many meetings ago someone brought up the hazard mitigation on the bridge at 125 and 65 there. The short of the long is, my conversations with the engineers at MoDot, it doesn't rise to the level that they would actually put forward the...

Petty – I think you have to save this for your police report out during the business meeting since it's not relevant to this agenda item.

Riggin – Oh, okay. We'll do that.

Petty – Alright, does the Board want to make any action or motion on this tonight? I don't think we're at a point to be able to do that personally.

Boncuk – No.

Davis – Would you like for me to send it to the attorney and have her review it or would you guys rather review it for a little bit?

Hodges – What's it costing when we take it to the attorney for this stuff?

Davis – Probably \$125 for the email.

Petty – I would like to review it a little bit closer. I do like the recommendation to go to the different meetings and find out what/if any impact this could have. I also want to take a look at the ordinances that cover the festival itself to see if it would negate their responsibility in having to fill this out.

Davis – Okay, so nothing be done on it, at all?

Petty – Not at this time.

Davis – Okay, perfect.

Business Meeting

SEWER AND PUBLIC WORKS

Discussion

Hokanson – I really don't have a whole lot. This is our new snow plow man.

Davis – You've got to talk up, Kennie.

Hokanson – He done a good job. I'm proud of him.

Petty – Can I take your picture?

Hokanson – Not with me.

Petty – No, you have to be in it.

Hokanson – No.

Louthan – Come on, man.

Hokanson – Alright.

Petty – Thank you. I think there was a picture of you driving posted.

Hokanson – There was.

Louthan – There was, caught me in the act.

Hokanson – Just before he ran over that sign.

Petty – You didn't hit my mailbox, did you?

Hokanson – Twice. No, you did a great job.

Petty – How are you on salt and streets?

Hokanson – Good on salt. I think the streets are about melted off. We did another salt around I think 2 loads today, kind of hit the shady spots and I'd say by tomorrow we'll be in pretty good shape.

Petty – Do you hit every road in town?

Hokanson – Yep. Every road.

Brittany Counterman - except when people don't move their car off the street?

Hokanson – Except when people don't move their car off the street, exactly.

Petty – We did attempt...

Hokanson – And it's really hard not to plow those where they can't get them out.

Counterman- So if I move my car off the street, you'll plow it? I'm just kidding.

Hokanson – I'll plow it in where you can't get it out.

Boncuk – I will say that someone must have seen the post about that cause there's a home on our street that usually has 3 cars on the street and one in the driveway.

Petty – I believe someone took it upon themselves to go door to door and tell people to pull their cars into their driveway.

Hokanson – But if you go on that side of town or that side of town, they can't read.

Petty – Or they may not have come across the post that recommended that people not park in the street.

Hokanson – See, the funny thing about it, I've been here for 16 years and we've said it every year. They still don't get it. Oh well, it is what it is.

Cooke – I've received two phone calls the last couple of days. One lady was sorry, she tried to catch you guys to bring you coffee and she missed you and someone else reached out to say that

you guys were doing a great job and we had someone on our social media page that said this year is the best job they've ever seen this done.

Petty – It was probably Colton.

Cooke – You guys have been out and busting your ass and...

Hokanson – We tried.

Louthan – I think he taught me better this time.

Cooke – Now when I rolled up on them, he was driving the truck and I wasn't sure about that but I only seen that one stop sign go down.

Petty – Did you actually run over a sign?

Louthan – No, no.

Hokanson – Outside of that, everything else is going good.

Petty – How's sewer?

Hokanson – It's as good as it can be for as cold as it is.

Petty – Does it freeze? It moves.

Hokanson – It can but with the warm water coming in, it normally keeps it going. Haven't had no issues yet. Anybody got any questions? I'm sure you do. No?

Hodges – If I ask you a question are you gonna act up to me?

Hokanson – No. I'll answer your question if I can answer it. The best of my ability.

Hodges – Just to bring it up to the Board tonight, I've been out driving around on the skid steer and I get to see the streets right there. But I was gonna bring it up to you, is there anything we can do with Maple Street? It's all cracking up. Is there anything we can do to it that ain't going to cost a fortune to fix that?

Hokanson – No. It cost a lot of money to fix it. You'd have to...

Hodges – I mean, have you noticed it?

Hokanson - Micro-seal it. Umm, yeah, but that's not the only street in town cracking up.

