

**PLEDGE OF ALLIEGENCE**

Led by Mayor Pro Tem Petty

**OPEN MEETING**

Roll call taken by Mayor Pro Tem Petty

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

Call to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Approve Agenda.**

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

**CLOSED SESSION**

Motion by Cooke to go into Closed Session pursuant to 610.021 (1) legal actions at 6:31 p.m.  
Second Hodges

Boncuk AYE, Hodges AYE, Stewart AYE, Cooke AYE, Petty AYE

Motion by Hodges to go back to open session at 6:51 p.m. Second Boncuk  
Boncuk AYE, Hodges AYE, Stewart AYE, Cooke AYE, Petty AYE

Petty – Before we begin the public forum, I would like to review the guidelines for speaking. All individuals who wish to speak must come forward to the podium and clearly state their name and address for the record. Each speaker will be allotted three minutes. These guidelines apply during the public forum as well as during public comment following each agenda item. Please be advised that this meeting is being recorded. We ask that you speak loudly and clearly to ensure your comments are accurately captured for the record. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Public Forum**

Pat Watson – I come to these meetings, I've never been to one before but on the situation with the sewer leaking into the creek at the park, I'm the one that found that and I did call here to City Hall, no one answered the phone and because as bad as it was, I was not leaving a message. Then I called to talk to Ricky Icenhower but he was busy down there so I turned around and called Franklin. I'm the one who initiated that. My grandchildren were the ones playing in that water. A gentleman did come to me from across the parking lot to tell me to get the kids out of the water and I'm just letting you know. That's where it started. And I called Franklin and reported it and I think he did a great thing as a council member to handle it the way he did. And I just wanted to let you all know that cause that's where it originated from was me.

Petty – Thank you.

Stewart – Thank you for notifying us too.

Tom Voorhis, 28 E. Overbrook Court – First off, I want to say, council, I think you guys are doing an amazing job. I do read your guys minutes. I think you guys are leading the community in a very strong path so I'm grateful for that, for each and every one of you. Franklin, I want to say thank you for letting the community know about this public health safety hazard down there at the park. I'm not in tune with what's happening amongst the council. All I do is read the minutes and I get to read the Facebook quotes. The amazing Facebook that we love so much here in Fair Grove. With that though, there's lots of hate and discontent that I've heard. If it's true, I don't know or not but frankly I want to say thank you for letting the community know about the public health hazard down there at the park. Our kids attend that and if the rumors are true about trying to impeach a man for letting someone know about a public safety hazard that deals with our kids, I believe is absolutely absurd and you members of the council who want to impeach Franklin for that is absolutely absurd. Hopefully in your mind you don't believe that is a right way to go. One, you know, he's allowed to tell the community about a public health safety. He has whistleblower rights and I don't care if the DNR or the EPA come in the city of Fair Grove. If they're here to protect our children playing at the park, it's the right thing to do, k. I don't care if they fine Fair Grove thousands of dollars. It's my taxpayers money and these men and women in this crowd who are paying for that. Our children go to that park, they play in them streams and if it's a public health safety hazard, I don't care, no matter where it's at in the city of Fair Grove, the people in the community should know about it and that should be your first agenda item, to let people know in some form of aspect of either posting it on the wonderful Facebook page that you guys have or in some public form of council members getting on and letting the community know. So, Franklin, thank you for doing that and I'm appreciative of that as I let my kids go down to the park and many other kids. So, thank you!

Hodges – Thank you too.

### **Old Business**

#### **DICUSS AND/OR APPROVE CONTRACTOR REQUIREMENTS (Inspector Coburn)**

##### **Discussion**

Coburn – Okay, so what I'm proposing is a surety bond for contractors when they pull their permits to make sure that they are properly licensed, bonded, insured. Per our municipal code, I would like to \*inaudible\* that surety bonds are required for contractors. I don't know if everybody is familiar with what a surety bond is.

Petty – No.

Coburn – So essentially, I'll just go off of what the code says, I wrote that down. So, requiring a \$10,000 surety bond for contractors inside the city limits of Fair Grove, this is going to be in relation to having liability insurance as well as their State of Missouri business requirements.

Every contractor is supposed to have one, they're submitted to the City when they file for a permit. Basically what this does is it protects the citizens of Fair Grove so if there's a contractor that does shady work or does not provide contract requirements, they basically leave the job before they actually pulled the surety bond, um \$200 to \$300 is about what it is to start that surety bond. It cost nothing to the City to implement this but what it does is it basically gives a back up, it gives the homeowners and it gives the City some ammunition against the contractor for doing something illegal or something shady, along those lines. Smaller municipalities in the State of Missouri require this. It's a real good ammunition to have against a contractor in case they do something like this. I'm currently working in Lowry City and they are up against one of the contractors right now who are doing these types of things and homeowners who are being ripped off only wish that the City were issuing these surety bonds. In my opinion I think it should be a requirement to implement this. \*inaudible\*

Petty – What other municipalities have this requirement?

Coburn – So I know Joplin, City of Joplin, the list of 5 is right here so, Springfield, Ash Grove, basically for the building trades, electrical and plumbing they implement, I believe, a \$10,000 and every other contractor gets \$5,000 surety bond \*inaudible\* which I believe is like \$50 or so. So there are other municipalities that have it. If fines aren't enough, the contractor walks off the job, ignores the codes, it violates city ordinances and it creates a bond that can be tapped after due process, obviously, and any reinspection for damages, for failing to complete contractor requirements. Basically, this protects the citizens of Fair Grove. You're not just left high and dry. I get phone calls all the time at my full-time job, Jacob, I gave this contractor \$10,000 and they just left and they're doing work in the neighboring city. If they had that surety bond, if they had that leverage, they could pull that and they could get something back from what their contractor did.

Petty – What's the cost to the contractor for this?

Coburn – So for a \$10,000 surety bond it's \$100 to \$300 in that ballpark.

Petty – That's paid to, or this is something that they retain for themselves and then are able to present to the City...

Coburn – Yes ma'am. In relation to, they have to have, obviously, their liability insurance, a \$2,000,000 policy and their requirements from the State of Missouri as well.

Stewart – Is that \$100 to \$300 like an annual thing that they have to pay or is that per job?

Coburn – No, that's per the surety bond.

Petty – Annual?

Coburn – So it's fairly cheap and it protects the citizens \*inaudible\*

Petty – Megan, since you're here, can we take advantage of your legal insight?

Megan McCullough – Yeah, absolutely. First of all, this is a good idea, I'm assuming you're talking about performance bonds, so you can also, depending on the size of the project or the value of the project, you can also do a bid bond to secure the bid and then also a performance bond. Lots of cities require both. The bid bonds are usually more effective on the bigger projects where you're requesting proposals, it's a binding offer and acceptance and that way their bid is secure as well and they can't bid, get the City to commit and then all of the sudden say oh, never mind, we can't commit to that timeline we submit with our bid. Then the City automatically gets all of the money that's in the bid bond and they can go to the next bidder. So that's kind of a step one too so you could add that too in addition to the performance bond. I think that \$10,000, that's really modest. I think that would be fine but I think that's being really fair too. And like you said, it's really only a cost of \$100 to \$200 for the contractor and there's no risk to the City, it basically just secures the contractors performance so that they can meet the City's expectations and when they don't, the City has very easy recourse as opposed to almost none at all.

