

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES NOVEMBER 22, 2022

The Council of the City of Fulton, Missouri, met in Regular Session on Tuesday, November 22, 2022, in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 18 E. 4th Street. Present and presiding were: Mayor Lowe Cannell; Renee Tyler, Director of Administration; Courtney L. Doyle, Asst. Director of Administration; Kathie Ratliff, City Clerk; and William Ladwig, Police Chief. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Cannell at 6:32 p.m. Roll call was taken by the City Clerk, and members of the Council present were: Leuther, Nelson, Rehklau, Sebacher, Stone, Washington, and West. Absent was Councilman Combs. Also present were: Kathy Holschlag, Chief Financial Officer; Darrell Dunlap, Superintendent of Utilities; Kyle Bruemmer, City Engineer; Dennis Houchins, Planning & Protective Services Director; Kevin Coffelt, Fire Chief; Rev. Bruce Williamson; Michael Shine and Mike Haldeman, Audio/Video; and visitors: Teralyn Williams, Tamara Tateosian, Jody Paschal, Kenny Albert, Beth Snyder, Patrick Bonnot, & John Braun

INVOCATION:

Invocation was given by Rev. Williamson.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rev. Williamson.

SERVICE RECOGNITION:

Mayor Cannell presented a proclamation to Kathy Holschlag, Chief Financial Officer, thanking her for more than seventeen years of service to the City.

Councilman West noted that December 8 was Mike Haldeman's last day with the city and thanked him for his years of service.

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS:

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

Teralynn Williams, 348 Pioneer Drive, expressed concerns about the lack of resources for our homeless population in Fulton. She stated she would like to see changes in our community to address those in need.

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 September 27, 2022.
- b. Approval of the City Council meeting minutes of October 25, 2022.
- c. Approval of the City Council meeting minutes of November 8, 2022.
- d. Approval of the Director of Administration report of October 2022.
- e. Approval of a letter of support to the Missouri Girls Town Foundation.

- f. Approval of a letter of support for the Missouri Women's Business Center.

Councilman West requested to remove the Director of Administration report for discussion. Motion was offered by Councilman Stone and seconded by Councilwoman Rehkla to approve the remaining items of the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried with seven members of the Council voting in favor, and one member (Combs) absent.

APPROVAL OF THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF OCTOBER 2022:

Councilman West asked for clarification regarding the Wastewater repairs noted in the DOA report. Darrell Dunlap, Superintendent of Utilities, explained that an aeration system developed a leak. He stated the issue was repaired and DNR was notified.

Councilman West noted Officer Louck's role in administering lifesaving aid to a five-day-old infant.

Other items briefly reviewed included: previous resolutions, Police Department patrol report, and K-9.

Motion was offered by Councilwoman Sebacher and seconded by Councilwoman Rehkla to approve the October 2022 Director of Administration report. Motion carried with seven members of the Council voting in favor, and one member (Combs) absent.

PRESENTATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE OCTOBER FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

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

Holschlag reported the first nine months of sales tax collections have been recorded, and collections are up 5.3% which makes us almost 3.5% behind the rate of inflation; use-tax revenues are up 11% which puts us a little ahead.

Holschlag shared that month-to-date and year-to-date electric and gas are in the red, while water, sewer, and solid waste are all in the black.

Motion was offered by Councilman West and seconded by Councilwoman Rehkla to accept the Financial Statement for the month of October as presented. Motion carried with seven members of the Council voting in favor, and one member (Combs) absent.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no Unfinished Business for consideration at this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. A representative will be present to request permission for the 2nd Annual Callaway Christmas Lighted Cruise to be held on December 2nd, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.
 - i. Line -up will begin at Memorial Park parking lot and proceed north on Nichols Street, east on Ninth Street, and south on Court Street before heading to the VFW.
 - ii. This request has been reviewed and approved by Administration and Police Chief Ladwig.

Jody Paschal shared that this was the second year of the event. It will involve vehicles decorated with Christmas lights, themed, or something of that nature. He stated the parade route has been shortened from last year's cruise and that anyone is welcome to join. He believes it will be well attended once again. He stated that all traffic lights and stop signs will be obeyed with this being a cruise, not a parade.

Kenny Albert requested graciously that a police car may be available as they start and to have a firetruck at the end, as they did in the previous year.

Councilman West noted from the audience he saw affirmative nods from Police Chief Ladwig and Fire Chief Coffelt to confirm Council support for this event.

Motion was offered by Councilwoman Sebacher and seconded by Councilwoman Rehkla to approve the 2nd Annual Callaway Christmas Lighted Cruise. Motion carried with seven members of the Council voting in favor, and one member (Combs) absent.