Hodges – I know, I know, I'm just pointing it out. I just noticed it driving through on the skid steer cause I'm right there and I said I didn't notice this street was busted up like that. And it's not in good shape. I mean, it's not falling apart yet but it's all cracks.

Petty – So that's a good observation and we can add that to our budget discussion for next year and if that we can and...

Hodges – This year?

Hokanson – No.

Petty – Next year.

Hokanson – It can't happen this year.

Petty – This year we do not have the funds to do micro-sealing on any streets but if that's something that we want to plan for next year...

Hodges – Much better to seal the streets, isn't it? Instead of water getting down there and freezing it and busting it up even more.

Hokanson – Yeah, we've done a lot of streets lately with micro-seal. It's about an inch pressure pave that goes over the top of it.

Hodges – Whenever you can, find out what it is and see what's going on if we can get the money.

Hokanson – We don't have the money this year to do that.

Hodges – I know. You just said that, yeah I know.

Petty – So I think next year, budget time, I think if you can come with a recommendation of streets that need micro-sealing, give us kind of an idea of what it would cost and then we can decide if this is something we can add to the budget to cover. It would be helpful to know which ones rate severity, which ones are the worst.

Hokanson – Most of them are going to be on the list too.

Hodges – Mmhmm. I know there's several streets in town that need work.

Cooke – Did Brad’s equipment end up getting utilized for the storm?

Hokanson – Yep. He did pretty much all of the south side. We did the cul-de-sacs. It’s hard to get that grader in there and turn it around so we did it in the truck but he did all of the southside over there.

Cooke – Awesome. Good job, boys!

Hokanson – Thank you.

[Public Comment Open](#)

[Public Comment Closed](#)

BUILDING INSPECTOR

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

[Discussion](#)

Petty – You have in your packet the financial statement from Larry.

[Public Comment Open](#)

[Public Comment Closed](#)

Motion by Cooke to approve the financials as submitted. Seconded by Boncuk
Cooke AYE, Boncuk AYE, Petty AYE, Hodges AYE

PARK BOARD

[Discussion](#)

Kailey Newbrough – I just wanted to say that I was under the impression that we had people representing the Park Board at the meetings so no one’s been here and we are going to make more of an effort to be at the meetings. At our last meeting we had \$337,000 in the account, we are currently 6 board members. We are getting ready to hopefully hire a seasonal worker from March through October and then Brittany wanted to give some numbers for basketball.

Brittany Counterman – We continue to see about a 30% growth for all of our sports year over year. For basketball we had 225 kids from Fair Grove and we also accepted a team from Pleasant Hope that came into play so we are just over 230 kids playing. With that, we’ve seen a little bit of disaster. The school is quickly outgrowing the school and because of that, they graciously let us use their facilities, but when you have 230 kids playing basketball, we have 31 teams in total and we only have 2 nights to practice so basically what we’re looking at is I have 31 teams practicing on 2 different nights with 3 different gyms and it gives them 30 minutes of practice, most of them only get half court because they have to share the gym with another team. So that’s

kind of some of what we're running into and then tons of schedule conflicts. In just the 6 weeks that we have the school, we started January 5th for practices, we already had to cancel 3 different practice nights and we have to cancel games next weekend because there's scheduling conflicts with school sponsored activities. So we're starting to have a really hard time continuing to use the school for those programs. The school just doesn't have enough space and we don't have space so that's kind of what we're seeing with our growth.

Newbrough – Kimberly has had to step away from the Treasurer position and Jessica has stepped into that position. She has started working with the grant writer that we've had but she seems to be having more luck with contact. So basically we're looking into our options.

Counterman – We have checked with the City Engineer and he is going to come to our next meeting I think.

Newbrough – We are just worried about basketball next year so we are just going to be working on that and our options.

Petty – Do you have to pay to rent the school?

Counterman – No.

Newbrough – Do y'all have any questions?

Cooke – That is something that Mark and I discussed with you guys some time ago about the need for a rec center at the park and I would like to see us move forward on that. With the City Engineer coming to take a look at stuff, it seems we're heading in that direction. But you guys definitely need it. We've used the school for basketball, well my oldest boy is 25 and he was playing park basketball there at 5 years old so it's time to kind of get our own facility.