Coburn – It brings in the real reputable contractors and builders. They won't have a problem doing this.

Petty – Any other questions from the Board?

#### Public Comment Open

Andrew Hicks, 227 State Road O – Are you referring, I'm talking to the City Attorney, so when you're talking about City of Fair Grove, are you talking about work done for the City of Fair Grove?

McCullough – Yes.

Hicks – Okay, he's referring to residential.

McCullough – Right. He could do residential, you could do residential too. So different things. So a bid bond, that would be for stuff that the contractor is doing for the City, the surety bond is broader. So yes, he's talking about something broader.

Hicks – Right. So he's talking about them getting \$10,000 from a contractor before they start the work so if there's not a contract already involved in the matter, it doesn't matter anyways on a surety bond or not. So like, if Chris Hodges calls me and says I want you to do this and he gives me \$10,000 and then I start the permit process, it doesn't protect the citizens whatsoever.

McCullough – I'm not sure I understand what you mean. I think you're not really stating it the right way.

Hicks – So he's saying like if somebody hires somebody, they give them money up front to start the job and they never start the job, k, chances are they never got a permit for the job so the surety bond's not gonna go into effect anyways. Like the City of Buffalo, they require a \$100,000 surety bond on everything so it's not the price but you're not really protecting the citizens at that point from them giving somebody money and, you know, unless it's been permitted it's not gonna matter.

Coburn – So the contractor would actually have to go by the Certificate of Insurance, here's my proof that I have a surety bond, the City verifies that so then if the contractor bails on the project that property owner doesn't get left high and dry, they can actually pull from that surety bond to collect some of that money back so they're not just left high and dry.

Hicks – And that's after your lawyer fees and all of that, right?

Coburn – However they \*inaudible\*

Petty – But it doesn't, like Mr. Hicks is saying, it doesn't cover when Sally, I'm making up a name, Sally wants to get her roof repaired and she found a guy and the guy, just them two are talking, they don't get a permit, they don't come to the City, she pays him and then he disappears. It does not cover that but they have already worked outside of the City processes. They did not follow, we then would have recourse to go after the both of them for not following ordinance within the City of Fair Grove to get that work done and not have it permitted.

Hicks – Not if the work's not started.

McCullough – The bond comes up front. Proof of the bond is required before the work can begin under what he's proposing.

Petty – They haven't even started it, ultimately he scammed her and that falls outside of the City's responsibility.

Hicks – Right. I mean, that's not necessarily a protection of that. I mean, if you guys want to do a protection for the City of Fair Grove and then number one you guys should make sure that before anything happens that you guys understand the, like I refuse to work in this town. I just, I absolutely refuse to work in this town. I've had nothing but problems just trying to get a permit, k. So, but I'm speaking from other towns, Buffalo, Strafford, Springfield, all of Greene County, like you're not protecting the clients. I don't care about the bond, I mean, I'll throw a \$2,000,000 one out there, it don't matter to me but if you're talking about protecting the clients you guys have got to make it easier for people to do it the right way. If you don't make it easier for people

to do it the right way, to get a permit, you're gonna, the people are gonna, they have to go backwards, they have to do it the wrong way. So if you want to apply this \$10,000 surety bond, make it easier for people to get a permit where you guys are involved.

Petty – Yeah, that's a good point. It also sounds like there's a good opportunity to educate the public too on following the process and having that assurance that they will be protected when they do as well.

Hicks – Right, but if they know that you guys are going to hold them up every time on a permit. It took me 3 ½ months to get a permit for a deck, ok, because your last inspector tried jerking me around and everything like that. After that one, I refuse to work in this town, k. I won't bid a job in this town. I will bid every job in the city of Springfield, I don't care. It really don't matter, but until you guys make it better on the contractors to know that hey, permitting is not a problem, we'll take care of it, then you're always gonna have a scamming issue, you're always gonna have people doing shady crap because nobody wants to deal with it. So you wanna protect the citizens, go about it that way. Make your permitting process, your inspection process, you guys are going to hold it to Greene County code, hold it to Greene County code. It's not what he says, this is our code, this is what we're going with.

Petty – Got it.

Hicks – That's all I got.

Petty – Thank you!

Mason Hartley – 9401 FR 203, I'm gonna follow up with his saying the last year or two years has been absolutely a rollercoaster of a ride just trying to build a house here. We don't even have that figured out yet, let alone try to add something else. I mean, they say they're overwhelmed just dealing with the permit process so why are we gonna bring up something else? Let's at least get the easy, what should be the easy part, figured out and get that going for everybody, like he said, to where people actually want to build here and then maybe you can look into that when you have more than two people building houses here.

Petty – Thank you.

Tiffany Hill, 163 W. Saddle Club Road – I have put, you know, thousands of square feet into that building now and I would agree on that. As the person that's coming up here I'm like, what do I got to have now or why do we got to have this, you know, because it's not clear. It's about as clear as mud and do I need a permit to paint the brick, do I need a permit to replace the roof. I went to Buffalo, I built in Buffalo as well, to do a toilet, it was \$2. I had to go drive all the way to Buffalo to give them \$2 for a permit. It's \$20, I think it's \$20 here. I'm not really sure because it is all over the place and of course we're getting ready to do, we haven't had the same inspector, I

think these last 6 years I've gone through 4 or 5, not my fault, they left but I've had people walking through the empty building when I'm not there, looking for my blueprints or whatever, I'm not going to have blueprints just laying in an empty building but it is, it is all over the place and to add one more thing, as a person that's trying to hire a contractor, which we had the Amish, they did amazing work, it was beautiful. It's a great, great building, it passed all of the inspections, but they're not going to know any of this so I end up having to come up here. So as the homeowner or business owner it would be nice if it was a little less muddy.

Coburn – Can I just intervene on that as well?

Hill – Sure.

Coburn – So my name's Jacob by the way, I don't think we've met at all.

Hicks – No.

Coburn – My phone number, my phone is always on 24/7. You can call me on Saturday, Sunday, I don't care when it is. If you've got questions regarding work, permitting, anything like that, call me up, ask your questions.

Hicks – What codes and permits, what codes are we going by \*inaudible\*

Coburn – 2018 IRC. So, Greene County goes off of 2012 International Building Code, but they enforce 2018, which is bonkers cause they haven't adopted that code. They can't enforce the 2018 IRC. So technically it's the same type of building standards that they're doing over there.

Hartley – It's interpreted different here.

Petty – Alright, anything else, Jacob?

Coburn – No ma'am, I just wanted to introduce myself.

Petty – Alright, any other public comment on Jacob's agenda item?

Hodges – I have a question for you.

Coburn – Yes, sir?

Hodges – Why would any of this money go back to the City?

Coburn – For what, sir?

Hodges – The money on these bonds that you're wanting to do, why would any of it come back to the City instead of back to the homeowner?

Coburn – If there was a city contractor that the contract...

Hodges – No, I'm just talking building.

