

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**JULY 27, 2021**

The Council of the City of Fulton, Missouri, met in Regular Session on Tuesday, July 27, 2021 in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 18 E. 4th Street. Present and presiding were: Mayor Lowe Cannell; William R. Johnson, Director of Administration; Courtney L. Doyle, City Clerk; and Steve Myers, Police Chief. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Cannell at 6:30 p.m. Roll call was taken by the City Clerk, and members of the Council present were: Combs, Nelson, Simmons, Washington, and West. Absent were Councilwoman Rehklau and Councilman Stone. Also present were: Kathy Holschlag, Chief Financial Officer; Darrell Dunlap, Superintendent of Utilities; Kevin Coffelt, Fire Chief; Robert Boone, Assistant Director of Administration; Michelle Maupin, Human Resources Director; Rev. Bruce Williamson; Darin Wernig and Mike Haldeman, Audio/Video; and visitors: Tamara Tateosian, Briana Kliethermes, and Beth Snyder.

**INVOCATION:**

Invocation was given by Rev. Williamson.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rev. Williamson.

Councilman Stone arrived at 6:34 p.m.

**COMMENTS FROM VISITORS:**

Mayor Cannell asked any attendees not listed on tonight's agenda, but whom wished to address the Council, to please come to the podium, state their name, address and area of concern, and to keep comments under five (5) minutes. A digital timer was administered and monitored by the City Clerk.

There were none.

**APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA:**

The following items were distributed to each member of the City Council for review and study as a part of their council packet. Mayor Cannell presented each item and stated the Council may choose to remove any item from the Consent Agenda for discussion at this time.

- a. Approval of the City Council meeting minutes of June 22, 2021.
- b. Approval of the City Council meeting minutes of July 13, 2021.
- c. Approval of the Director of Administration Report of June.
- d. Appointment of Rick Shiverdecker to the Park Board for a three-year term (exp. July 2024).

Councilman West requested to remove the June Director of Administration Report for discussion.

Motion was offered by Councilman West and seconded by Councilman Stone to approve the remaining items on the Consent Agenda, as presented. Motion carried with seven members of the Council voting in favor, and one member (Rehklau) absent.

### **APPROVAL OF THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF JUNE:**

Councilman West noted “hiring issues” in the Parks & Recreation report along with “cleaning issues” stemming from the homeless population and drug use. Clay Caswell, Parks & Recreation Director, noted this has been an issue for quite some time.

Motion was offered by Councilman Simmons and seconded by Councilman Braun to approve the Director of Administration Report of June, as presented. Motion carried with seven members of the Council voting in favor, and one member (Rehklau) absent.

### **PRESENTATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE JUNE FINANCIAL REPORT:**

The Financial Report for the month of June was presented for acceptance, and Kathy Holschlag, Chief Financial Officer, was present to answer any questions from the Council.

Holschlag stated the city’s sales tax collections are still 9% ahead of 2020 figures. Holschlag noted the use tax is recorded separately, and revenues are coming in higher than originally projected.

Following brief discussion, motion was offered by Councilman Braun and seconded by Councilman West to accept the Financial Report for the month of June, as presented. Motion carried with seven members of the Council voting in favor, and one member (Rehklau) absent.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- a. Smart Grid update.

Darrell Dunlap, Superintendent of Utilities, referenced the information he provided in the DOA Report showing the number of meters currently reporting. Dunlap noted the finance department successfully billed one electronic route, and additional routes are under review to determine if they can be taken through billing in the coming months.

- b. Legends Rec-Plex update.

Caswell stated operations are going well, and there are currently 101 memberships as of the end of June. The Parks & Recreation Department plans to introduce 20-25 new programs in the next five to six months, and they believe this will continue to draw new members to the facility.

Caswell noted some issues with the air conditioning units and reported a second basketball backboard has shattered. The installation company will be coming to the facility to look at the other backboards and establish if there is an issue with the installation that has caused two of the backboards to shatter without provocation.

Caswell stated he would like to have 400-500 memberships, and he believes the facility can get there in a matter of months. The department is currently looking to have membership drives and offer incentives and also plans to work with insurance carriers to provide incentives for their clients to become members.

Councilman Simmons stated he has heard from many people who do not know what is available or going on at the Rec-Plex, and he suggested additional marketing and advertising is needed. Councilman West noted that social media would be a great place to start, and he suggested the Rec-Plex should have its own social media pages.

- c. Further discussion regarding the Legends Rec-Plex alcohol policy.

Caswell stated the city's insurance provider, MIRMA, will require renters to provide liability coverage if alcohol is being sold through a third-party caterer on the premises. If alcohol is being provided at no charge or people are bringing their own alcohol, no liability coverage is required. Caswell noted that the city's agreement with Coca-Cola still applies to rentals, and caterers will be required to purchase Coca-Cola products through the Rec-Plex. No other brands may be sold in the facility throughout the duration of the agreement, but people may choose to bring other brands in for their own use as part of a rental.

