

# City of Desloge

## NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING AND VOTE TO CLOSE PART OF THE MEETING DESLOGE BOARD OF ALDERMEN REGULAR MEETING

Monday December 14, 2020  
7:00 p.m.  
Desloge City Hall, 300 North Lincoln

Posted: December 9, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. on the outdoor City Hall bulletin board.  
Faxed: December 9, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. to radio and newspaper media.

The tentative agenda for this meeting includes:

- I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Consent Agenda
  - a. Approve or Amend Agenda
  - b. Approve November 9, 2020 Monthly Meeting Minutes
  - c. Bills for Payment
    - i. Mastercard Invoice
    - ii. Cochran Invoice
    - iii. Axon Invoice

The items on the Consent Agenda are enacted with one motion. If separate discussion is desired, that item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and place on the regular Agenda by request of a member of the Board of Aldermen.

- III. Mayor Presentation
- IV. Employee of the Quarter Presentation
- V. Employee of the Year Presentation
- VI. Landon Boehm with Baird - Waterworks Refunding Bond
- VII. Public Comment
- VIII. Ordinance
  - a. An ordinance of the City of Desloge Missouri, Rezoning 109 North Desloge Drive from Commercial District, C-1 to Commercial District, C-2.
- IX. Discussion Items
  - a. Annexation Fee
  - b. COVID-19 Operations
  - c. Police Department Hazard Pay
- X. Mayor and Aldermen's Report
- XI. Vote to Close the meeting pursuant to RSMo 610.021 – (3) Personnel
- XII. Adjourn

*Individuals who require an accommodation should contact City Hall twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting.*

Representatives of the news media may obtain copies of this notice by contacting

**Stephanie Daffron, City Clerk**

DESLOGE BOARD OF ALDERMEN REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2020  
7:00 p.m.  
DESLOGE CITY HALL, 300 North Lincoln

Members present were, Mayor David Kater, Alderman David Shaw, Alderman Alvin Sutton, Alderman Chris Gremminger, Alderman Deion Christopher and Alderman J.D. Hodge. Alderman Jerry Hulsey was absent. Staff present were City Administrator Dan Bryan, City Clerk Stephanie Daffron, Park and Recreation Director Terry Cole, Chief Water Operator Paul Pilliard, Police Chief James Bullock, Public Works Director Jason Harris and Building Inspector Brian Cato present by phone.

Visitors present were Landon Boehm with Baird, Nikki Overfelt with the Daily Journal, Linda Moore, Renee and Dan Sadler, Jacob Stalman, Heather Pilliard, Tina Kater and Landon Kater

Call to order

Mayor David Kater called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda

- A. Approve or Amend Agenda
- B. Approve November 9, 2020 Monthly Meeting Minutes
- E. Bills For Payment
  - i. Mastercard Invoice \$26,959.17
  - ii. Mastercard Invoice Fleet \$3,110.99
  - iii. Cochran Invoice \$22,396.05
  - iv. Cochran Invoice \$14,930.70
  - v. SFCEC Invoice \$8,822.50
  - vi. Axon Invoice \$2,836.60

Amend Consent Agenda

Alderman Christopher made a motion to amend the agenda and amend the consent agenda to include #4 Cochran Invoice, #5 SFCEC Invoice and the agenda to include discussion item #3 Rice Road and #5 Police Department Policy. Alderman Sutton seconded the motion. Christopher – aye; Shaw – aye; Gremminger – aye; Hulsey – absent; Hodge – aye; Sutton – aye. Motion carried.

Approve Amended Consent Agenda

Alderman Sutton made the motion to approve the amended and amended consent agenda and Alderman Shaw seconded the motion. Sutton – aye; Christopher – aye; Shaw – aye; Gremminger – aye; Hulsey – absent; Hodge – aye. Motion carried.

Mayor Presentation

Alderman Alvin Sutton presented the Mayor with a plaque thanking him for his years of service to the City of Desloge. Mayor Kater thanked all the Alderman, City Clerk Stephanie Daffron and City Administrator, Dan Bryan as well as all the city employees. The Mayor stated that they have all made his job easy and that everyone does a great job.

Employee of the Quarter

Mayor Kater announced employee of the quarter and presented the Certificate of Achievement to Wayne Ketcherside. Wayne is very ill and was not able to attend the meeting. Terry Cole stood in for Wayne and accepted this award on his behalf.