Petty – Residential

Hodges – Residential building.

Coburn – So if the homeowner had a contractor come do work and they just skipped out and didn't do the work as they were contracted to do, they'd be able to call the City and pull that bond and use that bond to get some of their money back from the contractor skipping out on them.

Hodges – You said it would go to the City.

Coburn – What's that?

Hodges – You said it would go to the City.

Coburn – Well, if there was a city contract...

Hodges – No, not a city contract.

Coburn – If there was a city contract, the city could use that bond to...

Hodges – Not the City. The City wouldn't have nothing to do with the bond.

Coburn – The City is basically just an implementation of one of the requirements for the contract.

Petty – Thank you, Jacob.

Coburn – You're very welcome.

**Public Comment Closed**

**New Business**

**DISCUSS PROTOCOLS REGARDING PROFESSIONAL FEES (Karla Lampe Agenda Request)**

**Discussion**

Karla Lampe – Good evening. Earlier in February I received a bill for \$199 in engineering fees. The bill stated that the charges were for Swan Estates review. I contacted City Engineer Andy Novinger to get clarity on the charges. He stated that the charges stemmed from a half hour on December 9<sup>th</sup> that was related to site observation and a half hour on December 16<sup>th</sup> related to the discussion of observations and the project with City staff. Since I am responsible and all of the contractors are responsible for all engineering fees in regards to the Swan Estates project, may I request the City give proper notification of all meetings so that myself and/or project manager may be present during any discussion pertaining to my project.

Petty – Okay. Do you mind sending us a copy of that so that we can review it and then respond?

Lampe – You can't answer that tonight?

Petty – No ma'am. I would like to have the opportunity to review it before we respond.

Lampe – Alright, thank you.

Petty – Thank you.

**Public Comment Open**

**Public Comment Closed**

**BILL NO. 26-03 AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AND ENACTING A NEW CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FAIR GROVE, COUNTY OF GREENE, STATE OF MISSOURI; ESTABLISHING THE SAME PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES NOT INCLUDED THEREIN, EXCEPT AS HEREIN EXPRESSLY PROVIDED PROVIDING FOR THE MANNER OF AMENDING SUCH CODE OF ORDINANCES, PROVIDING PENALTY FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF AND PROVIDING WHEN THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE. (Posted 2/13/2026)**

**Discussion**

Petty – Sara, would you like to explain what this bill is?

Davis – Statutory updates, done every year.

Petty – Thank you. Provided by the State of Missouri.

Davis – Correct.

Petty – And we have to update our ordinances to reflect those changes.

Davis – Correct. Yes.

Petty – Okay. Before we get into the motions for the readings, any questions?

Hodges – What is the changes we're gonna be trying to make?

Davis – It is in the ordinance I believe.

Hodges – Do you have paperwork for us to look at?

Davis – I gave it to you in your packet.

Hodges – Did you? I didn't notice it.

Davis – Yes, I'm sorry. Do you have your stuff with you right now? I'll show you.

Hodges – It's a little bit confusing to me.

Davis – Yeah. Okay, this is the financials.

Hodges – Cause I haven't read it yet.

Davis – That's the ordinance.

Hodges – Which is the old one and which is the new one?

Davis – It doesn't have the old one on there. It's just what the State, the statutes and laws that they have changed, we have to adopt because we have to go by whatever they do. So it doesn't have the old one on there.

Hodges – So we don't know what all's been changed then.

Davis – It should be in there.

Hodges – But you said it don't have the old ones in there.

Davis – It don't have the old ones, it would have the new ones.

Hodges – Right. So we're going blind at it to a degree?

Petty – It details in here the changes that it is specifically referring to.

McCullough – A1 through 15 is a summary of all of the ones that were changed.

Hodges – On here?

McCullough – Yes.

Hodges – Okay, but I mean, what was it before? That's what I'm asking.

McCullough – You would have to look at the actual code sections.

Hodges – Because we don't have any paperwork on that.

Petty- When you read through it though, it details specifically what the changes are and it leads to what they were. I can read through them.

Hodges – Nah, it ain't gonna be good enough to do that. I wish I had the paperwork from old to new and look at it and say yes this, this and this. Maybe not this here.

Petty – So we don't have an option as a City to not adopt these state statutes. Their laws trump our City ordinances and we always have to follow the state laws and so we are changing...

Hodges – Even if we disagree?

McCullough – Yes.

Petty – Absolutely.

Stewart – This is how it was explained to me. The State has their level and we can be more restrictive but we can't be less restrictive.

McCullough – Correct.

Stewart – This just brings us down to that base line at the State level is all this is doing.

Hodges – So it don't matter what we care, anything.

Stewart – Correct. If you live in Missouri

**Public Comment Open**

**Public Comment Closed**

Motion by Cooke to have the first reading of Bill No. 26-03 by title only. Seconded by Stewart Boncuk AYE, Hodges AYE, Stewart AYE, Cooke AYE, Petty AYE

MAYOR PRO TEM READ BILL NO. 26-03 BY TITLE ONLY.

Motion by Cooke to approve the first reading and have the second reading of Bill No. 26-03 by title only. Seconded by Boncuk  
Boncuk AYE, Hodges AYE, Stewart AYE, Cooke AYE, Petty AYE

MAYOR PRO TEM READ BILL NO. 26-03 BY TITLE ONLY.

Motion by Cooke to approve the second reading of Bill No. 26-03 by title only and assign it Ordinance No. 295. Seconded by Stewart  
Boncuk AYE, Hodges AYE, Stewart AYE, Cooke AYE, Petty AYE

**DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE ADDING BUILDING TO PARK MASTER PLAN  
(Stewart, Petty)**

**Discussion**

Stewart – Alright, this got confusing just 3 seconds ago. So basically the park wants to build a rec center because the school is going to potentially start doing wrestling around the time of basketball. So their old master plan that I had sent to me did not have a rec building on it. One that was provided to me just today before the meeting by Dennis, shows one on it. Talking to the lawyer, we're not sure if this one has been fully voted on and is in ordinance, so this is just to have general discussion about it. I've talked to most of you guys off line, I think we're all good with letting the park move forward but until we let the lawyer find out if this is the actual document that we're going by or if it's the old one, we don't know if we need to vote to add this to it or not. Does that make sense?

Petty – So what's next?

Stewart – For now, we need to let her do her job.

McCullough – Yeah, so what we'll do is, since it's on the agenda, I encouraged you to have a discussion with everybody, ask questions or anything that we needed to do today and then come the next meeting we will have a little more clarity cause I need to make sure number one, if what's he's holding without the park building has already been adopted and there's going to be a procedure for adopting an amended one. If it hasn't, then it's likely easier but I would still recommend it be adopted with the building so either way it's going to require a vote that would be premature, in my opinion, tonight. So I think we probably need to wait until the next meeting to vote on it. The discussion, I think, amongst the members can take place right now.

Petty – And ultimately the goal is to make sure that the building that the park is wanting to add is captured within their master plan that has to be adopted and approved by the City.

Stewart – Right. Cause they're probably going to need some financial assistance so it has to be a part of it.

McCullough – The City's master plan?

