

CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF JANUARY 23, 2023

A meeting of the Warrensburg City Council was held on January 23, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., at 200 S. Holden and via Zoom, with Mayor Kushner presiding. Mayor Kushner called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll was called as follows, Present: Osborne, Bentley, Lund, Uhler, Kushner. Absent: none.

The minutes of the January 9, 2023 meeting were considered. Bentley moved to approve the minutes. Yes: Osborne, Bentley, Lund, Uhler, Kushner. No: none.

The adoption of the agenda was considered. Osborne moved to adopt the agenda. Yes: Osborne, Bentley, Lund, Uhler, Kushner. No: none.

Bill No. 01-03-2023 being for an Ordinance imposing a sales tax at the rate of three percent on all tangible personal property retail sales of adult use marijuana sold within the City of Warrensburg, Missouri subject to the approval by the voters at the general municipal election to be held on April 4, 2023, was read for a second time by title only. City Manager Dulin reiterated from the first reading that Missouri voters approved Amendment 3 to the Missouri Constitution enacting Section 2 of Article XIV legalizing marijuana on November 8, 2022. Section 2.6(5) of Article XIV authorizes municipalities to impose up to a 3% sales tax on all tangible personal property retail sales. It is estimated that the average comprehensive dispensary grosses \$427,000 in sales per month and a 3% sales tax will generate \$12,800 per month or \$154,000 annually. There being no questions, Osborne moved to adopt said ordinance. Yes: Osborne, Bentley, Lund, Uhler, Kushner. No: none. Said bill was declared duly adopted and given Ordinance No. 5771.

Bill No. 01-04-2023 being for an Ordinance calling an election to authorize an increase to its general sales tax in the City of Warrensburg, Missouri, for a second time by title only. City Manager Dulin said the proposed ordinance will place the question to the voters for approval of increasing the general sales tax by one percent, or one cent per dollar, with one-half collected to be used for public safety and one-half to be used for general purposes. Dulin said an additional one-cent general sales tax is expected to generate \$4.7 million for general fund. Dulin explored the estimated impact of the one-cent sales tax on household budgets and said the annual impact on a family of four was approximately \$131.00. Dulin said for every dollar of sales tax collected in the city's limits that sixty-three cents came from visitors who used streets and services but were not paying property taxes. The additional one-cent sales tax will raise the overall city sales tax to 9.975% (and 10.475% in the Hawthorne Transportation Development District (TDD) set to expire in 2025). Mayor Kushner asked if the proposed marijuana tax would be in addition to this proposed one percent sales tax increase. City Attorney Harris confirmed that any additional tax approved by voters such as marijuana or TDD for instance would be stacked on top of the city's base sales tax rate. There being no further questions, Bentley moved to adopt said ordinance. Yes: Osborne, Bentley, Lund, Uhler, Kushner. No: none. Said bill was declared duly adopted and given Ordinance No. 5772.

Bill No. 01-05-2023 being for an Ordinance Accepting a Land Donation in the City of Warrensburg, Missouri, was read for a first time by title. City Clerk Schneider said the city was approached with a special warranty deed to accept a land donation on a triangular-shaped property at Vest and Broad Streets. City Attorney Harris said it was an undevelopable piece leftover from the subdivision development. City Manager Dulin said that it was currently being

mowed by public works. There were no questions, Bentley moved said bill be passed to a second reading by title. Carried unanimously. Said bill was read a second time. Roll was called for the adoption or rejection as follows: Yes: Osborne, Bentley, Lund, Uhler, Kushner. No: none. Said bill was declared duly adopted and given Ordinance No. 5773.

Bill No. 01-06-2023 being for an Ordinance Authorizing the City Manager and the City Clerk to Execute a Contract with The Quality Roofing Company for the 2022 Fire Station #2 Roof Project in the City of Warrensburg, Missouri, was read for a first time by title. Public Works Project Manager Jason McCarty said the first half of the Fire Station 2 roof project began in 2019 but was not finished due to the pandemic and supply chain issues. The second half or west wing roof, along with the municipal center roof, were bid in December 2022. McCarty said bids received were higher than budgeted funds as a result of current economic conditions, and the bid alternates chosen for the project included only the Fire Station 2 west wing roof with gutter and downspout replacement. City staff recommended an award not to exceed a total of \$112,700 as the lowest and best bid received by The Quality Roofing Company. There being no questions, Bentley moved said bill be passed to a second reading by title. Carried unanimously. Said bill was read a second time. Roll was called for the adoption or rejection as follows: Yes: Osborne, Bentley, Lund, Uhler, Kushner. No: none. Said bill was declared duly adopted and given Ordinance No. 5774.

