

CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2014

A meeting of the Warrensburg City Council was held on September 8, 2014, at 7:00 p.m., at the Municipal Center, 200 S. Holden, with Mayor Donna DeFrain presiding. Roll was called as follows: Present were: Allen, Brock, Rutt, Renfrow, DeFrain. Absent: none.

Minutes of the August 25, 2014, City Council meeting were considered. Rutt moved to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2014 meeting. Yes: Allen, Brock, Renfrow, DeFrain. Abstained: Rutt. No: none.

In the City Manager's report, City Manager Paula Hertwig Hopkins highlighted several sections of her report and said she is continuing to speak with officials from the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) about Highway 13 and 50 Interchange improvements and traffic counts. Hertwig Hopkins said there has been a Tax Increment Financing presentation in the past, and she would like to suggest Legal Counsel Sid Douglas, or someone familiar with this process, make a presentation so all City Council members will be familiar with this financing. Rutt suggested to also include the Neighborhood Improvement District and the Transportation Development District as part of the discussion. It was the consensus of the group this information would be helpful.

Mayor DeFrain said anyone wanting to speak regarding the public hearings tonight should sign up in the front lobby.

In the Director of Finance Report, Finance Director Kelvin Shaw said the budget continues to be a top priority, and his department has been taking a closer look at the reserves. He said a public hearing is scheduled for this evening for anyone interested in making comments. Chairman Pro Tem Brock said this is an excellent document and Mayor DeFrain concurred. He said this is a huge amount of work and thanked the Finance Department for all the hard work.

The adoption of the agenda was considered. Rutt moved to approve the agenda. Yes: Allen, Brock, Rutt, Renfrow, DeFrain. No: none.

Mayor DeFrain read a Proclamation to members of the Daughters of the American Revolution honoring the two hundred twenty-seventh anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States. Residents Virginia Campbell and a friend were present to accept the proclamation.

Mayor DeFrain opened a Public Hearing on the Proposed FY15 City Operating Budget and First Reading of an Ordinance Adopting the Annual Operating Budget for the Fiscal Year October 1, 2014, for the City of Warrensburg, Missouri. Hertwig Hopkins said notice of this public hearing has been advertised in the newspaper and documents to be provided to the Johnson County Clerk were submitted by August 31, 2014. She said the City continues to move forward and to focus on economic growth. Hertwig Hopkins thanked City staff for their help with the budget document.

Shaw explained the cash balance reserves and the amount available. He said information concerning the Neighborhood Improvement District is included in the budget document. Shaw said there is a description of the foreclosure of several of the properties in Hawthorne and those lots that were sold.

Renfrow asked about expenses in relation to revenues. City Counselor Doug Harris said he had planned to mention later in this meeting, but since it is relevant to this current discussion, he has new information concerning an on-going issue. Harris said the City received notification today that in connection with a class action suit concerning the collection of taxes for telephone service, the City of Warrensburg will be receiving a settlement in back taxes of \$295,000. Brock said the City has neglected some areas, such as the scheduled police car replacement. He said hopefully now the City will be able to catch up on needed items. As there were no further comments, the public hearing was closed.

Mayor DeFrain opened a Public Hearing on the Proposed FY15-FY19 Five-Year Capital Improvement Program. Public Works Director Slim Coleman said each year this plan is updated and is a planning document. He said City staff meetings began in May and priorities on the critical projects and new projects for the next five years were discussed. Coleman said the storm drainage problem is one of the priorities. Coleman gave project highlights for the FY15 Capital Improvement Program. As there were no comments, the public hearing was closed.

Community Development Director Barbara Carroll reviewed the results of the second online survey conducted for community signage. She said A-1 is the sign with the mesh and A-2 is without the mesh. Carroll said there were 175 responses and 47 percent were for the A-1 design and 53 percent were for the A-2 design. She said Tammy Leavy, a local hotel manager, suggested a blending of the mesh and solid on the signs. Carroll said this would be difficult, but she believes it is a possibility. Allen asked Rutt his preference since he was not able to come to the last meeting, and Rutt said he preferred the mesh. Business owner Randy Suhr said he is concerned about "Welcome" not being included on any of the signs and suggested including it on at least one sign. After further discussion, Carroll will speak with the consultant about a combination of the mesh and solid background and prepare future cost estimates.