Councilman Braun stated he would like to have City Counselor Tom Riley review the rental agreement prior to the Council formally adopting it. Bill Johnson, Director of Administration, stated this could be arranged.

Some discussion was held regarding offering fountain soda versus the cans/bottles currently contained in the city's contract with Coca-Cola. Caswell stated this could be reviewed in the future.

Motion was offered by Councilman West and seconded by Councilman Braun to approve the Legends Rec-Plex alcohol policy consistent with applicable State laws regarding consumption licensing. Motion carried with six members of the Council voting in favor, one member (Washington) opposed, and one member (Rehklau) absent.

- d. Further discussion regarding the gas rate and Municipal Utility Emergency Loan Program terms.
  - i. Tabled Motion: Motion was offered by Councilman Washington and seconded by Councilwoman Rehklau to authorize a \$.035 per unit gas increase effective with the September 2021 billing followed by an additional \$.035 per unit gas increase effective with the April 2022 billing.

Dunlap again referenced the utility information in the DOA Report. Energy prices have risen approximately 40% as a result of the February crisis and the inclusion of more renewable energy on the grid. Dunlap stated that he is working off estimates, but it appears the city has spent approximately \$302,000 more in energy costs between January and June of this year when compared to 2020. Dunlap noted that the city is currently starting work on the budget and must also consider increased costs for the remainder of this year; all services and prices continue to rise, and Dunlap stated it is becoming difficult to get parts.

Dunlap reported the Public Utility Board has moved its next meeting up to August 16<sup>th</sup> in order to have more time to review trends and provide guidance and a recommendation to the City Council.

Johnson noted the Board prefers to only bring back a single rate increase to the Council, although the increased costs are difficult to pin down. Dunlap stated the city is looking at spending an additional \$280,000 for gas beyond what was budgeted in order to finish the year out.

Councilman Braun stated he would like to see a better long-term strategy for years to come rather than short-term solutions.

Dunlap stated the Board would like to gather more data and look at a gas rate increase at a later date once the city knows what the market will look like along with what will be needed to cover costs and the loan repayment.

Johnson stated there is no action needed on this item tonight, and more information will be forthcoming following the Public Utility Board meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Tamara Tateosian, Executive Director of Callaway Chamber of Commerce, will be present to provide a quarterly update of the organization's efforts.

Tateosian introduced Briana Kliethermes, the Chamber's Small Business Liaison. Kliethermes joined the Chamber at the beginning of May and brings prior experience to her new role.

Tateosian provided an overview of the various events that have taken place this past quarter and events scheduled for the coming months. Eleven RFP's have been submitted for projects totaling \$685 million.

**COUNCIL CONCERNS:**

Councilwoman Nelson stated she was contacted by a citizen with concerns about electrical issues at the city pool. Caswell will look into this issue.

Councilman Combs thanked the Fire Department and emergency personnel who assisted a citizen whose house temperature had risen higher than 90 degrees.

Councilman Braun noted the fire truck sign on Tennyson Road is faded and should be replaced.

Councilman Stone stated the gravel and excessive dust on East Second Street have been a concern for the residents and business owners in the area. Dunlap stated crews have spread a chemical to lessen the dust, and the roadways have been periodically watered down. Johnson stated anyone with concerns could contact him directly; crews are waiting for the trenches to settle before beginning the patching process.

Councilman Stone publicly thanked former editor of The Fulton Sun Ryan Boland for his service.

Councilman West stated he has received complaints about a property located on Kleewood with an excessive number of vehicles on the street and in the driveway. Councilman West noted there appear to be code violations that can be seen from the street.

Councilwoman Nelson noted she has heard concerns about an asphalt plant that is slated to be built just outside the city limits and stated she has directed people to contact the Callaway County Commissioners as the City of Fulton cannot control anything outside of the city limits.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

There were no Resolutions for consideration at this meeting.

**ORDINANCES:**

**FIRST READING**

Bill No. 1621 was presented for First Reading by Councilwoman Nelson.

- a. Bill No. 1621: An Ordinance amending Appendix A, Zoning. Section 13 (A)1(b). Fulton City Code. by repealing certain legislation and enacting new legislation in lieu thereof.

Motion was offered by Councilwoman Nelson and seconded by Councilman Stone to place Bill No. 1621 for Second Reading at the next regularly-scheduled Council meeting. Motion carried with seven members of the Council voting in favor, and one member (Rehklau) absent.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- a. The next City Council meeting will be held Tuesday, August 10, 2021. A Work Session will commence at 6:30 p.m. with Regular Session to follow at 7:00 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Mayor Cannell stated there was not a need for an Executive Session at this meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the Council, motion was offered by Councilman Braun and seconded by Councilman Simmons to adjourn this meeting. Motion carried with seven members of the Council voting in favor, and one member (Rehklau) absent. The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

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Lowe Cannell, Mayor

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Courtney L. Doyle, CMC/MRCC  
City Clerk