Mayor Kushner recommended the appointment of Brandon Campbell as a director for the Park and Recreation Board upon review of Mr. Campbell's board application. Mr. Campbell had moved to the city one year ago and wanted to make a positive contribution to the outdoor public spaces in the community. There being no questions, Council Member Bentley moved to Appoint Brandon Campbell as a Director of the Park and Recreation Board to fill an unexpired term through June 2023. Roll was called as follows: Yes: Osborne, Bentley, Lund, Uhler, Kushner. No: none.

Under Appearances to the Council Not Listed on the Agenda, Max Ridenhour, 107 N. Culton, said he came to a city council meeting previously to discuss issues he had with his building in town. Mr. Ridenhour thanked city council for listening to his concerns and adopting the new sidewalk improvement program as a business owner and property owner. Mr. Ridenhour also thanked Assistant City Manager/Public Works Director Villegas and the public works staff for the program.

There were no miscellaneous matters from the Mayor and/or City Council.

Under the City Manager Report, Fire Chief Jennings pointed out the 2022 Annual Fire Department Report in the council packet highlighting major events. Jennings also said the part-time student resident application period started today and runs for two weeks. The department had already received four applications. The department will be at Fort Osage this week to do some recruitment and was invited to participate in the Warrensburg High School Career Day next Friday.

Chief Munsterman said the department was working on police officer employment shortages in response to several more officers leaving the department to go to other agencies. Munsterman met with Lt. Jason Gilbert and the investigation staff on sending officers to four or five academies across the State for recruitment. Munsterman was working with the UCM staff on a police recruitment video. Mayor Kushner commented on the high starting wages and take-home vehicles advertised for officer recruitment posted in our area. Council Member Bentley asked if there were other reasons besides pay that may be at issue such as crime statistics.

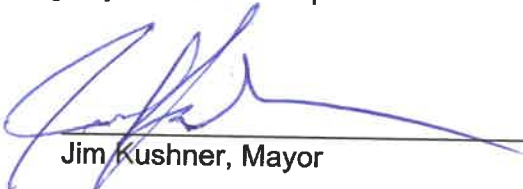
Munsterman said, in his experience, starting pay was a factor for recruitment and currently the department was unable to compete with local jurisdictions.

City Manager Dulin was working on getting the deer survey out and would bring results on the harvest numbers hopefully by the next council meeting. Dulin said the city recently closed on the Water Street property. The city's real estate offer was made to the property owners last April 2022. The Water Street property is approximately eight acres north of the Public Works barn. The property will provide space for snow/ice equipment and connect a trail to Cave Hollow Park and the Nancy Anderson Memorial Garden. Dulin extended an invitation to city council for Chief Munsterman's promotion ceremony this Friday at 1:00 pm in the Municipal Center. Dulin thanked Courtney Christenson in her service as Interim Human Resources Director for the past six months. Dulin said that Christenson would still be utilized on an hourly basis to wrap up the wage study, provide an update to the personnel handbook and handle workplace investigations as needed.

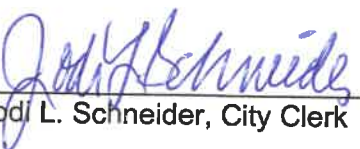
City Attorney Harris reported on the newly established code enforcement docket to ease the burden on community development cases. Harris handles the docket as prosecutor. The docket was established with one point of contact on the Community Development side and one point of contact on the prosecutor side. Harris said the code enforcement docket is working well

Finance Director McCoy reported that sales tax revenues have increased. McCoy said the retirement celebration for Vickie Wright went well and thanked city council for its participation. McCoy said due to changes made from last year, the liquor license renewals were going well. McCoy said that changes in receipt of credit card payments will help with PCI industry compliance. McCoy said that utility write-offs more than five years old will be presented to council next meeting. McCoy said the Finance Department continues to work on audit wrap-up, 1099 and W-2 reporting.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.


Jim Kushner, Mayor

Attest:


Jodi L. Schneider, City Clerk