- b. Discussion regarding city Patrick Bonnot will be present to discuss MIRMA grant awards.

Bonnot stated MIRMA, the city's insurance provider, attempts to lower risk by providing grant funds for safety items. This year, the city has been awarded grant funds for a variety of high-liability items including air monitors for Fire and Gas, vehicle warning lights, and a dash cam.

Bonnet shared that in addition to grant money, the City of Fulton is receiving reimbursement for \$1,100. This reimbursement is for an Aquatic Audit given to our lifeguards through a lifeguard management program who successfully passed the test.

Mayor Cannell accepted the check on behalf of the City of Fulton and congratulated the lifeguards for a job well done.

Motion was offered by Councilman West and seconded by Councilwoman Rehkla to accept the Financial Statement for the month of October as presented. Motion carried with seven members of the Council voting in favor, and one member (Combs) absent.

COUNCIL CONCERNS:

Councilman West: *Planning & Zoning Commission liaison*

Councilman West stated there has not been another Planning & Zoning Commission meeting since the last report.

Councilwoman Sebacher: *Park Board liaison*

Councilwoman Sebacher stated there has not been another Park Board meeting since the last report.

Councilwoman Rehkla: *Traffic Commission liaison*

Councilwoman Rehkla stated there has not been another Traffic Commission meeting since the last report.

Councilwoman Rehkla issued thanks to city workers for cleaning up the trash on Tennyson.

Councilman Stone: *Historic Preservation Commission liaison*

Councilman Stone stated there has not been another Historic Preservation Commission meeting since the last report.

Councilman Stone expressed citizens' comments regarding the visibility issue from the 2nd Street retaining wall.

Councilman Leuther: *Airport Advisory Board liaison*

Councilman Leuther stated there has not been another Airport Advisory Board meeting since the last report.

Councilman Leuther suggested a work session to address concerns and ways of support regarding our homeless residents. Discussion followed.

Councilman Washington

Councilman Washington had no concerns.

Councilwoman Nelson: *Public Utility Board liaison*

Councilwoman Nelson shared that the Public Utility Board met recently. She asked Darrell Dunlap, Supervisor of Utilities, to share the update. The Board discussion involved increasing meter fees by \$3 and creating a flat rate of .10¢ on consumption. Those present at the Public Utility Board meeting unanimously voted yes to present it to the City Council in either December or January. Discussion followed regarding purchasing power, coal shortages, spring rains, and the power plant.

Councilwoman Nelson stated a resident shared concern about an area of Stinson Creek that is washing out onto his property.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 3469 was presented for adoption by Councilman Washington.

- a. Resolution No. 3469: A resolution authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk, on behalf of the City of Fulton, Missouri, to enter into an agreement with the Callaway Chamber of Commerce of Fulton, Missouri, for services to be rendered in 2023, and establishing an effective date.

Motion was offered by Councilman Washington and seconded by Councilwoman Nelson to adopt Resolution No. 3469 at tonight's Council meeting.

Chamber of Commerce Representative, Beth Snyder, expressed appreciation for the, albeit lesser than previous years, contracted money the Chamber of Commerce will receive in 2023. She stated she is working on an updated version of the contract and would be submitting it electronically.

Councilman Stone stated he felt that the budget cut from \$78,000 to \$60,000 was too large.

Councilman Leuther shared he understood that everyday expenses to the Chamber would increase for 2023. He believes the work they provide is equal to that of an economic developer.

Director of Administration Tyler stated that it is not an easy task to create a budget and make cuts. She asserted it is paramount that the residents and employees of Fulton continue to receive the services that they have become accustomed to. She understands that while it is a large cut, it was not the only one. She shared that perhaps the best way to offset the funding is to find non-cash ways of support.

Councilman West pointed out that in previous years, the city was more prosperous making it easier to do more. He acknowledged that no one likes the thought of having to raise our gas and electric rates, but it's a reality of the situation.

Mayor Cannell asked that it be noted that the Chamber of Commerce said that \$60,000 is fine.

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

Mayor Cannell recessed the Council for a brief break at 7:47 p.m. The Council reconvened at 7:55 p.m.

ORDINANCES:

SECOND READING

Bill No. 1657 was presented for Second Reading by Councilman Leuther.

- a. Bill No. 1657: An Ordinance incorporating certain territory as requested by Callaway County Presiding Commissioner Gary Jungermann into the corporate limits of the City of Fulton, Missouri and establishing an effective date.

Motion was offered by Councilman Leuther and seconded by Councilman West to table Bill No. 1657, indefinitely.

Assistant Director of Administration Doyle provided clarification that the legal description had changed after the public hearing. She recommended tabling indefinitely. ADOA Doyle stated that she anticipated another bill bearing the correct description appearing at an upcoming Council meeting.