Employee of the Year

Mayor Kater announced employee of the year and presented the Certificate of Achievement to Wayne Ketcherside. Wayne is very ill and was not able to attend the meeting. Terry Cole stood in for Wayne and accepted this award on his behalf.

Waterworks Refunding Bond Interest Presentation

Landon Boehm with Baird presented the board with information regarding the waterworks-refunding bond. Mr. Boehm stated back in 2015 they took water bonds, which was originally issued to facilitate the purchase of the Park Hills system in 2008. Due to U.S. Tool leaving in, 2013 they ended up recasting the water debt to make it more affordable for the city. At this time this is set for a rate reset in 2025, as we look ahead the interest rates have dropped and we are back in a low interest rate environment. We are looking to refinance the debt at a full fixed rate for the remainder of the term, 2040, and drop the interest rate to roughly 2.15%. The outstanding amount is \$3,798,000.00 with the current interest rate of 3% maturity date is February 1, 2040. The total savings if the interest rate stays the same 3% will be \$302,000.00 with an average annual savings of \$15,926.00. Per request by the board, Landon will be working with Angela Odlum with Armstrong Teasdale moving forward with the process. Alderman Christopher recommended that someone review our policy on our portfolio of investments. Mayor Kater signed an acknowledgment to move forward with the process, this document was given to Mr. Boehm.

Public Comment

No public comment

Ordinance**BILL NO. 1384****ORDINANCE NO. FAILED****AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DESLOGE, MISSOURI, REZONING 109 NORTH DESLOGE DRIVE FROM COMMERCIAL DISTRICT, C-1 TO COMMERCIAL DISTRICT, C-2. – SEVERABILITY – EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Alderman Gremminger requested to know what Planning and Zoning recommendation was. Alderman Christopher stated the commission declined the rezoning due to spot zoning and it did not conform to C-2 guidelines. Mayor Kater read the ordinance twice by title with copies available to the public. Alderman Sutton made a motion to deny the ordinance in light of the Planning and Zoning Board's direction. Alderman Gremminger seconded the motion. Shaw – aye; Gremminger – aye; Hulsey – absent; Hodge – aye; Sutton – aye; Christopher – aye. Motion carried.

Annexation Fee

City Administrator, Dan Bryan discussed with the board that currently we do not have a fee for annexation. After researching other cities, some do and some do not require a fee. Mr. Bryan asked if we want to require a fee to cover the cost of publication. Alderman Sutton suggested reaching out to MML. Alderman Gremminger stated that if it is a voluntary annexation were they request to come into the city we could require the citizen to publish and cover the fee. If it is something, the city is going after we would foot the bill. Mr. Bryan suggested setting a fee and have the publication go through

City Hall. Alderman Christopher recommended keeping the fee to a minimum; City Clerk Stephanie Daffron stated normal publication costs roughly \$100.00. The board requested Mr. Bryan to present something next month.

### COVID – 19 Operations

City Administrator gave the board an update on the current COVID operations. Mr. Bryan stated that the city has gone to split shifts, a pay period on and a pay period off. One crew works Thursday, Friday, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday then the second crew comes in to work a pay period. Mr. Bryan asked Public Works Director, Jason Harris if he had any feedback on the split shifts. Mr. Harris stated that everything is going good; no projects are being done at this time. If we have winter weather he would have the off shift come in if it starts in the middle of the night, run the night shift, disinfect the trucks for the normal day shift. Alderman Gremminger asked Mr. Harris if he had been having any problems at all completing projects or continuity of a project between the two groups. Mr. Harris stated no that right now they do not have anything and do not see a problem moving forward. Alderman Sutton stated no department is more important than another is and with working, however City Hall has a lot to do with keeping our employees paid, bills paid, this is the heart of our operation. Alderman Sutton asked City Clerk, Stephanie Daffron how efficient is the split shift, as far as getting things done and by working remotely. Mrs. Daffron stated the remote access is great however; she lives in the county and does not have Wi-Fi access. She is using the hotspot on her personal cell phone at this time. Alderman Sutton suggested that it is the responsibility of the city to provide a hot spot for the employees with remote access as well as consider getting the City Clerk a city cell phone. Alderman Gremminger asked the City Clerk if she had an issue with continuity of work or completion of work. Mrs. Daffron stated only basic needs are being done, the employees at city hall are coming in after hours to work on things that need to be completed. Alderman Sutton stated he had an issue with the City Clerk coming in after hours or on the weekends to get things done and he would not ask her to do something he himself did not want to do. Alderman Gremminger asked the City Clerk if she was able to do her job to the board's expectations to the best of her ability at the rate she is currently working. Mrs. Daffron stated no she was not able to perform as expected unless she came in after hours or on the weekends. Alderman Gremminger asked the Chief Water Operator, Paul Pilliard about his experiences. Mr. Pilliard stated projects are not being done in a timely manner; his people have to be licensed to do the repairs as of right now they do have licensed water people on both teams. Right now, they are doing what needs done, no extras. Alderman Gremminger asked Park and Recreation Director, Terry Cole how his experience is going even though right now it is just the library. Mr. Cole stated his people are split up on the Public Works / Water teams and the Library girls are alternating working at City Hall and in the afternoon working at the Library doing curbside only. Alderman Shaw asked Mrs. Daffron if she felt like she needed anything from the board to make it easier for her to meet her mission. Mrs. Daffron stated it would help to have a mobile hot spot, other than coming back together; nothing would make it easier. Alderman Gremminger stated he is still worried about the continuity of service, completion, and passing off half-done work for the next person or crew. Alderman Gremminger stated he understood the reasoning behind the split crews but he thinks the city would be much more efficient, effective and just as safe if and we brought all staff back together and just left the lobby closed. Mayor Kater asked the board if they wanted to bring all the employees back together and Alderman Shaw stated he thought that would be a step backwards. Alderman Shaw stated he thought it was more important to keep our people safe than to get projects done that could be done later.

