

OPEN MEETING

Sheriff Arnott welcomes everyone. Goes over a few rules, while in session, no talking or outburst. If there is you will be escorted out, if you refuse then you will be arrested. If more people want to come in. Please allow them to sit.

Roll Call taken by Mayor Stephen Short
Sherry Veach PRESENT, Leon Beaty PRESENT, Ben Lord PRESENT, Jeffrey Danderson PRESENT, Richard Icenhower PRESENT, Dennis Roe PRESENT

Call to order at: 6:31 p.m.

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

Public Forum

Mayor explains that each person has 3 minutes. Asks when they come to the podium to give name and address.

Ben McMains 322 E. Caddo I want to know where we are with the police department. Arnott was brought in to fix this police department and has done nothing but decimate this police department. There is no one here anymore so why do we have him here? I have heard that there are candidates for the police department and chief. I have seen an ungodly amount of county deputies out here which I appreciate but would like to see city officers here instead. The city is broken. What are your plans to fix the damaged city. I want those questions answered. Those are my concerns as a citizen of Fair Grove. Any feedback? Are we here to talk for 3 minutes and get no response? We can ask questions but get no answers.

Mayor reads statement from former Chief Enderle. (Statement attached)

Brady Dickes 27 W. Draper Not buying into rumors or small-town politics. Actual facts we lost 3 police chiefs since 2020. That's not normal. Under this administration, this is the result we have. Under you, Mayor Short, this is on you. We can't go into personnel matters, and I don't understand why. I would like to give you the opportunity to express that tonight.

Bob Jeffrey 4412 E. Shelby Road. Works for a multi-billion-dollar company and has for 30 years. I have learned perception. I get rumors. I got these records from Sara and there have been 26 closed sessions since 2020. Maybe Ben did something wrong or maybe she did something wrong. I don't know. We see tidbits that pertain to closed sessions. A lot of these are redacted. You don't have to redact the whole thing, redact the names. It is disheartening to see this nonsense going on and only have part of the story. Anyone sitting here is part of the nonsense going on. They have the right to vote, and I encourage that. I served for that right. It's time to tell the truth. Perception plays a lot in this and tonight I found that out.

Ted Wolf – 70 W. Draper Went back through meeting minutes for the last 8 months. I don't remember which month, but there was discussion about how and where the police should patrol. That seems like it should be for the police chief to decide. Twice the police department has

walked out. You're either trying to micromanage and they're leaving because of it, or you're not hiring good people. Either way, it's your fault. You people are failing. FIX IT.

Tim Cooke 209 S. Meadowlark St. – My family has lived in Fair Grove for 8 years. As a family that has called Fair Grove home for decades, it is important to be a part of the community. Your community is hurting right now, and the community feels that the board has done Ben wrong. You have stripped one of our beloved members of his job and brought about psychological damage onto our children as well. I not only blame the aldermen, but I believe that Arnott owes us an apology as well. Share with your community how you plan to restore faith. Why citizens should be able to sleep easy tonight. All of you were voted to sit at this table by these people, they didn't just vote for you, they hired you. Start working for them, please.

Becki Carr 325 E Willow By state statute and city ordinance, you are required to keep minutes only if you keep the voting record. The Mayor just told someone you don't keep minutes of closed session meetings and why are you not keeping minutes in a closed-door session. My next statement is, since questions aren't being answered. In the course of 10 days 458 people that voted for you have signed a petition to get this man back to work. 200 students walked out. Everyone has selfishly sat up here and did what they wanted, NOT what their community wanted.

Thomas Voorhis 28 E. Overbrook Ct. I have been here for 8 years and lived in the city for 5. Haven't been up here as often as I should. My kids are wondering where the officers are since Arnott has taken over. The Officers come by my neighborhood. Doesn't have any officers coming through but have only had 2. Eddie Castleberry being one that leaves at 5:00. We can't even keep a police force on duty to work here. We are showing the kids that nobody cares about the police department. 2 years, 2 police departments. Jim Arnott took the liberty of pointing out that I didn't work out at Greene County on Facebook. We need to reinstate Ben back to the school. The kids want him back. The county is busy. Jim, thank you for your 38 years of service, but Greene County is too busy to handle Fair Grove. You need to take the time and put our law enforcement back together. The money that we are wasting training individuals is wasteful. Three police chiefs in 4 years is uncalled for. We need to make better decisions. I voted for everyone up here. High School students walked out today. How does that look as a community. I don't care if it was at lunch. They need to be up there learning and not walking out because you failed them.

Old Business

New Business

BILL NO. 24-02 AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FAIR GROVE, MISSOURI TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF FAIR GROVE AND THE MISSOURI HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION PROVIDING FOR THE INSTALLATION OF SIDEWALKS THROUGH TAP FUNDS FOR THE AWARD YEAR 2024. (Posted 2-2-24)

Motion by Danderson to have the first reading of Bill No. 24-02 by title only. Seconded by Veach

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

MAYOR READ BILL 24-01 BY TITLE ONLY.

