

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
APRIL 28, 2020

The Council of the City of Fulton, Missouri, met in Regular Session on Tuesday, April 28, 2020 via videoconferencing. Two methods of livestreaming were provided (city website and city social media) for the public to actively view the meeting. Present and presiding were: Mayor Lowe Cannell; William R. Johnson, Director of Administration; and Courtney L. Crowson, City Clerk. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Cannell at 6:42 p.m. Roll call was taken by the City Clerk, and members of the Council present were: Braun, Pace-Snook, Rehklau, Sebacher, Shiverdecker, Simmons, and Stone. Absent was Councilman Moore. Also present were: Kathy Holschlag, Chief Financial Officer; Kyle Bruemmer, Interim City Engineer; Helen Wilbers of *THE FULTON SUN*; Darin Wernig and Mike Haldeman, Audio/Video.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Fulton Country Club fireworks display discussion.

Mayor Cannell stated he received a request from the County Club for the city to cover the cost of the 2020 Fourth of July fireworks display. The pyrotechnic company in charge of the display needs a commitment soon in order to secure the fireworks, and Mayor Cannell estimated the cost to be \$5,900.00.

Questions were raised as to whether or not there is a plan in place should the current COVID-19 pandemic prevent large gatherings or the event to move forward. Mayor Cannell stated the display could be cancelled or delayed.

Councilman Braun asked whether or not the city require a location change given that the city will be funding the event. Mayor Cannell noted the Country Club will still allow the event to take place on their property and thanked them for allowing the use of their facility. Mayor Cannell also noted the city typically pays half of the fireworks display cost, but in 2019 the Country Club was unable to fund their entire portion and requested additional money from the city.

Councilwoman Sebacher expressed concern with the rising funding request and asked if the Country Club has solicited donations from larger businesses or community members. Mayor Cannell stated the city could fund the fireworks display and then look for donations, if needed.

Councilwoman Pace-Snook stated she does not feel asking small businesses for donations during the current pandemic is a good idea, and she supports the city funding the fireworks display. Councilman Stone also expressed support for funding the display.

Some additional discussion was held regarding the location of the fireworks display. City Clerk Courtney Crowson clarified that the Mayor's request encompasses providing funding only, meaning that the Country Club would still be the entity entering into a contract with the pyrotechnic company. Because the city isn't directly involved in the contract, modifications are not likely to be accommodated. Crowson noted that if the city chooses to continue funding a display in the future, the city would likely need to bid out the process and would also have control of the location.

Bill Johnson, Director of Administration, stated COVID-19 will be very rough on the city financially with lost utility and license penalty revenues and the waiver of online payment processing fees for utility bills. Johnson estimates the city is losing \$15,000-18,000 monthly in in penalty revenue and there is roughly

\$200,000 in unpaid utilities from March/April. Johnson also noted many cities are anticipating a 20% reduction in sales tax revenue collections (equal to roughly \$800,000 for Fulton).

Motion was offered by Councilman Stone and seconded by Councilman Simmons to provide the funding for the 2020 Fourth of July fireworks display.

Mayor Cannell and Johnson noted these funds would be taken from the Council discretionary fund.

Motion carried with six members of the Council voting in favor, one member (Sebacher) opposed, and one member (Moore) absent.

- b. Approval of a request for the annual Fulton Street Fair to be held June 26-27, 2020 in downtown Fulton.

Johnson stated the Street Fair has been held every year for many years, and city staff are aware of the needs and processes to assist with the event. Johnson stated the Street Fair Committee has always been very accommodating and both groups work together well to ensure the event is a success. Other than concerns about necessary modifications relating to COVID-19, Johnson recommended the Council approve the event with the understanding the city may have to require changes to the event and plans.

Motion was offered by Councilman Shiverdecker and seconded by Councilman Stone to approve the event, and to allow Johnson to require additional modifications, if necessary.

Councilman Braun questioned how the city will establish whether or not the event can move forward. Johnson stated the city will take its lead from the Governor's regulations and recommendations.

Motion carried with seven members of the Council voting in favor, and one member (Moore) absent.

- c. Approval of the appointment of Linda Rootes to the Fulton Housing Authority Commission.

Councilwoman Sebacher stated she would abstain from this vote as she is employed by the Fulton Housing Authority.

Motion was offered by Councilman Stone and seconded by Councilwoman Rehklau to approve the appointment, as presented. Councilman Braun stated he would like to see a short bio or summary of possible candidates in the future so that the Council can be more familiar with potential board/commission members.

