

Aurora City Council Meeting Minutes
Aurora City Hall
City Council Chambers
2 W. Pleasant
Aurora, Missouri
Tuesday, September 8, 2020 - 6 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Ferguson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. PRAYER AND PLEDGE: Father Paul with the Holy Trinity Catholic Church led the Council in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL:

Mayor Doyle Ferguson – present
Chairman Pro Tem Jason Lewis – present
Councilwoman Dawn Oplinger – present
Councilman Don McWade – present
Councilwoman Theresa Pettit – present

4. 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.

There was no Public Comment

5. COUNCIL FORUM

Council Forum provides an opportunity for Council Members to share information with the rest of the Council regarding communications with constituents, meetings attended, request items to be put on the agenda, make requests of staff, or direct questions to staff regarding issues that are not on the agenda.

5.I. Aurora First Baptist Church - Come And Dine Community Dinners Letter

City Manager Jon Holmes addressed Council regarding the letter sent to us from Ms. Barbara Wommack with the First Baptist Church. Ms. Wommack expressed her thanks and gratitude to Council for the donation made to the Come and Dine Program. She also included information regarding the number of meals served this year, in previous years, and the growing need for this program.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Items listed on the 'Consent Agenda' are considered routine and shall be enacted

by one motion of the City Council with no separate discussion. If separate discussion is desired by a member of the Council, that item will be removed from the 'Consent Agenda' and placed on the regular agenda as a final item under 'New Business'.

6.I Approval Of Minutes - City Council Regular Session August 25, 2020

6.II *Approval Of Minutes - Joint Work Session With The Lawrence County Emergency Service Board September 1, 2020*

6.III *August/September Appropriations*

Motion made by Councilwoman Oplinger to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilwoman Pettit seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Oplinger, McWade, Lewis, Pettit

NAYES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.I *Planning And Zoning Special Event Application: Fundraiser For Gary Campbell Family*

Planning and Zoning Director Carrie Howlett addressed Council regarding the Special Event Application. Director Howlett explained who had made the request, what the event was for, what the event would consist of, and where it would take place.

Motion made by Councilwoman Oplinger to approve the Special Event Application. Chairman Pro Tem Lewis seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Oplinger, McWade, Lewis, Pettit

NAYES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

7.II *First Reading Ordinance 2020-3198 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AURORA, MISSOURI ACCEPTING AND APPROVING THE PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN AND PLAT OF THE "LIBERTY UTILITIES DEVELOPMENT"*

City Manager Holmes addressed Council with the background on the Ordinances on the agenda. Mr. Holmes reminded Council that tonight's Ordinances were for discussions held at the previous Council Meeting. Motion made by Mayor Ferguson to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 2020-3198. Councilman McWade seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Oplinger, McWade, Lewis, Pettit

NAYES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

7.III Second Reading Ordinance 2020-3198 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AURORA, MISSOURI ACCEPTING AND APPROVING THE PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN AND PLAT OF THE "LIBERTY UTILITIES DEVELOPMENT"

Motion made by Councilwoman Oplinger to Second Reading of Ordinance 2020-3198. Chairman Pro Tem Lewis seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Oplinger, McWade, Lewis, Pettit

NAYES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

7.IV First Reading Ordinance 2020-3199 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AURORA, MISSOURI ACCEPTING AND APPROVING THE REZONING OF PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS PARCEL ID 203007003001003000 FROM "R-1 (RESIDENTIAL) TO "C- 2" (GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT)

Motion made by Councilwoman Oplinger to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 2020-3199. Mayor Ferguson seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Oplinger, McWade, Lewis, Pettit

NAYES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

7.V Second Reading Ordinance 2020-3199 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AURORA, MISSOURI ACCEPTING AND APPROVING THE REZONING OF PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS PARCEL ID 203007003001003000 FROM "R-1 (RESIDENTIAL) TO "C- 2" (GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT)