Stewart – Correct. Brittany, do you have anything that you wanted to add?

Brittany Counterman – Yes. I don't know if the plan that you're looking at is the same that I looked at earlier today but there are some minor adjustments to what we believe will work best as far as location of that building. So I don't know if adopting that specific plan is actually what we want to happen because I think the plan you're looking at might have the building going down by some basketball courts which will be placed in the soccer parking lot, so the south parking lot, but after some recent conversation, we believe that the north parking lot, which would be by the purple park, would be the better location. So I don't know if that's the actual plan that we're wanting to adopt but \*inaudible\*

Petty – I think finding out what plan the City has adopted is the first step and then we'll connect with you guys to see, does this align with how you are wanting to move forward and if not, we can make adjustments and choose to adopt it as the City.

Stewart – Yeah. Novinger recommended just doing it as location and size to be determined later and leaving it like that until you guys would be able to \*inaudible\*

Counterman – Okay.

Petty – Questions from the Board?

Hodges – I'm for whatever they want to do.

**Public Comment Open**

Samantha Bowman – The master plan...

Petty – Please step up to the podium and say your name and address.

Samantha Bowman – I don't live in the City anymore, I was on the Board years ago, on the Park Board as well as the City Board. As far as I know we still have the master plan that's hanging up in the City Clerk's office that's just the dream that we've had for a long time that has been long since gone because of actual land and how it runs and all of that. So the location by \*inaudible\* cause you're gonna put one thing up and something's going to change. I cannot imagine there

actually being anything new on file that's been adopted beyond the pretty one that's on the wall that is very, very old and inaccurate at this point.

Petty – Thank you!

### Public Comment Closed

### **DISCUSS HERITAGE REUNION TAX REVENUE (Petty)**

#### Discussion

Petty – After our last meeting, Mark Bennett reached out to me. He is on the Historical Society. He mentioned that he tried to look at the City's finances over the course of the year looking for a peak in tax revenue from the festival. There isn't one. One of the things that he recommends is that in the paperwork that is given to the vendors is that they are given the City's tax number that they file the taxes for after the event to make sure that any of that tax revenue that they claimed makes it to the City rather than their home location or wherever else they choose to file their taxes. They don't have that. They are not provided that number today so his ask was that we write, basically, a welcome letter. Thank you for having your booth in the City of Fair Grove, we appreciate your participation at the Heritage Reunion, as you file your taxes, please do X, Y, Z. Basically giving them the information that they need to be able to accurately file their taxes so that we can capture that tax revenue and ultimately see the benefit as a City so that we could continue to support the Heritage Reunion as they grow and continue to flourish within Fair Grove.

McCullough – Would this require the City to disclose individuals and individual businesses?

Petty – No. So this is just providing the vendors the information that they need to do it correctly. It's not necessarily requiring them to. We are not going to audit the vendors to make sure that they are, we're just trying to give them the easiest way to do it the right way.

McCullough – As long as the City is not disclosing the tax revenues, essentially the revenues from other businesses, you know business A to business B.

Petty – No.

McCullough – Okay. Just wanted to make sure.

Petty – We are just trying to capture the money that is spent in Fair Grove comes back to Fair Grove.

Boncuk – When we were at the meeting, one of the things I understood from it was this will allow vendors to, if they go home and they don't have our individual, you know they're on a circuit of going to all the different festivals, if they don't have our individual tax number then

they just, not through any bad faith or anything, they just, oh I don't know what their number is so I'm just going to file it under my general taxes instead of filing it under, I earned this much income while I was in Fair Grove, there's this much sales tax so I want to make sure they get their portion of it.

Hodges – When we receive the tax money, it's coming from Greene County? Who's it coming from?

Davis – The State.

Hodges – The sales tax.

Petty – The State.

Hodges – It is them, okay. They don't specify if it's brought to us by who, right?

Petty – Correct.

Hodges – It don't say that it was this vendor or this business.

Petty – No.

Hodges – Or whatever, so it's everybody, you know.

Petty – Yes.

Hodges – I don't know how this is gonna help us any because it's coming to us in one big lump sum, you know, every quarter or whatever it is.

Boncuk – The thing is right now it's not coming to us because the way it was explained to me....

Hodges – We don't know if it is or not coming to us. It don't say.

Boncuk – We aren't seeing a peak here.

Hodges – Right.

Boncuk – Whereas if they're doing it quarterly or monthly, by at least the end of October or November, we should see a big oh, okay, there's that bump we should have got from the Heritage Reunion.

Hodges – Well it's every 3 months they collect money. I don't think you'll see the bump. At least not one that weekend or that month \*inaudible\* for 3 months, then you get paid.

Petty – We should still expect to see it. With the amount of transactions that happen at the reunion and the amount of people that we have that visit, not only just the festival booths themselves but also the businesses around town. Today there's no bump, there's no peak. The worse thing that would happen is that there would still be no peak. The best thing that could happen is that we are capturing that tax revenue and filtering it back to the City.

Hodges – Right. It's just like, we'll use the stores down there for an example. Summer Fresh, Kum & Go and all them, that weekend we know you gotta have more sales. Yes?

Petty – Mmhmm.

Hodges – But we can't prove because it's quartered out, you know, over three months, you know. You might see a little spike there maybe in those 3 months because they're going to be a big deal but you're talking \*inaudible\* what little sales tax we have. I don't know how you'd try to track it. I just don't know how you do it.

Petty – So we would not track at the vendor level, we would not track at the transaction level. The hope is that we would be able to see a spike after that period of reportable tax revenue.

Hodges- Right.

#### Public Comment Open

Tom Voorhis – So you're willing to spend more taxpayer monies to send information to community that comes in here in the hope that you guys receive money when the Heritage Reunion's been going on for how long in our community and we haven't seen a bump? So we're willing to spend more tax dollar resources to say we HOPE we get more money that comes into our community from the Heritage Reunion but we have no, you guys aren't going to have any guidelines or guarantee so we're going to waste more tax payer money on a hope and a dream to tell these people that they have to do this when they showed time and time again that they haven't done that? So that's my question. You're willing to spend more money of taxpayer money to tell somebody they need to do this in a hope that they will do it but over the 50+ years that the reunion has been happening, has never happened, right. Cause you just said there's been no peak ever. So is that good tax payer money? Are you good stewards of taxpayer money by doing that?

Petty – To print 300 pages, to...

Voorhis – 300 pages is 300 pages.

Petty – Yep.

Voorhis – Right. It's taxpayer money and a hope and a dream and you still got to go back and say, you know I hope when that person leaves the City of Fair Grove Heritage Reunion that they're going to actually file it appropriately.

Petty – That we will have provided them with the information that they need to successfully file.

Voorhis – But they can call the City and get that information to begin with.

Petty – They could but that requires effort...

Voorhis – Once again, it does require effort. If they haven't put forth the effort now, are they going to put forth the effort then?

McCullough – Will these go out automatically or will the City wait for them to request it?

Petty – No. It would be included in the packets that are provided to the vendors. The Historical Society has offered to add them to their packets so that they are provided with that information at the beginning of the festival.

McCullough – So what incentivizes people to follow the rules?

Petty – They would have new information that they have no had prior.

