

"Improving the quality of life for Aurora"

AURORA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES **Aurora City Hall, Council Chambers** **Tuesday, January 28th, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Ferguson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. PLEDGE AND PRAYER: Mayor Ferguson led the council in the pledge and prayer

III. ROLL CALL: Mayor Doyle Ferguson
Chairman Pro Tem Stephen Wiles
Councilman David Larry Marks
Councilwoman Dawn Oplinger
Councilman Don McWade - Absent

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Ferguson advised the proper quorum was not present to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. City Attorney Ken Reynolds advised the Council that you do not have to be present at the meeting in order to approve minutes. City Manager Holmes further advised that a Council member who isn't in attendance when the minutes are approved can at anytime request an amendment to minutes.

Councilwoman Oplinger moved to approve the Minutes from the regular session held on January 14th, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. Chairman Pro Tem Wiles seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Wiles, Marks, Oplinger

NAYES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

V. APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS for December

Chairman Pro Tem Wiles moved to approve the appropriations for January 2020 as submitted. Mayor Ferguson seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Wiles, Marks, Oplinger

NAYES: 0

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

A citizen desiring to speak on an item not on the agenda may do so at this time. Each citizen is limited to three minutes and the Council will not take action or discuss items at this time. Discussion should be limited to matters of City business and public comment is not permitted in regard to personnel matters or on pending legal matters. Items introduced under "Public Comment" may become agenda items at a later date.

Steve Ramirez, citizen of Aurora addressed the Council regarding the odor in town coming from a particular business. He stated he was advised previously that it would be taken care of and it has only gotten worse. He asked why

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nothing is being done about the smell. Additionally, Mr. Ramirez indicated there is a property in town near his residence that has pigs inside the City Limits. He stated that all City Ordinances need to be enforced, including animal ordinances.

Councilman Marks asked City Manager Holmes what is being done about this situation. City Manager Holmes advised that each time the odor in town is elevated someone calls the business(s) to discuss the issue. AFB International previously sent a representative to a City Council meeting to give an update on the resolution to the odor in town emitted by their business. City Manager Holmes will contact them again in an effort to receive a new update.

City Manager Holmes advised regarding animal ordinances that a public meeting was held about the topic and there was some interest in amending ordinances to allow for some animals other than dogs. Further discussion with City Council will be coming in the future.

VII. COUNCIL FORUM

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. *Second and Final Reading of Bill No. 2020-3184*
Motion to approve an Ordinance of the City of Aurora, Missouri allowing the "Show Me Green Sales Tax Holiday" to apply to the local sales tax of the City of Aurora between April 19 and April 25, 2020.

Councilwoman Oplinger moved to approve the Second and Final Reading of Bill No. 2020-3184. Chairman Pro Tem Wiles seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Wiles, Marks, Oplinger

NAYES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- B. *Proclamation – Missouri Farm Bureau Celebrate Agriculture: Thank a Farmer Week*

Dave McCann, representative of Farm Bureau addressed the Council advising that the objective is to bring city and county officers together to support farmers. He further stated that farmers feed the people around the world and a thank you to them is in order.

Mayor Ferguson made the proclamation by reading it aloud to Council as well as guests. Thank a Farmer Week will be February 2nd through February 8th, 2020.

- C. *Resolution No. 2020-1722 – Motion to approve a Resolution of the City of Aurora, Missouri authorizing and directing the City Manager to execute an agreement with Jimmy Michel Motors for the purchase of two replacement Patrol Vehicles for the Police Department*

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City Manager Holmes addressed Council advising this is a budgeted item for 2020. This purchase will be for a 2020 Ford F150 Patrol package vehicle and a 2020 Ford Explorer Pursuit Patrol Package. Jimmy Michel Motors matched the state bid with prices reflected at \$34,950.00 and \$34,815.00 respectively. A 2013 Sedan and a 2003 Crown Victoria will be surplusd accordingly.

