

**PUBLIC HEARING NON-PROFIT SENIOR HOUSING CLASSIFICATION**

Date: April 8, 2025. Mayor opened at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Voorhis read Notice of Public Hearing (attached)

Present: Chandra Scott, Sara Davis, Jennifer Walters, Mark Riggan, Kenny Hokanson, Dennis Roe, Kelly Petty, Richard Icenhower, Sherry Veach, Mark Stewart, Ben Lord

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by Mayor Voorhis

Left public hearing at 6:31

In Favor:

Opposed:

Back to Public Hearing at 6:55 p.m.

Closed Public Hearing at 6:55 p.m.

**OPEN MEETING**

Roll call taken by Mayor Thomas Voorhis

Dennis Roe PRESENT, Sherry Veach PRESENT, Ben Lord PRESENT, Mark Stewart PRESENT, Richard Icenhower PRESENT, Kelly Petty PRESENT

Call to order at 6:32 p.m.

**Approve Agenda.** Motion by Icenhower to amend agenda to discuss vacation issues. Second Roe

Roe AYE, Veach AYE, Lord AYE, Stewart AYE, Icenhower AYE, Petty AYE

Motion by Veach to approve amended agenda. Seconded by Roe

Roe AYE, Veach AYE, Lord AYE, Stewart AYE, Icenhower AYE, Petty AYE

**PUBLIC FORUM**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**INTERIM CHIEF REVIEW (Lord, Stewart)**

Lord – This is on here to give Sgt. Billie Deckard some added title pay while she was the acting Chief. Sara was so kind to come up with some numbers. She put a lot of work in this. The

difference in her pay and the Chief that resigned, his pay, for the 17 weeks that she was the Interim Chief is \$765.

**Motion by Lord to pay Sgt. Deckard \$765 to bring her up to Chief pay as she was acting Chief. Seconded by Veach**

Roe – Okay, and the reason for doing this, this is the standard procedure for Springfield, is that correct?

Stewart – Yes, out of title pay. Like right now, I’m the acting Corporal so I get paid, every paycheck I get 10%.

Icenhower – It’s like the fire department.

Lord – Out of title pay.

Roe – That makes sense. I agree with that, I just want clarification so our audience understands.

Lord – Billie did a good job. She had a lot on her plate and I appreciate her efforts. This is the least we could do.

Lord – How is that going to happen Mayor? Just add it to her upcoming check?

Voorhis – I believe...

Davis – It will be in her next check.

Voorhis – Yeah, it’s just out of title pay so it’s not like, she was filling a roll so it’s not like we’re breaking any rules with it being a bonus or anything like that. She was fulfilling a role for the city.

**Roe AYE, Veach AYE, Lord AYE, Stewart AYE, Icenhower AYE, Petty AYE**

**DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE 6” THICK CONCRETE APRON (Roe, Icenhower)**

Roe: Last month we approved a bid from ARC Construction to extend the sidewalk out here on Orchard from the gravel service park driveway up to across from the driveway for the library and that bid we approved was \$22,950. With that said, we removed \$2,500 he was going to charge us for this erosion control, it’s the black silt sock that goes down in the ditch. The ditch is shallow and it wasn’t used in front of Teal’s Nursery over the summer so the committee here decided to recommend not using that as part of this project so we saved \$2,500 there. Now, Allen calls me, Allen Cantrell with ARC, he calls me last Wednesday morning before the rain started. He was getting it identified where the utilities need to be marked and he said “Dennis, between the

sidewalk where it goes across the gravel driveway, you're going to have a space about this wide from the street to the sidewalk of gravel, people drive across that, the gravel is going to be moved out, you're always going to have a dip there." He's proposing removing that area of the gravel and doing what's called a concrete apron off of the highway there to the sidewalk. So you go the highway, apron, gravel service road. That will help the life of the sidewalk right there as well. He estimated \$600 to \$700 to do it. This is just using a real quick tape measurer out there and he's going to have to saw cut into the street so my recommendation, I've talked to the committee about it, my recommendation is to approve \$1,000, up to \$1,000 for this apron. I told Allen that I have to get approval from the Board because we approved a certain price and any changes have to be approved so that's what I'm doing at this time. Any questions about it before I make a motion?

Stewart – This is the one that's being paid for by the grant, right?

Roe – The \$30,000 grant.

Stewart – So we're still under that \$30,000 mark?

Roe – Yeah, even with this extra \$1,000 that we pay, it will be just under \$24,000 so we still have \$6,000 that can be used elsewhere.

Stewart – Sounds great.

Roe – I agree.

Motion by Roe to approve spending up to \$1000 on 6" thick concrete apron for sidewalk bid by Arc Construction on Orchard entrance to park Second by Veach

Roe – I would like to mention, Allen and I talked at that time last week, he proposed a start date of Monday next week, the 14<sup>th</sup>. I was super excited to hear that. He called me tonight and asked if he could come in Thursday of this week. Imagine how high I jumped off the floor. I was super super super excited that he could work us in that quickly. He is planning to deliver equipment on Thursday and he's hoping where the gravel driveway is to get that all poured on Friday. It will set over the weekend, the park has practice Monday evening and the concrete will be cured by then. It's coming together. I'm excited if you can't tell.