Voorhis – I just think that's poor of taxpayer money. I don't think that's good stewards. You're hoping people do when they've had the opportunity to do that before in the past. That's not appropriate taxpayer funds that should go towards spending money for that and a hope to get more money back when it's never happened before.

Petty – Thank you.

Andrew Hicks – Do I got to say my name and crap again?

Petty – Yes, sir.

Hicks – Alright. 227 State Road O – So if you're going to do that on a taxpayer deal, you're going to have to incentivize people. Like otherwise, why would you jack with the taxes on it and keeping this blanketed. So unless you give an incentive to vendors, it ain't gonna work, so. Whether it be take some of their permit fee off for the weekend or whatever, cause I don't know what the permit fee is for it, what is it? Does anybody know?

Petty – I don't know what the permit fee for the Historical Society's booth rental.

Hicks – I mean, I would suggest like, if you're worried about making sure you guys are getting the taxpayer money, if that's your main deal, making sure you get it, then you're going to have to throw out there, permit fee covered under this tax. Like you're going to pay taxes to us. Otherwise I wouldn't.

Petty – Thank you. Any other public comment?

Hodges – I don't want to see us take any money from the Historical Society.

Petty – Nope.

Hodges – If that's out of the permit and stuff, that's \*inaudible\*

Hicks – The City permit.

Hodges – Oh, their permit, okay. How much are the permits that we charge them?

Davis - \$10 a permit.

Hodges – So I mean \$10 is all?

Davis – Mmhmm.

Hodges – I thought it was higher than that, \$20 or \$30.

Davis – Nope.

Hodges – Ain't much there.

Petty – How much does it cost to print one page?

Davis – It's like, less than a cent.

Petty – Thank you, Sara.

Hodges – I got one more question then I'll shut up. Let's say we do all this and everything and you still don't see an increase, I don't think you're gonna find it because all the money's just thrown in there, then what do you want to do then? Just don't do it no more? Just don't worry about it and go on?

Petty – Yeah. If we don't see any gain in tax revenue from this, from the efforts, then yes, I would say that we would discontinue.

Hodges – Alright. If you want to check it out a little bit, why don't you go back a year before, you know, last year and for that period when we collected the tax money, it would be simple cause that's what you're wanting to look at and say well, in '24 we collected this much, '25 we collected this much and that 3 month period whenever it was collected and that will show you what you're wanting to see.

Davis – I think that we have looked at it and there hasn't been....

Hodges – So from year to year to year it has not changed?

Davis – Correct.

Petty – We've done a historical look back year over year and there has not been an increase in any of the years.

Hodges – Right. Well, if they're not selling as much you may not see nothing, you know. But like I said, I think the stores and everything, they have an increase. I think we do have that there. Cause there's thousands of people that come in here. 20,000, 30,000, 40,000 people that come in here so there's got to be more sales cause when I go to the stores, they're busy so I know there's more tax revenue being generated during the fall festival.

Tom Voorhis – Once again, it's not the minute cost of paper, right. We're talking about \$100, \$200 max. What we all know, you men and women who sit up on this council, it's not just that. It's the \$200 an hour or \$400 an hour, you're going to send it to your attorney, that's thousands of dollars in the end to approve it, k. We all know that and you guys can say that but the communication between the City and the attorney and the City on printing 300 pages is very minute when it comes to printing pages, it's the litigation between the attorney's office. \$2,000 is \$2,000 okay. It may not be nothing this year but that's \$2,000 you can donate to the park board to help our community instead of reaching for something that over years historically, it's never shown it's increased. So you guys are up here talking about spending thousands of dollars, even if it's \$1,000 or \$2,000 between the litigation with the City Attorney meeting with public officials for 300 pieces of paper when years have shown that it's never increased. I think that's absurd when you can donate that money to the park board or to other community resources where the City needs the money.

Petty – Thank you.

McCullough – Ms. Mayor?

Petty – Yes?

McCullough – To be clear, there's absolutely no plan that I would view anyone of these, not a single one of them. So, just wanted to be clear.

Voorhis – You're costing \$200+ an hour just sitting up there tonight.

McCullough – I'm here for a different job, sir, but you're taking up the time also right now and spending those monies.

Voorhis – I understand that.

McCullough – Okay, thank you. Just to be clear.

Petty – Yes, sir?

Charles Lennox – Myself, I do very little shopping in Fair Grove, Missouri. Last year I spent \$10 to park for the festival. Rumor has it that that individual may make \$10,000. Are they paying any taxes?

Petty – I do not know how the..

Lennox – If you guys really want to look into some money, look into that. Personally I spent \$600 at the festival. I don't spend that much money all year long. So there is a problem with this peak you don't see. I don't think that Premier Auto and the store next to them that's shut, closing down their business that all of the other stores are increasing. The Maverik, they increase, they've got to double. Look at the grocery store, Price Cutters, there has to be a peak. Somebody is wrong. Period, k?

Petty – Okay.

Lennox – I agree. Everybody should be paying their taxes. Every one of you and the person that has 10,000 cars parking or 5 cars. I know there's a lot of non-profit organizations out there and that's good but why don't you circle in on the people you know? Thank you.

Petty – Thank you.

**Public Comment Closed**

## **DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE PAID TIME OFF POLICY (Petty)**

### **Discussion**

Petty – And you included it in the packet?

Davis – Yeah, I included what the police department proposed. It had the old one and the new one.

Petty – So last year we adopted a different PTO policy for the police department originally applying it to all of the City employees. After speaking with Sara, Chandra and Kennie, who are separate from the police department but still city employees, they have requested to go back to the prior PTO policy. There are some differences with them. Under the police department PTO policy, they are able to have an increased vacation accrual based off of years of service. That does come with a cap, an annual accrual cap. Once they hit a certain number they can no longer accrue pass that and then there was carry over. They were able to carry over their PTO year over year, not pass their cap. The City's original policy was that the City employees got 100% of their PTO hours at the beginning of every year starting with their hire date. Is that correct?

Davis – Yes.

Petty – So day one, at their hire date anniversary, they get their entire years PTO. If they do not use it within that year, they lose it, so there is no carry over. The accrual rate does increase based off of years of service at the same rate that the police department's policy does. Is that correct?

Davis – I believe so.

Petty – So it's really the difference of, the City employees would like to continue to receive all of their PTO at the beginning of the year, having the entire year, the opportunity to take it with the risk of losing it at the end of the year versus the police department policy that let's them accrue it based off their hours worked and their time employed with a cap that does carry over year over year.

Cooke – So are we talking about having two different policies in place?

Petty – The police department would have their own policy that they would enforce and monitor and cover with their employees, the City would then have a default policy for all other city employees that do not fall under the police department. Which the City has had in place for...

Davis – Ever.

Petty – Ever. So the Chief did update the police policy, like Megan just mentioned, to align with the Officer Bill of Rights. These are things that are required for them.

Cooke – Yep.

Petty – But hearing from our City employees that they would like to remain on the City's previous PTO policy and when we had talked about this originally and adopted it, we had wanted

to make sure that it was the right thing and that the City employees were in favor of it. At the time that we adopted it, I think there was a misunderstanding at the City employee level of the impact it would have so they originally thought they were on board with it and then they requested it be reversed after they learned what it would actually mean for their PTO banks.