Chairman Pro Tem Wiles moved to approve Resolution No. 2020-1722. Mayor Ferguson seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Wiles, Marks, Oplinger

NAYES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

D. Resolution No. 2020-1723

Motion to approve a Resolution of the City of Aurora, Missouri authorizing and directing the City Manager to execute an agreement with Jimmy Michel Motors for the purchase of one replacement Pickup-Work truck for the Park Department

City Manager Holmes addressed the council advising this is a budgeted item for 2020. This purchase will be for a 2020 Ford F150 pickup truck. Jimmy Michel Motors matched the state bid with a price of \$31,645.00.

Councilwoman Oplinger moved to approve Resolution No. 2020-1723. Chairman Pro Tem Wiles seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Wiles, Marks, Oplinger

NAYES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

E. Resolution No. 2020-1724 – Motion to approve a Resolution of the City of Aurora, Missouri authorizing and directing the City Manager to execute an agreement with Town and Country Power Center for the purchase of a replacement mower for the Park Department

City Manager Holmes advised council that this is a budgeted item for 2020. This purchase will be for a 2020 Grasshopper 400E mower at a cost of \$14,477.25. One used Grasshopper mower will be surplusd.

Mayor Ferguson moved to approve Resolution No. 2020-1724. Chairman Pro Tem Wiles seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Wiles, Marks, Oplinger

NAYES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

F. Resolution No. 2020-1725 – Motion to approve a Resolution of the City of Aurora, Missouri authorizing and directing the City Manager to execute an agreement with Town and Country Power Center for the purchase of a replacement mower for the Cemetery Department

City Manager Holmes advised council that this is a budgeted item for 2020. The purchase will be a 2020 Grasshopper 329 mower for use in the Cemetery Department at a cost of \$11,825.29. No property will be surplusd for this purchase as the used mower will be retained as a backup in case of break down.

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Councilwoman Oplinger moved to approve Resolution No. 2020-1725. Chairman Pro Tem Wiles seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Wiles, Marks, Oplinger

NAYES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

G. First Reading of Bill No. 2020-1726 – Motion to approve a Resolution of the City of Aurora, Missouri designating surplus property and authorizing and directing the City Manager to dispose of surplus property

City Manager Holmes advised Council some aged equipment that has been replaced previously is needing surplus at this time. Approval for surplus was not addressed at the time of purchase of replacements. This Resolution will allow the surplus of said items in a timely fashion.

Mayor Ferguson moved to approve Bill No. 2020-1726. Chairman Pro Tem Wiles seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Wiles, Marks, Oplinger

NAYES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

H. First Reading of Bill No. 2020-3186 – Motion to approve an Ordinance of the City of Aurora, Missouri amending the City of Aurora Code of Ordinances to establish a meeting time of 6:00 P.M. for Regular Council Meetings

City Manager Holmes advised council this comes to them for approval by Council request. If the second reading of the Bill is tabled for the next meeting, the new meeting time would go into effect for the February 25, 2020 meeting.

Mayor Ferguson moved to approve the first reading of Bill No. 2020-3186.

Councilwoman Oplinger seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Wiles, Marks, Oplinger

NAYES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

I. Second and Final Reading of Bill No. 2020-3186 – Motion to approve an Ordinance of the City of Aurora, Missouri amending the City of Aurora Code of Ordinances to establish a meeting time of 6:00 P.M. for Regular Council Meetings

Chairman Pro Tem Wiles moved to table the Second and Final Reading of Bill No. 2020-3186 till February 11, 2020 in order to allow citizen notification of the change in meeting time. Mayor Ferguson seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Wiles, Marks, Oplinger

NAYES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

X. REPORTS

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A. Board Liaison Report

Councilwoman Oplinger stated that she attended the Chamber of Commerce Banquet where several City Employees were recognized for their hard work. Those employees were Justin Janes, Jason Jordan, Brad Blankenship and Annie McHenry. She further stated that City Manager Holmes gave a great speech and several organizations awarded funds for grants and other projects throughout the City. Overall the banquet was a huge success and a great event.

Councilwoman Oplinger also attended a Gro 2.0 meeting where the discussion of the City of Aurora's 150th birthday was discussed. She added that great things are coming up for the town!