An Ordinance Adopting the Annual Operating Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2014, for the City of Warrensburg, Missouri, was read for the first time by title. This agenda item will be discussed at the next City Council meeting.

Bill No. 9-1-14 being for an Ordinance Amending Section 14-138, Indecent Exposure, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Warrensburg, Missouri, was read for the first time by title. Harris said on August 28, 2014, the state law changed, and a new statute was passed that said breastfeeding is not considered to be indecent exposure under the public nudity laws of municipalities. He said this ordinance has been prepared which will exclude breastfeeding activities. Rutt moved said bill be passed to second reading by title. Carried unanimously. Said bill was read a second time. Roll was called for the adoption or rejection of said bill as follows: Yes: Allen, Brock, Rutt, Renfrow, DeFrain. No: none. Said bill was declared duly adopted and given Ordinance No. 5004.

Bill No. 9-2-14 being for an Ordinance Amending Ordinance 4887, Concerning the Annual Budget for FY14, was read for the first time by title. Hertwig Hopkins said the City Council set aside \$60,000 in the FY14 budget for demolition of four City-owned structures located on Pine Street. She said \$41,979.41 remains available after the demolition of those properties. Hertwig Hopkins said she would like to request the remaining funds available to increase economic development and marketing efforts to recruit new businesses. Rutt moved said bill be passed to second reading by title. Carried unanimously. Said bill was read a second time. Roll was called for the adoption or rejection of said bill as follows: Yes: Allen, Brock, Rutt, Renfrow, DeFrain. No: none. Said bill was declared duly adopted and given Ordinance No. 5005.

Bill No. 9-3-14 being for an Ordinance Amending Ordinance 4887, Concerning the Adopted Annual

Budget for FY14 was read for the first time by title. Coleman said City staff has been working to improve the City-owned properties in the Hawthorne Development. He said this is to improve several islands that were not constructed properly and some developing landscaping that needs to be done. Rutt moved said bill be passed to second reading by title. Carried unanimously. Said bill was read a second time. Roll was called for the adoption or rejection of said bill as follows: Yes: Allen, Brock, Rutt, Renfrow, DeFrain. No: none. Carried unanimously and given Ordinance No. 5006.

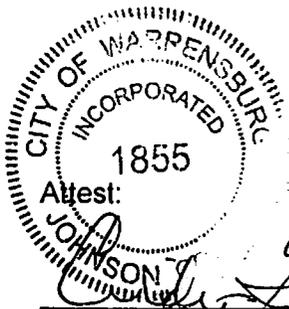
Bill No. 9-4-14 being for an Ordinance Suspending the Provisions of Section 3-14 for Certain Special Events September 26, 2014, through September 27, 2014, Pursuant to Section 3-14(b) of the Code of Ordinances was read for the first time by title. Shaw said Main Street outlined their plan for the Burg Fest several weeks ago. He said in connection with this event, Main Street submitted paperwork to suspend the open container ordinance for this event in a certain area. Shaw said Main Street is also having a barbecue contest and cook-off, and a plan has been designed to allow those in that area to have an open container. Rutt moved said bill be passed to second reading by title. Carried unanimously. Said bill was read a second time. Roll was called for the adoption or rejection of said bill as follows: Yes: Allen, Brock, Rutt, Renfrow, DeFrain. No: none. Said bill was declared duly adopted and given Ordinance No. 5007.

Coleman gave an update on the Maguire Street Sealcoat Bid and said only one vendor submitted a bid. He said since it is late in the season and with the additional paint striping cost, City staff would like to recommend delaying this project until next year.

In Other Business Appearances, Shaw said he developed a report to compare sales tax and lodging tax reports to the confidential sales tax reports the City receives. He reviewed the reports over the past few years and found them to be consistent. Shaw will continue to monitor the receipts.

Hertwig Hopkins said she has been reading articles about the different approaches and strategic plans for Economic Development. She has obtained information from a variety of cities and explained their different approaches to a team effort.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Cindy Gabel
Cindy Gabel, City Clerk

Donna DeFrain
Donna DeFrain, Mayor