Police Department Use of Force Policy

Police Chief, James Bullock spoke with the board regarding the use of force policy. Chief Bullock stated on October 28, 2020 the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) issued a notice regarding President Trump's June 16, 2020 Executive Order 13929, Safe Policing for Safe Communities. This order requires all state, local and university law enforcement agencies obtain certification, by January 31, 2021 in order to be eligible for federal grant funding in fiscal year 2021. In order to be successfully credentialed, the law enforcement agency's use of force policies must prohibit chokeholds, except in deadly force situations this must be stated in the city's use of force policy. Chief Bullock amended the policy to address chokeholds and presented this to the board. This must be approved and sent to the state before December 31, 2020 for the Police Department to be eligible for grants. Alderman Christopher made the motion to approve the changes to the policy and Alderman Shaw seconded the motion. Christopher - aye; Shaw - aye; Gremminger - aye; Hulsey - absent; Hodge - aye; Sutton - aye. Motion carried

Police Department Hazard Pay

Police Chief, James Bullock requested to approach the board to discuss hazard pay for the police department. The police department did not split shifts as other departments did; they have to cover at least 336 hours a week with at least two officers that's not forty hours therefore they cannot split their shifts. Since this pandemic has started, the city has not lost one thing pertaining to the police department as far as service to the city and the citizens. Since the police department cannot split shifts and are out there facing this pandemic everyday face-to-face. Chief Bullock request the board to do something to compensate the officers for combating this pandemic for the 9 months previous and until the level changes. Suggestions for the twelve officers would be \$1,000.00 per officer and possibly \$2.00 an hour for every employee moving forward until the level changes. Alderman Sutton asked where the Fire Department falls in with this hazardous duty pay as they deal with the same people. Alderman Gremminger stated when the fire department gets a call, dispatch screens the caller and ask if anyone in the house has tested positive for COVID or been in contact with anyone who has tested positive. This information is passed on to first responders, the police department responds blindly. Alderman Gremminger stated he believes the \$1,000.00 as well as the \$2.00 an hour increase is a reasonable request. Chief Bullock stated he knows the sales tax has come in higher than last year, City Administrator, Dan Bryan stated our spending is right on and our overall revenue is up about 2%. Mayor Kater stated that we did not give raises this year because of the COVID pandemic. Alderman Sutton stated if we are going to protect first responders it should be all first responders including the fire department. City Administrator suggested that the board wait and entertain this after we receive the first initial CARES Act money. Alderman Sutton requested to check and see how other cities are disbursing hazard pay or see policies of other cities regarding this. Alderman Gremminger requested to act immediately on the \$1,000.00 back pay for the officers and from this day forward double the stipend pay for the fire department. Mr. Bryan stated this would not be a budgeted item. Alderman Shaw made the motion to give each member of the police department a thousand dollar \$1,000.00 hazardous duty award for COVID relief and to consider future possible compensation and Alderman Gremminger seconded the motion Christopher - aye; Shaw - aye; Gremminger - aye; Hulsey - absent; Hodge - aye; Sutton - aye. Motion carried

Alderman Gremminger made a motion to double the stipend pay per call for the fire department from this day forward. No second. Alderman Gremminger stated this would take them from seven dollars a call to fourteen dollars a call. Mayor Kater stated are we going to give to the women in the office that take the money. This motion failed for lack of a second motion. Alderman Christopher recommended

we bring this back for discussion. Alderman Sutton requested an average monthly payout report from the City Clerk.