B. City Manager Report

Report Items:

Dept. Items

- **Police**

- Discussion of 911 System – planned for next Council meeting
- 2 New officers Hired
- 1 New Dispatcher hired
- 1 Officer Vacancy left
- 1 Dispatcher Vacancy left

- **Street & Cemetery**

- Demo of damaged hangar at the Airport - completed
- Beginning to work on projects for 2020
 - priority list of paving projects for next year
 - Cemetery Guest information Centers/gazebos
- Clean up of stormwater ditches in various areas
- Several street signs have been destroyed in the Cemetery (City Manager Holmes added that the Police Department has been asked to do more frequent patrol through the Cemetery, specifically at night. There is currently no way to keep people out of the cemetery at night and vandalism and littering are a regular occurrence. Recommendations for a solution to this issue may be coming to Council in the future.)

- **Park**

- Fencing being installed at Crosby Park (Park Board Project)
- Began working on other Park Board projects
 - Trail Lighting in White Park
 - Paving at Baldwin Park
- Assisting with a few projects around City Hall
- Working on sink installation with the Lions Club

- **Stormwater**

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- Discussing flooding in and around Michels place with our engineering firm
- Reviewing next larger projects

- **Wastewater**
 - U.V. project at the sewer plant, notice to proceed has been given
 - Began work on initial Wastewater Treatment plant improvements
 - Filter Replacement Project – engineering moving forward
 - Submittal of application for State Revolving Fund

- **Admin. & Finance**
 - Sales Tax Renewal Information Meetings Scheduled – All meetings at City hall, Council Chambers
 - February 3rd, 6 P.M.
 - February 27th, 6 P.M.
 - March 11th, 10:30 A.M.
 - March 31st, 6 P.M.
 - April 6th, 6 P.M.
 - Laptops have been ordered for paperless agendas
 - Planning a meeting for Historical Preservation discussion for Downtown
 - Beginning discussions with MoDOT concerning Welcome Signs along highway 60
 - Working on year-end finance items – Auditor will be here at the end of February
 - City Hall window bids advertised
 - City Clerk interviews are scheduled for Feb. 5th

- **Planning & Code Enforcement**
 - Beginning the process to begin compiling a list of dangerous and substandard structures for consideration of demolition for 2020
 - Meeting concerning the City's GIS Mapping and needed updates
 - P&Z Meetings:
 - 2/04/2020
 - 2/18/2020
 - Carrie is working on her Building inspector certifications
 - Working on adoption of the most recent revisions of the International Building Codes – this will be coming to Council for adoption
 - Carrie and I attended a pre-development meeting regarding 2 potential developments
 - Met with the Aurora Beautification Company (ABC)

- **Fire**
 - No new items to report

Meetings/Events Attended:

- ABC Meeting – 20th

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- Pre-Development Meeting – 22nd
- GRO Meeting – 23rd
- Chamber banquet – 25th

Upcoming Meetings and Events Attending:

- CivicsPlus Meeting for Agenda Module Training – 30th
- Sales Tax Renewal Information Meeting – 3rd at 6:00 PM, City Hall
- Window Bidder inspections – 4th
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Follow-Up Items/Misc. Items

- None at this time

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Ferguson advised that a Joint Discussion between Council and the Planning & Zoning Commission would commence immediately following adjournment.

Councilwoman Oplinger moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m. Mayor Ferguson seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye: AYES: Ferguson, Wiles, Marks, Oplinger
NAYES: 0

A Joint work session of the City Council and the Planning & Zoning Commission was held immediately following adjournment. City Manager Holmes addressed the group with an introduction to the topics at hand. Planning & Zoning Director Carrie Howlett gave a presentation regarding Substandard Lots and Smaller Homes. Productive conversation was had regarding the topic and the joint work session came to a close at approximately 8:45 P.M.

APPROVED:

Doyle Ferguson, Mayor (02/11/2020)

ATTEST:

Carrie Howlett, Deputy City Clerk (2/11/2020)