Stewart – So you gain all of your hours at your hire date? That's your year end?

Davis – Yes.

Stewart – So how does it work for new employees? Like, if I hire you today, do you get your 10 days or whatever?

Davis – No. The first they accrue it.

Stewart – Okay and then after that it's given at your hire date?

Davis – Mmhmm.

Stewart – Okay.

Cooke – So this doesn't add additional time, it just differentiates when it's paid out and available to them?

Petty – Correct.

Cooke – So if we switch this back, we'll see no additional cost to the City to cover this change?

Stewart – Kennie, is that what you want?

Hokanson – Yeah.

Stewart – Where's Chan at? Chan, is that what you want?

Scott – Yes.

Stewart – Okay.

Petty – Sara?

Davis – Yes.

Petty – Any other questions from the Board?

Hodges – I'd like to see the employees use all their vacation time instead of going over to the next year and then paying them. It'd be nice if they would just use it.

Petty – At the end of the year, if there is PTO that has not been taken, the Board approves or does not approve a payout of that PTO at the end of the year. Often that decision is made based off of availability of that employee to have taken time off. Historically, Kennie has had hours left over at the end of the year.

Hodges – Oh yeah, I'm not...

Petty – That was when we did not have anybody as a backup to monitor the Wastewater Treatment Plant, so he was not able to actually take any vacation and the City did decide to pay out his PTO.

Hodges – Right. We paid on Sara too. I can't remember. It was \$1,200, \$1,700 or something like that.

Davis – I don't remember honestly. It was 64 hours.

Hodges – I wish you'd take your time off.

Davis – I do want to use my time. Unfortunately, there's that month that I can't take off but I do try to use my time.

Hodges – Right.

Davis – I was able to last year.

Petty – That still is an annual decision that the Board as a whole has to approve.

Hodges – Right, I understand.

#### Public Comment Open

Tom Voorhis – What is the annual carry over for the police department?

Petty – Chief Riggin, do you know that number off the top of your head?

Riggin – I didn't hear you, I'm sorry.

Voorhis – What is the allowable amount of carry over that each officer is allowed to carry over each year?

Riggin – It's 80 hours of vacation.

Voorhis – And how many hours do they generate each year?

Riggin – It depends how long you've been here. So your first year you get a week so 40 hours and then after 2 years through your third year, you're up to 80 hours and then it kind of trickles out a little more after that. And then I think what they agreed on was all of the holidays that the Mayor allows for, they can carry that over to the next year but they have to burn it all by the end of that year. So essentially like, we have one officer, they can carry over 80 hours every year if they choose to and then sick time is capped at 240. Once you get 240 hours, you will accrue none, once you use it then you will go back up to 240. I don't know if that helps.

Voorhis – Okay, so what is the average of a City employee? How much do they generate on a yearly basis?

Petty – If you've got these types of questions that need...

Voorhis – Well, it's public comment, talking about money and spending...

Petty – Right, but I don't know the answer.

Voorhis – Oh, okay.

Petty – And I could look it up for you and then we can provide that information to you, if you'd like, we can present it in a public forum.

Voorhis – Oh, so, it's been historically, and I've sat up there, I've done it, year and year and year, right, it's just the City's going to lose more money year and year and year. Sara, Kennie and Chandra, I'll contest, they put in a heck of a lot work in this City. Some people can agree with me and not agree with me in the public. I've been many enemies to them and I understand they put in a lot of hours for the City but the City's just wasting more money. The City fixed the problem to move it to carry over, right. So it will save the City money in the long run on a year after year basis because you aren't voting next year, come this time, Sara has 64 hours, Kennie has 120 hours, Chandra has whatever hours they've got. And I wouldn't sit up there and tell them no either, right, cause you guys see the work they put in and I know the work they put in and a lot of hard work.

Petty – Thank you, Mr. Voorhis.

Voorhis – My times not up. My first amendment, I get to speak for as long as I want.

McCullough – Sir, under the Sunshine Law, you do not have a right to speak at any meeting. That is a courtesy that the City.

Voorhis - \*inaudible\*

Petty – I allow 3 minutes per person for speaking...

Voorhis – So each, so each, you're costing the City more money when you're fixing the problem to save the City more money, now you're causing issues in the long run to spend more money year after year when you've already addressed the problem. I'm not debating that they don't put in the time and the hours, but you're just giving them now the opportunity to come to you at the end of the year to say hey, I want this money since we don't fall over to next year. I get it. I understand. If I was in their shoes, I would want to go back too. But you've already fixed and addressed the problem, now you're telling the police officers, well we didn't allow you to use your hours this year, but you have to carry it over. So either go one way and give the law enforcement police officers the opportunity to come to the council and ask for it, cause they put in hundreds of hours too, just like Kennie and Sara and Chandra, they put in long hours. They should have the opportunity to get paid for it too in my belief and I believe that if you asked them, they would want that too.

Petty – Thank you.

Voorhis – And so, I just don't believe that you guys are being good stewards of the money by doing that.

Public Comment Closed

### **Business Meeting**

#### **SEWER AND PUBLIC WORKS**

##### **Discussion**

Hokanson – I don't have anything but I need money.

Petty – For?

Stewart – Don't we all.

Hokanson – A new pump for my hauling truck.

Petty – The one that you use to clean out the...

Hokanson – Sludge. That hauls sludge.

Petty – Okay, and you have the quotes?

Hokanson – Yeah.

Petty – Do we have to get 3 for this one or is it...

Hokanson – It's a sole source item.

Petty – So are you asking us to approve you spending this money?

Hokanson – Yeah.

Petty – And it does not work at all?

Hokanson – No. It's trash.

Petty – When do you next need to use...

Hodges – You talking the vacuum pump?

Hokanson – Yeah.

Hokanson – When do I need to use it next?

Petty – Yes.

Hokanson – Last week. It's down now, we need to...

Hodges – I consider that cheap.

Petty – Tim, can you read off the item and the price please?

Cooke – 6500 Vacuum pump 247/CFM x1 \$2,849, including tax.

Petty – Including tax, and install?

Hokanson – No...

Stewart – Oh, including shipping.

Cooke – Including shipping, I apologize.

Petty – You're going to install it together?

Hokanson – Yes.

Petty – So this is the total amount that you would need in order to purchase it and have it installed?

Hokanson – Yes.

Petty – So we're looking for a motion then to approve the purchase.

Hodges – I make the motion the approve it.

Cooke – I'll second.

Petty – Can you say the whole thing?

Hodges – No. Forget it.

Stewart – I got you, Franklin.

Motion by Stewart to approve the purchase of Patomi MEC Vacuum 247/CFM pump for up to \$3,000. Seconded by Hodges

Boncuk AYE, Hodges AYE, Stewart AYE, Cooke AYE, Petty AYE

Petty – Alright, anything else to report?

Hokanson – That's all I got.

Petty – Do you, can you please update us on the sewer leak that did happen?

Hokanson – You pretty much covered it all.