Motion made by Mayor Ferguson to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance 2020-3199. Chairman Pro Tem Lewis seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Oplinger, McWade, Lewis, Pettit

NAYES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

7.VI First Reading Ordinance 2020-3200 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AURORA, MISSOURI ACCEPTING AND APPROVING THE REQUEST FROM LIBERTY UTILITIES FOR A LOT COMBINATION INVOLVING 509 E CHURCH STREET AURORA, MO 65605

Motion made by Councilwoman Oplinger to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 2020-3200. Councilman McWade seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Oplinger, McWade, Lewis, Pettit

NAYES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

7.VII Second Reading Ordinance 2020-3200 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AURORA, MISSOURI ACCEPTING AND APPROVING THE REQUEST FROM LIBERTY UTILITIES FOR A LOT COMBINATION INVOLVING 509 E CHURCH STREET AURORA, MO 65605

Motion made by Councilwoman Oplinger to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance 2020-3200. Councilwoman Pettit seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Oplinger, McWade, Lewis, Pettit
NAYES: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

7.VIII First Reading Ordinance 2020-3201 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AURORA, MISSOURI ACCEPTING AND APPROVING THE PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN AND PLAT OF THE "LYLA CORNERS DEVELOPMENT"

Motion made by Chairman Pro Tem Lewis to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 2020-3201. Mayor Ferguson seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Oplinger, McWade, Lewis, Pettit
NAYES: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

7.IX Second Reading Ordinance 2020-3201 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AURORA, MISSOURI ACCEPTING AND APPROVING THE PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN AND PLAT OF THE "LYLA CORNERS DEVELOPMENT"

Motion made by Councilwoman Oplinger to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance 2020-3201. Councilman McWade seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Oplinger, McWade, Lewis, Pettit
NAYES: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

7.X First Reading Ordinance 2020-3202 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AURORA, MISSOURI ACCEPTING AND APPROVING THE PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN AND PLAT OF THE "SILVER MAPLE ESTATES DEVELOPMENT"

Motion made by Mayor Ferguson to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 2020-3202. Councilwoman Oplinger seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Oplinger, McWade, Lewis, Pettit
NAYES: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

7.XI Second Reading Ordinance 2020-3202 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AURORA, MISSOURI ACCEPTING AND APPROVING THE PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN AND PLAT OF THE "SILVER MAPLE ESTATES DEVELOPMENT"

Motion made by Councilman McWade to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance 2020-3202. Chairman Pro Tem Lewis seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Oplinger, McWade, Lewis, Pettit

NAYES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

8. STAFF REPORTS/ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS

1. Board Liaison Reports

Nothing at this time.

2. City Manager Report

See full report below.

9. CLOSED SESSION

Pursuant to RSMo 610.021

(1) Legal actions, causes of action or litigation involving public government body and any confidential or privileged communications between a public governmental body or its representatives and its attorneys.

Motion made by Councilwoman Oplinger to move in to closed session at 6:32 p.m. Mayor Ferguson seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Oplinger, McWade, Lewis, Pettit

NAYES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

Motion made by Councilwoman Oplinger to adjourn the closed session meeting at 7:25 p.m. Chairman Pro Tem Lewis seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Oplinger, McWade, Lewis, Pettit

NAYES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Councilman McWade to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m. Chairman Pro Tem Lewis seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Oplinger, McWade, Lewis, Pettit
NAYES: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

To: Mayor Ferguson & Aurora City Council
From: Jon Holmes, City Manager, City of Aurora
Re: City Manager Report
Date: Tuesday, September 22, 2020

Dept. Items

- **Police**
 - Nothing to report at this time

- **Fire**
 - Working with the Sunset Drive-In regarding a fireworks show with a concert

- **Street & Cemetery**
 - Cemetery, Street and Park staff will be purchasing trees for the Cemetery, Park and City Hall square. These will be replacement of dead or dying trees that have been removed this last year.
 - Stormwater ditch on the east side of Crosby park has been cleaned and rip-rap installed along areas where Sonic's parking lot drains into that ditch. This was done to stop erosion in that area.
 - Lots of crack sealing around City Hall last week and today. About ½ way done.

