

Board of Alderman Minutes
81 S. Orchard Blvd.
October 10, 2023
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OPEN MEETING

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

Call to order at: 6:30 p.m.

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

Public Forum

Old Business

New Business

DISCUSS MUNICIPAL COURT

Court Clerk thinks we should consider getting rid of court. She has had a minimal amount of training. Court system is very intricate. Court operating rules change frequently. Difficult to abide by those rules being so small with one clerk. Held personally accountable and dealing with peoples lives. If we were to keep it, she would need significantly more training. Has not reconciled bank account and can't do it. OSCA is working on it. Supposed to work 30 hours for court and only 10 for the city. It's pretty difficult to do city stuff with the way court is right now. We will need to hire intern if we continue to have court. Tickets have significantly increased. Chief told her they would continue to increase due to training. When she started we had about 7 tickets a month and now up to 40+. Out of room to store paperwork and continues to try to go to paper light. City Clerk is the only person who knows how to do payroll. She needs to be able to cross train on it. Trainings for the court are in Spring and Fall, but can't make it to fall training because it always falls on court week. Court Clerk and Judge are the only ones allowed on the court checking account. She doesn't like that. Calls OSCA on a daily basis and those calls last 20 minutes to an hour at a time. Gets different answers each time which makes things confusing. Having a court review next week. Have been doing things wrong for several years. She was filing tickets. Prosecuting Attorney clerk took over filing tickets and all tickets filed since July have been filed wrong. Court clerk has worked 2 days fixing it.

Icenhower wants to know why we are giving so many tickets. Beaty says it's for training and Icenhower says that you can pull people over and not give them tickets. Beaty says that we would upset our citizens instead of people on the highway. Icenhower says 125 is a main street and he can see that people are speeding. Court clerk says that the majority of tickets are people passing through. Out of 40 tickets for October maybe 10 were citizens. Icenhower says around 3:30 on a Friday, he saw someone pulled over on Highway 65 and that the officers should be at the school at that time.

Veach says what bothers her is that we have been doing it wrong for years. Court clerk says that City Clerk has to assist Prosecuting attorney and that 7 tickets isn't much or hard to handle but when its 40+ it takes up a lot of time. Lord asks what it takes to get the training. Court clerk has

no outside training. There are tutorials online but in order to do a tutorial she wouldn't be able to be at her desk. Lord asks how much more time she is giving to the court. We had an intern during the summer. She is trying to do document storage. Previous clerk was against going paperless. We need new equipment if we are keeping the court and going paperless. If you get it scanned in, you shouldn't have to keep the document. Started doing paperless the second month she was here but there is still retention that you have to do. Roe recalls before Darra retired that she was complaining about the system constantly changing. Court Clerk says there are monthly updates. Roe asks for cons for moving the court. Court Clerk can't really think of any. We hold court Thursday in the middle of the day. Icenhower says that court loses money. The city will get the fines back. Veach asks if it was stated it would take longer to go to court. Icenhower says county is backed up. Court Clerk says that we get all of the fines and bond forfeitures. Icenhower doesn't have a problem getting rid of court. Roe agrees. Icenhower says it would be cost saving to us. Beaty asks what steps have to be taken to change it. Court Clerk says we have a checklist of things that have to be done. We would have to work with OSCA. Greene County has to take it if they are asked. Icenhower says that as far as he is concerned we can do away with the municipal court. Mayor says that 4 years ago all of the Mayors were looking at ways to combine courts or move it to the county. Sheriff Arnott was in favor of that.

Motion by Beaty to look into what we need to do to switch the Municipal Court to Greene County. Seconded by Icenhower

Beaty says that we will bring that back to the board for a final decision.

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

ACCEPT BECKI CARR'S RESIGNATION FROM PARK BOARD

Motion by Icenhower to accept Becki Carr's resignation from the Park Board. Second Veach

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

ACCEPT RACHEL COOKE'S RESIGNATION FROM PARK BOARD

Motion by Roe to accept Rachel Cooke's resignation from the Park Board. Second Veach

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

PARK BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Mayor recommends Johnnie Collins to the Park Board for a term to expire 6/2024

Motion by Icenhower to accept the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Johnnie Collins to the Park Board for a term to expire 6/2024. Seconded Beaty

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

Mayor recommends Kailey Newbrough for a term to expire 06/2024

Motion by Roe to accept the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Kailey Newbrough to the Park Board for a term to expire 6/2024. Seconded Beaty

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

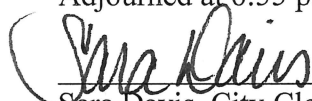
Mayor Report

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Adjournment

Motion by Roe to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 pm. Seconded Veach
Veach AYE, Icenhower AYE, Beaty AYE, Lord AYE, Roe AYE

Adjourned at 6:55 p.m.



Sara Davis, City Clerk