Petty – Thank you, Dennis for putting this together and coordinating it. I'm glad there's a fun project for you to leave on.

**Roe AYE, Veach AYE, Lord AYE, Stewart AYE, Icenhower AYE, Petty AYE**

### **DISCUSS VACATION PAY**

Roe: We have possibly 3 people to discuss. I sat down with Sara today and she gave me the numbers. Our Public Works Director, Kenny, his anniversary date is May 7<sup>th</sup>, that's a month away. He has almost 10 days of vacation left, to be precise it's 79 hours. We do not have a backup for Kenny that is a licensed operator. Up until May of last year, we had Bert Bond but Bert lost his license and we were operating under his brother's license and we had some other issues with Bert so we parted ways with him last year. So Kenny has not had a backup operator that's licensed. Along came Dane. Dane has been an awesome help but he's not a licensed operator and he's learned a lot. Dane has recently accepted a full time position as a machinist which is his true love and so he's cutting way back on his hours and can't be available as much as he was because he was doing machining out of his own shop at his home. So all of that said, Kenny doesn't have a way of using this vacation and having adequate coverage. We are proposing, Richard and I have had a chance to discuss it, I have not had a chance to discuss it with Kelly, this all came up in the last couple of days. We're proposing that he receive pay for the 79 hours. If you cannot use it.

Hokanson – If I can't use it. I'm taking off every Friday.

Icenhower – I said we weren't going to do this again, but we had extenuating circumstances. Not only is he having to take care of the plant but he's having to mow the grass and do everything else. We got hit by lightening over the weekend and we've had all kinds of issues and we still got issues.

Petty – We did?

Roe – Yeah, I found out about it Monday. It didn't shut anything down completely but it's done some damage so we're working through it.

Petty – And the alternative is that he loses this?

Roe – Yes.

Petty – So I think that since he's not able, we're not even able to honor his time off because we can't cover then I think it's right that we pay him that time off back.

Roe – The 79 hours adds up to \$2,133 so I would say that whatever he doesn't use up to that amount that he be paid for that.

Icenhower – You gonna take anymore off?

Hokanson – Every Friday if I can.



Roe – So you might burn up...

Icenhower – So you'll burn some of that up. What's his anniversary date? May 7<sup>th</sup>? So you've got 4 weeks.

Stewart – This is mor curiosity for me. So at his anniversary date, when you lose all of this, do you go back down to zero and you have to build it back up? So you have no time off?

Icenhower – No, he has vacation, he just can't carry it over. What do you got, 3 weeks?

Hokanson – Yeah.

Icenhower – He can't carry over a week and have 4 weeks next year.

Petty – There's a max.

Stewart – So he'll have time after his anniversary. So if he needed to take off the day after his anniversary, he could?

Icenhower – Oh yeah. My suggestion would be, after May 7<sup>th</sup>, how much time he has left, whatever that comes up to, we pay him that.

Voorhis – Do you want to talk about the other 2 or do you want to do them one at a time? If you're doing one at a time, we need a motion to approve that before moving on.

Icenhower – I would do one at a time.

Roe – Probably do one at a time because the numbers are going to be different for each of the other two people as well.

**Motion by Icenhower to pay Kenny for his vacation that he has left after May 7<sup>th</sup>. Seconded by Veach**

Icenhower – I hope people realize how fortunate we are to have Kenny to wear as many hats as he wears.

Veach – We used to have 2 and now we've got Kenny, that's it.

**Roe AYE, Veach AYE, Lord AYE, Stewart AYE, Icenhower AYE, Petty AYE**

Roe: Ben and Mark have already talked about Billie. Billie's put in some extra hours. Billie has not been able to use vacation time during the time she was Interim Chief. Her anniversary is May 13<sup>th</sup> so almost a week after Kenny. She's got 13 days which is 104 hours, Kenny had 79 hours. I'm asking the Police Committee your thoughts on that. I think, if I'm correct, Billie has some concerns about trying to get those days in and I don't know. Has she talked to you about it? What's your thoughts? Is it possible she can get those days in?

Chief Riggin – Our conversation looks a little bit like this. If she takes off every day that she has coming to her, what are we willing to give up in police coverage? We get that. We have 3 officers. That's not just Billie, that's going to be moving forward when I have officers, same as Kenny, who are trying to take days off, trying to get coverage. This vacation thing was a topic for Billie and I for 3 hours today along with building schedules. On Billie's account, not to get sidetracked, she has expressed concern, how do I take this time off when we're snapping me in? I told her next week go to her regular schedule so I know she wants to take time off but she hasn't settled on what that looks like.

Roe – We could do the same thing, approve up to that amount, whatever she's not taken off.

Stewart – I would like to come up with a more permanent solution so we don't have to keep coming back here. Maybe if we could table this until our next meeting and sit down with Chief and come up with an idea.