- **Park**
 - Pool is closed and winterized for the year

- **Stormwater**
 - Nothing to report

- **Wastewater**
 - U.V. Project at the WW Plant is still in progress
 - Locust Street Lift station complete; project is closed
 - ACE Pipe Cleaning has begun the sewer lining work for this year.
 - We will be having our engineers come down next month and give a report of the projects we have completed and provide an update on the remaining projects that are being worked on at the Wastewater Treatment Plant

- **Admin. & Finance**
 - Budget Work-session – Planned for October 8th. Second Choice – October 6th.

- Review of City Fee – we are reviewing the fees the City charges for many different things; most were set several years ago and needs to be looked at.
- I have contacted a commercial roofing company to come look at a few roof leaks on City Hall and the Police Dept. Update: Repairs are slated to only be about \$4,000 for both buildings.
- City Hall window replacement is slated to begin Sept. 14th

- **Human Resources Notes:**
 - Employee Open Enrollment Completed – everything went off without any problems. My thanks to Council for getting all of those items decided and the City Clerk for getting staff processed in a timely and orderly fashion.

- **Economic Development**
 - We have received the draft Development Plan, Blight Study and the Tax Impact Statement from our Economic Development Council (Gilmore and Bell) for the Mareth Enterprises Economic Development Chapter 353 request on the MWM Building. I will be reviewing that with Ken and making any recommendations to Gilmore and Bell regarding changes or revisions. It is our goal to be bringing this before the City Council for review and approval by the middle of November.

- **Planning & Code Enforcement**
 - Nothing at this time

Meetings/Events Attended:

- 911 Meeting – 9/2


Upcoming Meetings and Events Attending

- SWMO Solid Waste District N Meeting – 09/15
- Budget Work-session 10/8/2020 – Council & Management Team

Follow-Up Items/Misc. Items

- None at this time

APPROVED:



Doyle Ferguson, Mayor

Jason Lewis - Pro-Tem

ATTEST:



Kimberly Breedlove, City Clerk

Aurora City Council Meeting Minutes
MARC Building
822 W Mt. Vernon Blvd.
Mt. Vernon, Missouri
Tuesday, September 1, 2020 - 6 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Ferguson called the meeting to order for the Aurora City Council Members at 6:00 p.m. Roll call was taken. Mayor Ferguson, Chairman Pro Tem Lewis, and Councilwoman Oplinger were present. A quorum was present. Councilwoman Pettit arrived at 6:05 p.m.

2. NEW BUSINESS

2.I. Discussion Of 911 Services

Chairman for Lawrence County Emergency Services Board (LCESB) Mike Palmer addressed Council with his thoughts on what he thought the two main issues are. The first being whether or not tax dollars should be shared with the City of Aurora and the second being whether or not the City of Aurora will be coming under the umbrella of the Lawrence County Emergency Services Board for 911 Services. Mr. Palmer stated that it was the opinion of the board and their attorney that due to the language of the ballot there is a legal issue on whether or not they can reimburse the City of Aurora for 911 services to the community. Mr. Palmer asked City Attorney Ken Reynolds what his thoughts were on the legality of the reimbursement. Mr. Reynolds stated that he had not researched it but his opinion was that if the Board's job is to provide 911 services to the whole county than they have an obligation to do so. The purpose of the tax dollars is for 911 services. The Board is providing tax dollars to Monett, who is a third party, why not Aurora.

At this time there was discussion between Mike Palmer and City Manager Jon Holmes about informal conversations where it was stated that the City of Aurora was not interested in giving over its 911 services to the Lawrence County Emergency Services Board until a central location was established in Lawrence County. City Manager Holmes stated that he would not have made a decision like that without the approval of the Council and that he did not receive a written offer to take to Council for discussion and vote. City Manager Holmes expressed his concerns about whether Mr. Palmer was authorized to extend an offer to Aurora without the consent of Monett.