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

Bill No. 1658 was presented for Second Reading by Councilman Stone.

- a. Bill No. 1658: An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor, on behalf of the City of Fulton, Missouri, to execute an agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission for the State of Missouri to perform work on city right-of-way at the intersection of Route C and Tennyson Road in Fulton, Missouri, to sign all necessary documents in relation to said agreement, and establishing an effective date.

Motion was offered by Councilman Stone and seconded by Councilman Washington to place Bill No. 1658 for Third Reading at tonight's Council meeting.

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

Bill No. 1658 was presented for Third Reading by Councilman Stone.

Motion was offered by Councilman Stone and seconded by Councilwoman Sebacher to place Bill No. 1658 for Final Passage at tonight's Council meeting. Motion carried with seven members of the Council voting in favor, and one member (Combs) absent.

Roll call vote of the members of the Council was as follows: Leuther, YES; Nelson, YES; Rehklau, YES; Sebacher, YES; Stone, YES; Washington, YES; West, YES; Absent: Councilman Combs. Bill No. 1658, having received the affirmative vote of seven members of the Council was declared passed by the President of the Council.

Bill No. 1659 was presented for Second Reading by Councilwoman Nelson.

- a. Bill No. 1659: An Ordinance repealing Ordinance Number 1119-05 establishing gas rates of the City of Fulton, Missouri; enacting a new ordinance establishing gas rates in lieu thereof and establishing an effective date.

Motion was offered by Councilwoman Nelson and seconded by Councilman Stone to place Bill No. 1659 for Third Reading at tonight's Council meeting.

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

Bill No. 1659 was presented for Third Reading by Councilman Stone.

Motion was offered by Councilwoman Nelson and seconded by Councilman Stone to place Bill No. 1659 for Final Passage at tonight's Council meeting. Motion carried with seven members of the Council voting in favor, and one member (Combs) absent.

Roll call vote of the members of the Council was as follows: Nelson, YES; Rehkla, YES; Sebacher, YES; Stone, YES; Washington, YES; West, YES; Leuther, YES; Absent: Councilman Combs. Bill No. 1659, having received the affirmative vote of seven members of the Council was declared passed by the President of the Council.

Bill No. 1660 was presented for Second Reading by Councilman West.

- b. Bill No. 1660: An Ordinance adopting an official budget and capital improvement program and appropriating the funds of the City for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2023.

Motion was offered by Councilman West and seconded by Councilman Stone to place Bill No. 1660 for Third Reading at the next regularly scheduled Council meeting.

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

Councilman Stone suggested \$5,000 for a Housing Assessment Survey from the Council Discretion line item. He elaborated that the last housing study in our community was more than 25 years ago. The results from that assessment outlined housing inventory, housing value, and economic neighborhood factors including workforce. This study would be a partnership opportunity with several other entities in Callaway County.

Assistant Director of Administration Doyle stated a motion is needed for making a change to the budget draft.

Motion was offered by Councilman Stone and seconded by Councilwoman Rehkla to approve the earmark of \$5,000 for a Housing Assessment Survey from the Council Discretion line item.

Mayor Cannell added that he believes that our housing needs are crucial to the workforce.

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

Councilman West and Councilwoman Nelson pointed out some minor corrections.

Councilman West requested a work session to further discuss budget concerns.

Councilman Leuther agreed that he had questions but felt that email wasn't the best route. He agreed that a work session would be desirable.

Assistant Director of Administration Doyle stated that if a work session is held the ordinance would not be read again, it would simply be discussion. Brief discussion followed.

Mayor Cannell suggested Tuesday, November 29th at 5:30 p.m. Council and staff agreed on the date.

Motion carried with five members of the Council voting in favor, two opposed (Nelson, Sebacher), and one member (Combs) absent.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. Kathy Holschlag will retire from the Finance Department on December 2nd.
- b. Mike Haldeman will retire from the Building and Grounds Department on December 9th. His celebration lunch will be at noon on December 8th at the Legends Rec-Plex.
- c. Thanksgiving Dinner for the on-duty first responders will be held at noon at the 911 center.
- d. The Final City Council meeting of 2022 will be held Tuesday, December 13th, at 6:30 p.m.
- e. Candidate filing is open December 6th through the 27th.
- f. Holiday closures for City Hall and the Solid Waste Department.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Council, motion was offered by Councilwoman Nelson and seconded by Councilman Stone to adjourn this meeting. Motion carried with seven members of the Council voting in favor, and one member (Combs) absent. The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Lowe Cannell, Mayor

Kathie Ratliff
City Clerk