Riggin – She wants to take time off, we do need a permanent solution because what you're going to run into is everyone in the city including my officers who have been working their butts off when you didn't have a Chief, losing vacation and then starting out at zero when it comes to their anniversary date and so then they can't take time off again until they accrue it, is my understanding from how the handbook reads. So if my anniversary comes up next year on April 1<sup>st</sup> and I didn't burn my time, I still start out at zero, according to what I understand from the handbook and the Mayor. But then my officers can't take off until the end of the year in their current anniversary year and if I have two officers that have close anniversaries, we may lose coverage for days at a time.

Roe – That doesn't make sense.

Icenhower – That's not right. Whatever you got, say she's got a week or two weeks coming, that comes to her immediately after she passes the anniversary date.

Riggin – Then we should probably at some point amend the handbook because they are in a lot of confusion and aren't sure what to do.

Voorhis – We ran into this with Roy, the former police chief, he brought this up. It was discussed that they lost it at the year, right. Come January 1, they lose it no matter where they're at.

Icenhower – I think you're talking about two different things here. Once they cross that anniversary hiring date, they're entitled to whatever vacation they have coming that year.

Veach – If you have two weeks coming for you and you've only been able to take one week, when you hit your anniversary, you cannot carry that week over with you into the next year. You lose that week.

Stewart – Here's what I think. I think we just table this for now, we do a little bit of research and maybe clarify the handbook, we will modify the handbook and bring it up at the next meeting.

Icenhower – They do get their vacation on their hire date, they don't go to zero.

Petty – So they start every year with their PTO bank full and have a year to use it.

Riggin – Ideally that would be wonderful.

Icenhower – That's the way it is.

Veach – They don't have to wait until the end of their year to take their vacation.

Lord – I agree with Mark, let's table it.

Roe – Do we need a motion to table it?

Voorhis – No, I don't believe we need a motion to table it.

Roe – The last person is Sara, our City Clerk. I asked her about this because I knew her anniversary date was early January, it's January 4<sup>th</sup>. In December, she had to change from gWorks back to Quickbooks because they were fighting all kinds of issues with gWorks, some W2s, people that had left getting their W2s. She put in a lot of hours even though she needed to take vacation but it was to help the City trying to navigate through that and it still caused her to be behind in January getting all of the meeting minutes typed up. So I asked her about that, how many days did you lost and it was 64 hours which is 8 days. It would be just under \$1,713 for us to pay her for those 8 days that she was not able to use.

Veach – I think we should do her just like we're doing Kenny.

Roe – Well, it was an extenuating circumstance that the Board voted on to get out of the gWorks and go to Quickbooks.

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Icenhower – Well, not only that. She had to be here for people to file for office. Chan can't do it, it has to be Sara.

Roe – It was like a double storm.

Veach – I think we should just cut her a check and pay her for those vacation days.

Stewart – I agree. This might be a good time next meeting maybe giving them the option to buyout their vacation time.

Lord – It sounds like we're already doing that.

Stewart – It does.

Motion by Roe to pay Sara Davis for the 64 hours that she was not able to take before the end of her anniversary year at \$1,712.64. Seconded by Veach

Roe AYE, Veach AYE, Lord AYE, Stewart AYE, Icenhower AYE, Petty AYE

Back to Public Hearing at 6:55 p.m.

Back to Open Meeting at 6:56 p.m.

**BILL NO. 25-08 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 700 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FAIR GROVE, MISSOURI, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDING A NON-PROFIT SENIOR HOUSING CUSTOMER CLASSIFICATION (Posted 2-28-2025)**

Motion by Roe to have the first reading of Bill No. 25-08 by title only. Seconded by Veach

Roe AYE, Veach AYE, Lord AYE, Stewart AYE, Icenhower AYE, Petty AYE

MAYOR READ BILL NO. 25-08 BY TITLE ONLY.

Motion by Veach to approve the first reading and have second reading of Bill No. 25-08 by title only. Seconded by Roe

Roe AYE, Veach AYE, Lord AYE, Stewart AYE, Icenhower AYE, Petty AYE

MAYOR READ BILL NO. 25-08 BY TITLE ONLY.

Motion by Roe to approve second reading of Bill No. 25-08 by title only and assign it Ordinance No. 275. Seconded by Veach

Roe AYE, Veach AYE, Lord AYE, Stewart AYE, Icenhower AYE, Petty AYE

### **MAYOR REPORT**

Voorhis – We did hire a Police Chief, Mr. Mark Riggin, who happens to be in the room tonight. The City of Fair Grove is grateful that he has elected to come and join us and we believe that he will be able to lead this police department in an outstanding manner with his qualifications and love for the community and everything he has done throughout his years of service and public service. Thank you, Mr. Riggin and I am done.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Icenhower to adjourn at 6:59 Seconded by Veach  
Roe AYE, Veach AYE, Lord AYE, Stewart AYE, Icenhower AYE, Petty AYE

Adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

  
Sara Davis, City Clerk