Petty – Yes. It's complete. It's done. Well, I provided an update that you gave me.

Hokanson – Right. That's the update.

Petty – It's resolved. The area has been treated. It is safe for public use.

Hokanson – Yep.

Petty – Is there any follow-up work that needs done to that line?

Hokanson – I'm going to camera the lines and do some more flushing.

Petty – When is that going to take place?

Hokanson – As quick as Brad can get in there and get it opened up so I can get in.

Petty – Is there any other risk of it leaking again?

Hokanson – I mean, there's a risk for it to happen anywhere in town.

Petty – And is it still that you think it's the wipes and grease?

Hokanson – Oh, absolutely.

Petty – Accumulating?

Hokanson – Yes.

Petty – That caused the clog which then caused it to backup and the pressure caused the manhole cover to come off.

Hokanson – It didn't come off, it just blowed the ram-nek out of it.

Petty – Blew the ram-nek out of it which caused the leak, okay. And LaFollette is going to come in and help with the camera work?

Hokanson – Yeah.

Petty – Okay. Questions for Colton or Kennie?

Boncuk – Do you have a timeframe at all?

Hokanson – No, not really, probably a week or two.

Petty – Thank you.

Stewart – I appreciate you guys getting in there and cleaning that up.

Hokanson – You bet.

## **BUILDING INSPECTOR**

### **Discussion**

Coburn – So what I have going on is we recently released, you might be interested in hearing this, the 2018 International Building Code requirements for the City of Fair Grove. I just submitted it online so it's on our website so you can access it through the website. It has all of the minimum building requirements for residential. I just emailed you so you should have that in your email. It has basically everything on there. How to get a permit, the process through it, inspections that are required for that, it's even got pictures.

Petty – Thank you. Anything else?

Coburn – Not at this time.

Petty – Okay. Thank you, Jacob.

Coburn – You're welcome.

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

### **Discussion**

Petty – Board members, you would have received this in your packet. So, looking for a motion to approve the financial statement.

Motion by Stewart to approve the financial statement as submitted. Seconded by Cooke Boncuk AYE, Hodges AYE, Stewart AYE, Cooke AYE, Petty AYE

## **PARK BOARD**

### **Discussion**

Kailey Newbrough – Basketball's over. Flag football, we are up 35% from last years spring league. As of February 9<sup>th</sup>, we had \$341,991 in our account and side note, with all the communications we've had recently, if we could have communication come through me and then I can, you know, speak with whichever employee needs to know. That way everyone's on the same page, it would be helpful. Cause like, Brittany's getting calls for things that's not anything to do with sports, stuff like that. It would just kind of be helpful to have just one person to go through and then...

Petty – Yeah.

Brittany Counterman – To kind of help with that, I think the point of that is, there's a lot of things that could be park related, maybe not park related. Could be maintenance related, could be sports related but ultimately, if everything goes through Kailey being the Chairman of the Board and then she's able to delegate to me if it's sports related or to Craig if it's maintenance related then we can make sure that the chain of command is always noted. There was recently a tree down on a fence and it kind of, I got called about it, Craig got calls about it but it wasn't like, none of us really knew what was going on and so it kind of got pushed on the back burner for

multiple months and it's not fair to the business owner with the tree down on their property that's from our property and so we were just thinking if there's a way that if the City's contacted for something park related, they always go to Kailey as the Chairman and then she can delegate to us for making sure that it gets handled.

Petty – Absolutely. I think that is a very, a good practice. We also struggle with that. We've kind of shared that a little bit as well. One Board member might get a request or have information that the rest of us don't and so we try to funnel all of our requests through Sara, so in that same way, Sara, if we can help make sure that any communications from Board members or any City employee that involve the park, that they all go through Kailey so that way we don't run into any of those situations where the right people aren't informed.

Newbrough – Thank you for your communications about the leak because I was then able to answer Craig's questions \*inaudible\*

Cooke – How many members do you currently have on your park board?

Newbrough – 6.

Cooke – What is considered full staffed?

Newbrough – 9 I think. Well, not so long ago, we had 9.

Petty – So one of the, not necessarily to spring it on you, one of the code updates that we approved tonight opens up park board membership to outside of city limits.

Newbrough – We would love that.

Counterman – Like people right now, outside of the City limits can start applying for the park board?

Davis – 5 miles I think.

Petty – 5 miles within the city of Fair Grove.

Davis – I think so.

Petty- So we can get you an updated copy of that ordinance so that you can open up membership opportunities. I know that that has been a hot topic for a long time.

Newbrough – Yes, thank you.

Petty – Yep. I was really excited to see that come across.

Newbrough – Yeah, we can start recruiting people or is there a waiting...

Petty – We adopted it tonight.

Cooke – I know that's something that you guys have wanted for quite a long time.

Counterman- How are we allowed to present that to the community? Can we just make a blanket post about it?

Stewart – Let's pull the statute and all of that.

Petty – We'll give you the formal information and then you can share it.

Newbrough – Thank you.

Hodges – We adopted that tonight?

Petty – Yes.

Hodges – Where was it at?

Petty – It was one of those 1 through 15.

Hodges – The one I was questioning about it?

Petty – Yes.

Hodges – So it is in there then?

Petty – It says it clearly as one of the numbered ones.

Hill – Why is it just 5 miles?

Stewart – It's a state statute.

Petty – It's a state statute.

Counterman – Hey, 5 miles is better than nothing.

Hill – I can't help. I'm 7 straight as the crow flies.

## **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

### **Discussion**

Tom Faulkner – Table Rock Alarming completed their maintenance of the sirens last week, Wednesday, some of you might have heard them. A couple of things that they noticed is the batteries require replacement at the siren located on Cottonwood. The technician, I believe, was out today and replaced those batteries so it is working now and then there is a leaking gear box on the siren located at the school and they said it is significant but it's nothing we need to deal with this year, we can probably go ahead and take care of it next year. It isn't a significant cost, it's about \$1,000 or less they said. Otherwise, a few belts were replaced. The siren systems are working well overall and are in good shape.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

### **Discussion**

Chief Riggin – I'm Chief Riggin, things are great, any questions? I'm kidding, that's the ongoing joke. So, really the only thing I've got to report is that we hired another person, so we've got somebody that we stole from Greene County's courthouse, so he was courthouse security. Great guy, solid, has law enforcement up north, Sheriff's department experience up north. Comes to us from basically Sedalia. So, he started Monday and got him set up and ready to roll. He will actually be in a police car tomorrow doing some field training.

Petty – What's his name?

Riggin – His name is Trevor Brown.

Petty – Officer Brown.

Riggin - Officer Brown. Great guy. He's going to be a great addition. Him and Austin I think are a lot alike, so our other new office. I think we've got good quality here.

Petty – And how many positions does that leave open?

Riggin – One. One allowed position which has been open for quite a while, but I'll run short before I'll run wrong. I think we're going to wait for the next one. Other than that, things are going great. Getting money back from grants, buying things with grants, paying officers on overtime with grants, stuff we couldn't do when I got here so that goal, we can check that box. Policy is completely done, ready to roll. I started on procedural documents for the officers, it was a, this is our philosophy, this is how to do it, so I've got about 50 of those.