Motion carried with six members of the Council voting in favor, one member (Sebacher) abstaining, and one member (Moore) absent.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 3371 was presented for adoption by Councilman Braun.

- a. Resolution No. 3371: A Resolution authorizing the Mayor, on behalf of the City of Fulton, Missouri, to sign all necessary documents in relation to a Contract with Missouri

Petroleum Products Co. LLC of St. Louis, Missouri for the purpose of providing aggregate sealcoat services at an estimated cost of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000.00).

Motion was offered by Councilman Braun and seconded by Councilman Stone to adopt Resolution No. 3371, as presented.

Johnson stated there is \$650,000 in the asphalt and chip seal budget for 2020. However, the city plans to hold off on asphalt projects until the financial impact of COVID-19 is better-known. Johnson stated Kyle Bruemmer, Interim City Engineer, is looking to spend \$250,000 on asphalt projects.

Bruemmer stated Kleewood is still in need of asphalt repair along with Jefferson Street, Wood Street, and prices are fairly consistent with last year's costs.

Councilman Braun noted there is a \$30,000 discrepancy between Bruemmer's list of streets in need of sealcoat services and the funding request (\$200,000). Following some brief discussion, motion was offered by Councilman Braun and seconded by Councilman Shiverdecker to allow for \$230,000 to be used for sealcoat services. Motion to amend carried with seven members of the Council voting in favor, and one member (Moore) absent.

Motion and second to adopt Resolution No. 3371, as amended, were affirmed by Councilman Braun and Councilman Stone. Motion carried with seven members of the Council voting in favor, and one member (Moore) absent.

Motion was offered by Councilman Stone and seconded by Councilwoman Pace-Snook to authorize Bruemmer to proceed with bidding out the asphalt overlay with a budget of \$250,000. Motion carried with seven members of the Council voting in favor, and one member (Moore) absent.

Resolution No. 3372 was presented for adoption by Councilman Shiverdecker.

- b. Resolution No. 3372: A Resolution authorizing the Mayor, on behalf of the City of Fulton, Missouri, to sign all necessary documents in relation to a Contract with Verslues Construction Company, Inc. of Jefferson City, Missouri, for the purpose of providing hangar construction services at Elton Hensley Memorial Airport pending grant documentation from MODOT.

Motion was offered by Councilman Shiverdecker and seconded by Councilman Braun to adopt Resolution No. 3372 at tonight's Council meeting.

Bruemmer noted six new hangars will be constructed, and construction will likely begin in a few months. Some discussion followed. Motion carried with seven members of the Council voting in favor, and one member (Moore) absent.

ORDINANCES:

FIRST READING

Bill No. 1581 was presented for First Reading by Councilwoman Sebacher.

- a. Bill No. 1581: An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor, on behalf of the City of Fulton, Missouri, to approve Plat Three (3) for Willow Creek Subdivision.

Motion was offered by Councilwoman Sebacher and seconded by Councilwoman Rehklau to place Bill No. 1581 for Second Reading at the next regularly-scheduled Council meeting.

Motion carried with seven members of the Council voting in favor, and one member (Moore) absent.

Mayor Cannell announced that city staff are expected to return to normal work schedules on Monday.

Johnson stated staff will return, but crews will still remain separated, and Police/Fire will continue on a modified schedule. City Hall will remain locked, although there are plans to reopen the drive through window in the near future. Johnson stated he will let the Council know before any major changes take place.

Johnson reported that the city will still honor the temporary policy for employees who test positive for COVID-19. This policy indicates that if an employee tests positive for the virus, they may begin utilizing extended sick leave immediately and retroactively in the event they missed work immediately prior to their virus diagnosis. Standardly, the city requires employees to either be admitted to the hospital or to use four shifts of regular paid time off before entering into extended sick leave. Johnson also noted the city pays for COVID-19 tests for employees who require a test.

Councilman Stone stated he would like to see City Hall back open and believes it should be opened soon.

Councilman Braun and Councilwoman Braun asked that city move into the reopening process with caution.

Councilman Simmons stated additional communication is needed so that the public knows what decisions and programs/events are being modified due to COVID-19.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the council, motion was offered by Councilman Shiverdecker and seconded by Councilman Stone to adjourn this meeting. Motion carried with seven members of the Council in favor, and one member (Moore) absent. The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Lowe Cannell, Mayor

Courtney L. Crowson, CMC/MRCC
City Clerk