Counterman – And I do think the grant that they've located is like up to \$500,000 if we're able to secure that and I think there's been discussion on potentially a lease purchase with the City so that's kind of what we're meeting with the engineer with and we are looking at the financial standpoint, like if we're able to get the grant, we can kind of know after talking over the financials, I don't know who Kimberly talked to but somebody smarter than me but they determined what we could kind of afford if we went that route. So, we're kind of hoping to figure something out about the grant and then putting the grant with the potential lease purchase and that would give us the opportunity to maybe have, it wouldn't be a big fancy multi-million dollar building by any means but it would give us a couple of basketball courts, some offices and some storage and then it would allow us to have some indoor space for events when we can't do them outdoors as well.

Petty – Awesome.

Newbrough – Hopefully more to come.

Petty – I’m very excited for you guys to come report out these updates.

Hodges – You guys have done a great job.

Cooke – Absolutely.

Hodges – My grandkids come and play with the soccer. I thought that wasn’t gonna be worth a hoot, first game I went to, ate a lot of crow that night. I said man, I can’t believe how many kids come to the soccer. The baseball, they play in that too and what I really like about it was, I notice a lot of grandparents there watching their grandkids. Bringing a lot of something to Fair Grove community. It’s a good thing. Thank you guys again. Thank everybody that’s involved in the Park Board for what their doing.

Boncuk – I have a question for you guys. How successful has the adult softball been?

Counterman – We only have one adult softball field so my schedule is limited to about 6 teams per session. The very first session we did, we had 6 teams in a matter of 45 minutes within me opening registration so we added a second night so we were full on two nights for the first session and then we only ran one night for the second two sessions. So we’ve had absolutely no problem getting adult softball. We’ll start early spring, so like right after spring break with adult league and we’ll run adult league all the way through November I think this year. So that will start mid March.

Public Comment Open

Public Comment Closed

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Discussion

Greg Porter – Not a whole lot to report. As you know, the Hazard Mitigation Plan has been finally completed as well as our emergency operation plan has been completed and we finally got our copy just before the incoming snow storm this past week. We collaborated on the back end with City leaders, police chief, fire chief and some of you on the Board here to try and plan for the worse possible outcome and fortunately it didn’t come but we were able to get the emergency operation plan into effect. So it was good to get everyone collaborating together. With that, I know you’ve already mentioned it but I received many comments on the road department as well thanking them and praising them for all of the work that they’ve done so I wanted to publicly acknowledge them as well for all of their hard work so, thank you guys! Other than that, not a lot.

Hodges – When you post up your stuff, I seen it on there and stuff, do you use all the pages in Fair Grove?

Porter – I...

Hodges – Like Fair Grove Community, Fair Grove Missouri...

Porter – I don't have access to all of those so I just post to Fair Grove Emergency Management page and then....

Hodges – Is there any way possible you can do that?

Porter – It would take somebody just wanting to share it.

Hodges – That's what I mean, just to share it. Nobody will see it on the other page where you're at. Just like with the Fair Grove page. Nobody sees that much but if you put it on there on the other pages, people will see it.

Porter – We're approaching 1,000 followers so there's people that are seeing it and commenting on the back end.

Petty – I see people share his posts into the groups.

Hodges – I haven't seen much of it, you know, on the other pages. If there has been much. Like I said, I seen it the other day. You thanked me on something or did something, I don't remember what it was.

Porter – I only have access to my page, I don't have access to the City page, the community page so it's kind of a collaborative deal where those people need to share.

Cooke – That's generally what we do.

Hodges – If it's an emergency you know, if you could hit them top 3 pages here in town, people will see it if it's an emergency.

Porter – I guess I could go on my personal and share it to those pages.

Hodges – I don't know.

Porter – The Fair Grove Community page, something along those lines.

Hodges – Yeah. One’s Fair Grove Community, Fair Grove Missouri, and Uncensored. That’s the three main pages I hit a lot of times.

Porter – K.

Cooke – Thank you for putting that group discussion together. It’s better to be prepared and not use it then to be caught with our pants down.

Porter – Absolutely.

Cooke – It’s my understanding after talking to Randall, we didn’t have anyone in need of any type of emergency services per what we had in place for the duration of the storm.

Porter – And kudos to a lot of the community too, they stayed off the roads and let the crews do what they needed. It was kind of the message that we were trying to put out and a lot of people got the message which is awesome.