Petty- It took you how long to do all of them?

Riggin – 10 months. I gave myself 12 and I told you I'd have policy done in 12 and I had it done in 10.

Petty – Nice.

Riggin – I'm really proud of the people we have, their hard workers, very dedicated. As a matter of fact, one of the officers was texting, is everything okay over there, do I need to come on over, cause he's just watching. He's never seen this many people here and I was like, no, these are our friends. So anyway, if you have any questions, I don't want to wax on. Questions?

Hodges – You're doing a good job.

Riggin – Thank you.

## **CITY CLERK**

### **Discussion**

Davis – The only thing I have is Mark and Kelly signed a check to pay \$50,000 back to the capital improvements fund. So that's exciting.

Petty – Yay.

Davis – That's all I've got unless you have any questions.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Discussion**

**Emergency Services** (Stewart, Cooke)

**Public Relations** (Cooke, Petty, Boncuk)

**Planning and Zoning** (Boncuk)

Boncuk – I didn't go to a Planning and Zoning, but I think we have a meeting next week finally.

Dennis Roe – It's going to be cancelled. Lack of agenda items.

Boncuk – But we did have a meeting today with representatives from Greene County. They're redoing their comprehensive plan, so they just came up to get some feedback from us. John was there, Dennis was there, and I was there and just getting feedback from us on what we saw as some of the things that would enhance our community up here being a part of Greene County. Dennis had some wonderful suggestions and I appreciated that. I think the biggest one is he pointed out how much commercial land is available and no one buys it and one of the biggest reasons is because we don't have natural gas here. There's a lot of businesses that if they want to

try to come in, there's not natural gas available for them. We just asked them if they could further getting this possibly up here for us so I guess we'll see what happens.

Dennis Roe – There was a discussion about Liberty Utilities. We're all in agreement that we're not happy.

Boncuk – Yep. We can all agree it's terrible.

Petty – Have you met anybody that is?

Roe – No.

Boncuk – And they have a survey also that's going on so we left some material out on the podium out there, some QR codes that you can go in and fill out. Something they were telling us that's amazing is how many calls they get from the non-city portion of Fair Grove being that it's the county so they'll get a lot of questions. And for anybody who was concerned about the circle-belt throughway, that's kind of a dead issue right now cause I know that was probably a year ago that was in the news but they said it's kind of a dead issue right now.

Petty – Thank you, Eric.

Boncuk – Welcome.

**Park Board** (Stewart, Cooke)

**Human Resources** (Stewart, Petty)

**Finance** (Petty, Stewart)

**Community Outreach** (Hodges, Boncuk)

Hodges – God's been working. A lot of stuff out at our place. A lot of stuff going on and the need in Fair Grove and everywhere around us is getting bigger. We've been averaging about 300 to 400 families, we've been average 500 now coming out to our place picking food up. Next weekend I think we're going to have another food drive and I'm sure we'll probably have another 500 families. And God has just been putting it on people's heart, we're praying with people now when they come in, we'll average around 400 cars, they've been praying for about 300 families each time. So he's doing a lot of miracles out there, we're doing a lot of good. We're helping a lot of other food ministries, not just here in Fair Grove, other towns around Bolivar, Buffalo, Lebanon, Marshfield, Willard, Springfield some and we've been turning up at more food ministries working together, each of us caring for each other if we got extra or something so God's been really working out at our place.

Boncuk – Can I say something also, Franklin?

Hodges – Mmhmm.

Boncuk – One of the things that was really neat at the last food giveaway, you know, you always see the number of people out there. One of the things that was great though, there was 77 volunteers out there, probably 15 to 20 children, parents bringing their children out to help serve and I remember going out with our kids many years ago and it really makes an effect on them and it gives them the opportunity to see what the needs are and see how they can physically be met.

Petty – Thank you.

**Public Works** (Petty, Hodges, Boncuk)

Petty – I will report on the sidewalk project. Phase 3, we talked about having to do a, what is it called?

Leon Burrell – Geological Dig.

Petty – Geological dig. So, Morgan is going to reach out to MoDot again, he sent us the full statement and they acknowledged that even though there is water through there...

Leon Burrell – They've already done it.

Petty – They started it, we didn't actually approve it prior to them starting it.

Davis – I made Morgan aware of that.

Petty – So the Board never actually approved for them to start it. When we told him, hey please can you reach back out to MoDot for this, he said oh, well I guess I'll let Missouri State know not to continue doing the geological dig. So it hasn't even come to the Board yet as far as approving them to do it. However, he did say that MoDot historically, regardless of utilities, does not care and still requires that geological dig to take place. I'm just letting you know, it does not mean that we're still not going to pursue it and request that they reconsider that requirement, that's just what his response was so we're still in process with that.

Leon Burrell – But they've already done it all.

Petty – We haven't approved to pay for it.

Leon Burrell – They did it cause I met with 'em.

Petty – Great! When we decide to approve it, those results will be ready very quickly then.

Hodges – They find any dinosaurs or anything while they was digging?

Leon Burrell – The one I talked to, he said they didn't find anything. They did north and they did south.

Petty – Good. Like I said, if this Board ends up approving it, we'll be able to check that off the list really quickly. Phase 2, we've had a request for bids posted for, how long? Is it the end of the window yet?

Davis – We're getting close. I can't remember exact dates.

Petty – So we'll be able to open up bids at the next meeting for the Phase 2 sidewalk project that we put out for bid.

Davis – We'll be able to award it.

Petty – We'll be able to award it, k. Then for the, we've already awarded the first of the culver improvements. That was awarded to LaFollette and we're waiting on them to schedule when the work begins.

Davis – I think there's a paper for you to sign for them to proceed.

Petty – Oh good. That's the things I'm working on for the Public Works Committee. Hodges, Boncuk, do you guys have anything else to report.

#### Public Comment Open

#### Public Comment Closed

Tom Voorhis – Nope. No. you just had a City employee spend City money that you council didn't do anything about, right. You guys have agreed to pay it but who does that fall on? It falls on the City. He's a City employee, he agreed to reach out.

Petty – What are you talking about?

Voorhis – The guy back here agreed to do work for the City, that's what he said, he's already gave for the City here.

Petty – No, you're talking about the Missouri State and MoDot requires us to be able to move forward with Phase 3, to do a geological dig...

Voorhis – Which was already done, he just said.

Petty – that Missouri State conducted...

Voorhis – And will charge the City of Fair Grove.

Petty – We haven't agreed to pay for it.

Voorhis – So who's paying for it? Once again, good stewards of money. I don't think you guys are doing a good job.

**APPROVE BOARD OF ALDERMEN MINUTES**

Motion by Boncuk to approve Board of Aldermen minutes for January 13, 2026, and January 27, 2026. Seconded by Cooke


Boncuk AYE, Hodges AYE, Stewart AYE, Cooke AYE, Petty AYE

**Mayor Report**

**Adjournment**

Motion by Stewart to adjourn at 8:18 p.m. Seconded by Hodges

Boncuk AYE, Hodges AYE, Stewart AYE, Cooke AYE, Petty AYE

  
Sara Davis, City Clerk