Rice Road

City Administrator, Dan Bryan stated he had been talking to the county commission regarding the section of Rice Road that the developers wanted to bring into the city so they may use it as access to their subdivision. The county does not have any records or deed to this area of Rice Road and are not interested in paying for a survey, but if the city would want to pay for the survey, they would write a legal letter as to the description. Mr. Bryan stated he talked to the City Attorney, Scott Reid about this and he stated the city would have to have a survey, legal description and a quick claim deed. Mr. Bryan asked the board if they would want to pay to have this area surveyed, approximately sixty (60 by one hundred (100) feet, for future annexation so the developers may have access to their property to develop a subdivision. After further discussion by the board, Alderman Christopher made the motion to pay for the survey of Rice Road and Alderman Shaw seconded the motion Christopher - aye; Shaw - aye; Gremminger - nay; Hulsey - absent; Hodge - aye; Sutton - aye. Motion carried

Mayor and Alderman Reports

Alderman Christopher stated that in ward 1, there was an incident and he contacted the Police Chief after hours, the Chief contacted the sergeant that was involved in the matter and received information regarding the incident. This sergeant did a phenomenal job. Alderman Christopher stated he was amazed at how fast the concrete work at the park was done and it looks nice. Thanked City Clerk, Stephanie for her honesty and stated the board would do what they could to help.

Alderman Sutton had nothing to report.

Alderman Gremminger stated the town looks nice with the Christmas lights up and thanked all departments for doing a great job. Alderman Gremminger asked everyone to keep Wayne Ketcherside in their prayers. Alderman Gremminger discussed the Crises Intervention Training with Police chief, James Bullock.

Alderman Hodge had nothing to report.

Alderman Shaw passed compliments on to Officer Orr regarding his participation in the chamber luncheon last month regarding mental health. The park looks great and so does the lights.

Alderman Hulsey was absent.

Mayor Kater thanked all for coming and all that everyone has done. The Mayor spoke regarding his years of service as Mayor.

Vote to Close

Alderman Hodge moved to close the meeting pursuant to RSMo 610.021 - (3) Personnel. Alderman Christopher seconded the motion. Gremminger - aye; Hulsey - absent; Hodge - aye; Sutton - aye; Christopher - aye; Shaw - aye. Motion Carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION BEGAN

8:30 p.m.

Vote to Return to Open Session

Alderman Gremminger made a motion to return to open session and Alderman Hodge seconded the motion.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

8:53 p.m.

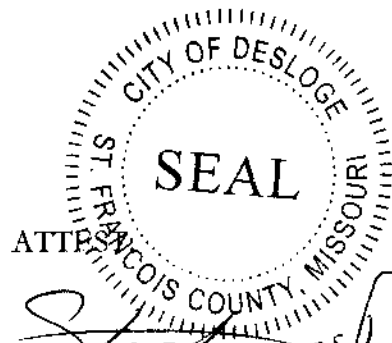
The board discussed First Net, a phone plan offered through AT&T for first responders as well as cities.

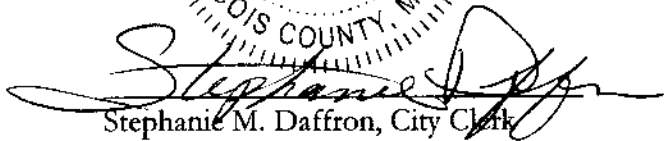
Adjourn

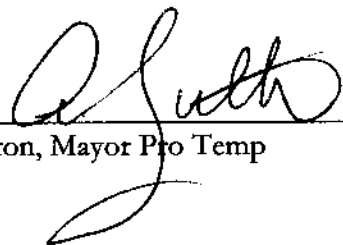
Alderman Hodge moved to adjourn and Alderman Shaw seconded the motion. Hulsey – absent; Hodge – aye; Sutton – aye; Christopher – aye; Shaw – aye; Gremminger – aye. Motion carried.

MEETING ADJOURNED

9:00 p.m.



  
Stephanie M. Daffron, City Clerk

  
Alvin Sutton, Mayor Pro Temp