Public Comment Open

Public Comment Closed

Cooke – Thanks, Greg!

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Discussion

Petty – You can speak now.

Chief Riggin – I won’t create as much controversy as last time. I hope not. I was tasked by the Board several months ago to look at the bridge issue that someone had brought up, maybe some sort of mitigation involving MoDot for 65 and the 125 bridge.

Petty – They wanted to do a traffic study for a stop light.

Riggin – Yeah. I contacted MoDot and I was contacted by one of their engineers. Several years ago a study exactly like it was done, they have 8 standards they use to judge any project by and there’s like 3 that apply to this scenario. Several years ago, I think he said he wasn’t the actual engineer that did it but he read it and whoever did it looked at the 3 main categories that they would use to judge it several years ago, none of it met a standard to mitigate a traffic patterns there. So I asked him currently what he was looking at and he was using two standards and he said of the 2 standards he looked at, it still doesn’t meet. My traffic violations, my crash type and my numbers of crashes. Even if it did meet the 2 or 3 standards that MoDot sets, engineering standards, to do something, it would go to a committee, they would then vote on it to allocate a project be done and then that goes to a funding mechanism. He said it would most likely not survive the last two parts anyway. He said he’s not giving me a hard no but I said how likely is it

and he said very unlikely. So basically I just wanted to give you an update. I did contact them, there were engineers looking at it, no real change by volume of crash type from several years ago so it's highly unlikely that MoDot will do something out there for traffic patterns. Questions?

Petty – Thank you for making the request.

Riggin – And I wasn't the only one. They said two citizens called as well so I was like the third request.

Petty – Anything else?

Riggin – All is good.

Public Comment Open

Public Comment Closed

CITY CLERK

Discussion

Davis – I just want to let you guys know that we have our software up and running. It's on our website under the Planning and Zoning tab. That tab is still a work in progress but you can go on there and do your building permits, you can file complaints, you can do a rezone application and I think that's about it. But yep, it's up and going.

Petty – Awesome.

Davis – Yeah.

Petty – Has anybody used it?

Davis – Not yet.

Public Comment Open

Public Comment Closed

Petty – Thank you, Sara.

Davis – You're welcome.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Discussion

Emergency Services (Stewart, Cooke)

Cooke – We kind of just touched on it. The long and short of it is it's been a very quiet winter until a few days ago and Mark and I were involved in a text based planning session with Greg,

Chief Riggins and Randall and we had laid out where our warming centers would be in the event of power outages, what would be done and luckily none of that had to be utilized but there was a plan in place there. Really, like I said, it's been quiet until last week, we haven't really had much we had to focus on. From looking at the weather it looks like next week could be another go of it but we'll see what happens. That's all I've got for that.

Public Relations (Cooke, Petty, Boncuk)

Cooke – So on my end of that, all I can add is we've been doing our best, my best, to keep reports being put out there on our website, Facebook, whatever it is. There's been some things I've missed here and there but I feel like we've done a good job at relaying information through this event as need be including the street parking request, we got that out there. We utilized that to make sure everyone knew City Hall would be closed yesterday. That's really all I have there.

Planning and Zoning (Boncuk)

Petty – Meetings have been cancelled the last 3 or 4 times so nothing to report.

Park Board (Stewart, Cooke)

Human Resources (Stewart, Petty)

Finance (Petty, Stewart)

Community Outreach (Hodges, Boncuk)

Hodges – About the only thing I got to share is God's Ministry out at our place. I don't know if you guys are following along or anything but God's been doing miracles out at our place. We've been averaging 300 to 400 families each time we give food away and it just blows me away what he's doing. We had 500 families a month ago come through and we help other ministries around with the food pantries and church pantries, anybody that needs help. I put a deal up, I felt that God was going to be doing something, opening doors for this ministry and a week or two ago, whatever it was, I called the place to get food, I said hey, you got anything for us, contacted me back a few minutes later and I hate texting but they gave us a semi load full of eggs. That was 21,800 dozen eggs we gave away in 3 days. We blessed people in Ash Grove, Willard, Bolivar, Tin Town, Buffalo, Lebanon, Marshfield. We reached out there and there was one that really touched my heart was it's a woman's ministry in Springfield where they take women in that's abused and stuff and they feed them. Didn't know about this so we're going to put them on our list to do it. But, like I said, God's moving here in Fair Grove and our little ministry we've got. It's God's ministry, it ain't mine. Satan tried to attack us on that day with the eggs and stuff, tried to get us in trouble, didn't do no good. The people don't understand. It's not Franklin Hodges ministry, it's God's ministry. When you attack this ministry, you're not attacking me, you're attacking God. But it didn't do no good, God's in control, Satan can't touch us. But just, be a part of this ministry. We're having between 20 and 30 families come out every time to help give out the food. A few weeks ago we had, it's amazing, we had 51 people come out and helped us.