Motion by Danderson to approve the first reading of Bill No. 24-02. Seconded by Veach
Veach AYE, Beaty AYE, Lord AYE, Danderson AYE, Icenhower AYE, Roe AYE

ACCEPT TONIA VICKERY'S RESIGNATION FROM PARK BOARD

Motion by Roe to accept Tonia Vickery's resignation from the Park Board. Seconded by Veach
Veach AYE, Beaty AYE, Lord AYE, Danderson AYE, Icenhower AYE, Roe AYE

ACCEPT STACEY MCCORMICK'S RESIGNATION FROM PARK BOARD

Motion by Roe to accept Stacey McCormick's resignation from the Park Board. Seconded by
Veach
Veach AYE, Beaty AYE, Lord AYE, Danderson AYE, Icenhower AYE, Roe AYE

DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE PARK BOARD APPOINTMENT

MAYOR RECOMMENDS JESSICA CRIM TO PARK BOARD FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE
06/2026

Motion by Beaty to approve Mayor's recommendation to appoint Jessica Crim to the Park Board
for a term to expire 06/2026. Seconded by Veach
Veach AYE, Beaty AYE, Lord AYE, Danderson AYE, Icenhower AYE, Roe AYE

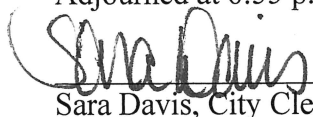
Mayor Report

Icenhower says that Mayor might tell audience what those sidewalks are about. Roe says that
Phase I is putting a sidewalk along Old Mill Road, which that is out for bids in the Buffalo
Reflex. Phase II is putting a sidewalk on South Main from Maple Street to Saddle Club and that
is to get it closer to the Meadow Woods subdivision. We have a Phase III that is coming that will
take it all the way to Meadow Woods and Waterfield subdivision. Also on this TAP grant that is
included in Phase II includes a sidewalk on Orchard from City Hall to the Senior Center and
Phase I has a sidewalk from Old Mill to Kum and Go. So you will see a lot a sidewalk projects in
the next two years.

Adjournment

Motion by Danderson to Adjourn at 6:55 p.m. Second Veach
Veach AYE, Beaty AYE, Lord AYE, Danderson AYE, Icenhower AYE, Roe AYE

Adjourned at 6:55 p.m.


Sara Davis, City Clerk

2-12-2024 m

Mayor, City Council Members and public present

I felt it necessary to make a few remarks on my behalf. Since retiring from law enforcement in June 2023, I have been contacted by numerous business owners and citizens of Fair Grove. Most of my conversations with these folks has been to see what I am up to, if I am enjoying retirement, and wishing me well, although they miss talking to me. However, some have questioned why I retired. I have been asked this verbally by many and have heard some making comments that I was unhappy here. LET ME CLEAR THE AIR! By no means was I unhappy, mad, or in fear of losing my job. As I told the mayor and city council in February, 2023 during a council meeting, I was retiring because God created a miracle for me that I thought would never happen. When he did this, it enabled me to retire from law enforcement after 42 years in the business. Although I miss the citizens, business owners, the city council and employees, I have no regrets. As a matter of fact, I enjoyed the first ice day sitting at home looking out the window. Sorry, FGDOT 1 Kenny I wasn't here to help you.

Like many, I hear things through news media, social media, and concerned citizens of rumors of what is going on here. My simple reply is this - don't believe everything you read, watch on tv or hear. There are two sides to every story. This is the first thing a law enforcement officer has to learn or else the facts are never truly found out.

I feel it is necessary to say when I retired it was not my intention or prediction that the turmoil going on would take place. I'm sorry for the negative publicity Fair Grove is receiving, I feel it is not warranted or necessary.

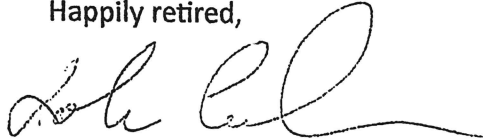
It has always been my belief that as soon as one is able to make a decision, right or wrong, and verbally speak the decision, even at a young age, a person starts to be accountable for those decisions. I have witnessed young people make right and wrong decisions and I have witnessed older people do the same. What makes the person, no matter what, is one who is honest with themselves and is accountable for their decisions. I have personally made numerous poor decisions and have had to own them and take responsibility for their outcome. It's not easy, but it is the right thing to do. I have also personally experienced people making poor decisions who take no accountability for their decisions and who are not honest with themselves. Unfortunately, when this happens someone else is there to hold these folks accountable for their decisions, this seldom has a positive outcome. These people normally blame someone else for the bad outcome instead of just taking responsibility.

I have also felt that people, especially law enforcement officers, have to be honest with themselves and others, be credible, responsible, and accountable. If we possess these attributes life is much easier for all around us.

I realize that I have made recommendations and decisions based on the information I had at hand, and sometimes I have been wrong. I do my best not to make these mistakes, but I take ownership for them and apologize.

I want to thank Sheriff Arnott for what he is doing to help protect the citizens of Fair Grove. I just wish it was under different circumstances.

Happily retired,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Enderle". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John Enderle