Discussion was held on the reimbursement of funds to the City of Aurora for 911 services. Councilwoman Pettit asked the Board if they would entertain a lower reimbursement amount. No direct answer was given.

There was discussion between Mr. Palmer and Ken Reynolds about contracts the Board has with other communities. Mr. Palmer stated there were no contracts. Mr. Reynolds asked how did agree to terms with no contract and Mr. Palmer replied with there was no need for contracts. Councilwoman Pettit asked Mr. Palmer if the Board had provided 911 services to the patrons of the City of Aurora.

Mr. Palmer stated that the City of Aurora had been given the opportunity...at this time Councilwoman Pettit interrupted Mr. Palmer stating that is not what she asked. Mr. Palmer then stated that she knew the answer to that question. Councilwoman Pettit then stated that it was her opinion that since the Board had been collecting taxes from the citizens of Aurora yet not providing the service that those tax dollars were collected for, the Board should reimburse Aurora. Dave Hubert stated that the Board and the City of Aurora should have been working together from the very start and that is was his opinion that the Board did not owe Aurora anything.

There was discussion regarding Chief Witthuhn being a liaison to the City of Aurora as he was on the board at that time. Mr. Brian Cook stated that as a liaison he knew what was going on should have informed the Council and City Manager therefore he did not believe that the Board owed Aurora anything.

There was discussion between City Manager Holmes and Dave Hubert regarding Mr. Holmes' concerns and the reasons behind those concerns.

At this time Chief Witthuhn came forward stating that he was told to be neutral not to be the liaison. He also stated that the original board agreed that Aurora deserved reimbursement.

Mayor Ferguson asked if the LCESB would be interested in reimbursement by call. No direct answer was given. Dave Hubert asked if Aurora wanted to come under the umbrella of the LCESB. Mayor Ferguson stated that he believed they did and asked City Manager Holmes, based on the way the agenda reads, can a motion be made. City Manager Holmes conferred with City Attorney Reynolds and then stated yes. Mayor Ferguson made a motion for the City of Aurora to come under the umbrella of the Lawrence County Emergency Services Board effective January 1, 2021. There was no second. Councilwoman Oplinger stated that it was her opinion that the meeting needed to be adjourned. There was more discussion regarding reimbursement and what numbers to base the reimbursement on. Members of the LCESB stated that they wanted numbers they could rely on as they have to justify where every dollar goes. City Attorney Ken Reynolds suggested getting a CPA to figure out the numbers. Aurora would pick one, the LCESB would pick one and then those two CPA's would pick one. There was more discussion on call volume, how much it costs to run 911 services, and the percentage Aurora is of Lawrence County. Councilwoman Oplinger stated that Aurora is not like any other city as we have probation, parole, etc...

City Manager Holmes stated that he would like one more chance to work with Mr. Palmer. He believes that they are both professionals and can work something out. If they are unable to reach a decision then each of the entities could move forward with getting a CPA.

It was agreed that City Manager Jon Holmes and Chairman of the LCESB Mike Palmer would meet and discuss the numbers to base reimbursement off of. Mr. Palmer would then take those numbers to his Board at their next meeting. City Manager Holmes would also take that information to the City Council at their next

meeting.

3. ADJOURNMENT


Mayor Ferguson made a motion to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. Chairman Pro Tem Lewis seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Oplinger, Lewis, Pettit

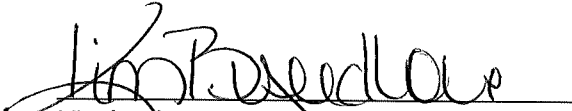
NAYES: 0

ABSENT: McWade

APPROVED:


Doyle Ferguson, Mayor

ATTEST:


Kimberly Breedlove, City Clerk