Unreal. But any people that wants to come can be a part of it. If you see anybody in need I've got some chicken, some drinks and stuff out there at the shop to help people. If somebody needs emergency food, we got some, not a lot and it's amazing what God's doing this week. Thursday I'm going to go pickup a semi load. The place where I get the food from told me, we're going to start giving you one semi load a month. We wasn't guaranteed that before. It was one every 3 months but God has been amazing on it. She called and talked to me again and next week I'm getting a whole semi load, 24 skids of drinks and they're bringing it to us, I don't got to go get it. Thursday I'm going to go pick up this load at 1:00. I don't know when we're gonna give it out because of the temperatures and the weather but we're doing what God wants and I'm just amazed at what goes on. So share with your friends, anybody that needs help, tell them to get ahold of me. Facebook or my telephone number. That's about it.

Petty – Thank you!

Public Works (Petty, Hodges, Boncuk)

Petty – Update on the sidewalk project Phase 2, we published for bid requests for Phase 2 sidewalks and we have some companies that we are sending the request directly to as well as publishing it into the newspaper, Buffalo Reflex. Is that the only...

Davis – That's the one that we reach out to, yes.

Petty – It has to be 21 days after it's published before we can officially open bids but pretty excited that we're...

Davis – Finally there.

Petty – We're going to actually have some progress that we can show to the public.

Hodges – Did you guys find anything out on that virgin ground deal from the last meeting?

Petty – That's Phase 3. I have nothing to report back on that yet. But it's still an open item that's being worked on.

Hodges – Isn't it grant money or something to get it, wasn't it? It was with the grant money that you had to have that done?

Petty – What was the question?

Davis – It was a requirement, yeah.

Hodges – The virgin ground deal, you were gonna do it and I told you that the land it was on, he had to get up and tell you...

Leon Burrell – We’ve got it covered.

Hodges – Okay.

Petty – So still, we have to get it through MoDot for them to stamp it and say yes cause right now in their books they say we have to and we have to do burden of proof to show that we did our research as well, please take this into consideration. It’s still ultimately their say what we have to do to be eligible for the grant money.

Hodges – I mean, Leon can show that there is, it’s not virgin ground and we shouldn’t have to pay \$6,000 or \$10,000 for some kind of study.

Petty – I agree.

Hodges – So we need to stay on top of it if you can.

Petty – We are. That’s all I have.

Davis – Perfect.

Petty – Alright.

Davis – Oh, the culvert. I think they are starting some time in February.

Petty – Thank you.

Davis – You’re welcome.

Petty – So we awarded the bid for the South Main, Saddle Club culvert there. We awarded that project to LaFollette. They are starting that project in February. Did he give us a date?

Davis – Kennie, do you know the date?

Hokanson – I don’t know the exact date. I know it’s gonna be pretty quick. As soon as the weather kind of breaks a little bit so they can get to work.

Petty – Awesome. So this is our very first project from the bond, stormwater management in the identified and recommended culvert study from our City Engineer.

Public Comment Open

Public Comment Closed

APPROVE BOARD OF ALDERMEN MINUTES

Discussion

Public Comment Open

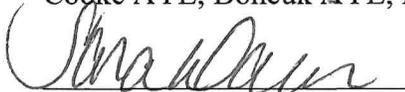
Public Comment Closed

Motion by Cooke to approve Board of Aldermen minutes for November 25, 2025 and December 9, 2025. Seconded by Boncuk
Cooke AYE, Boncuk AYE, Petty AYE, Hodges AYE

Mayor Report

Adjournment

Motion by Cooke to adjourn at 8:27 p.m. Seconded by Boncuk
Cooke AYE, Boncuk AYE, Petty AYE, Hodges AYE


Sara Davis, City Clerk