

"Improving the quality of life for Aurora"

AURORA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES **Aurora City Hall, Council Chambers** **Thursday, December 19th, 2019 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 - Absent
Councilwoman Dawn Oplinger
Councilman Don McWade

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilwoman Oplinger moved to approve the Minutes from the regular session held on December 10th, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Ferguson seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: McWade, Wiles, Oplinger, Ferguson

NAYES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

V. APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS for December

Chairman Pro Tem Wiles moved to approve the appropriations for December as submitted. Councilman McWade seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: McWade, Wiles, Oplinger, Ferguson

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.

VII. COUNCIL FORUM

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VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. *Second and Final Reading of Bill No. 2019-3182 making Ordinance NO 2019-3182
An Ordinance of the City of Aurora, Missouri adopting and enacting a new code of ordinances of the City of Aurora, County of Lawrence, State of Missouri; Establishing the same; providing for the repeal of certain ordinances not included therein, except as herein expressly provided; providing for the manner of amending such code of ordinances; providing penalty for the violation thereof; and providing when this ordinance shall become effective*

Councilwoman Oplinger moved to approve the second and final reading of Bill No. 2019-3182 making Ordinance NO 2019-3182. Chairman Pro Tem Wiles seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following council members voting aye:
AYES: McWade, Wiles, Oplinger, Ferguson
NAYES: 0

- B. *Second and Final Reading of Bill No. 2019-3183 making Ordinance NO 2019-3183
An Ordinance of the City of Aurora, Missouri calling for the election of renewing a one-half cent capital improvement sales tax, designating the time of holding such election, and directing the said notice of said election to be published in form and at such time as provided by the constitution and the laws of the State of Missouri, and the ordinances of the City of Aurora, Missouri, and setting forth the form of the ballot to be used in said election*

City Manager Holmes stated that he has had several conversations with citizens who were concerned that the city was raising the sales tax. He quickly explained that there was no sales tax to be raised. He is working on scheduling meetings January through march to inform citizens of the half-cent sales tax that is currently in place and the need to renew it as such.
Councilman McWade wanted to make sure that this would allow funds to be used for repair and maintenance at the police and fire facility.
City Manager Holmes replied to Councilman McWade that this is a renewal of the current half-cent tax and that there would be no sunset on the tax. He also explained that the repairs and on-going maintenance would be done to that facility.

Councilwoman Oplinger moved to approve the second and final reading of Bill No. 2019-3183 making Ordinance NO 2019-3183. Councilman McWade seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following council members voting aye:
AYES: McWade, Wiles, Oplinger, Ferguson
NAYES: 0

IX. NEW BUSINESS

X. REPORTS

- A. *Board Liaison Report*

Councilwoman Oplinger stated that there were fantastic things going on within the town. She mentioned the lighting of the square, the downtown Christmas parade as well as the Nativity scene that is at the Chamber of Commerce.

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B. *City Manager Report*

City Manager Holmes reported that the Employee Appreciation Lunch was well attended and thanked Councilwoman Oplinger, Councilman McWade and Councilman Marks for attending. He stated that the event was supported very well by local businesses and that Thank-You cards had already been mailed or personally delivered to those vendors who helped to make the day a success.

City Manager Holmes stated that Councilman McWade had asked about looking into the Animal Control positions as being full-time. He states that he and Chief Witthuhn are working on some items relating to that and that he hopes to bring that to Council at the next meeting.

XI. *CLOSED SESSION pursuant to 610.021 (1)(3)*

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.*

3) *Hiring, firing, disciplining or promoting of particular employees by a public governmental body when personal information about the employee is discussed or recorded.*

Mayor Ferguson moved to go into Closed Session pursuant to 610.021 (1) (3) at 6:39 p.m. Chairman Pro Tem Wiles seconded the motion. Motion passed by a roll call vote with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, Oplinger, McWade, Wiles

NAYES: 0

Chairman Pro Tem Wiles moved to go into Open Session pursuant to 610.021 (1) (3). Time noted 7:09 p.m. Mayor Ferguson seconded the motion. Motion passed by a roll call vote with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ferguson, McWade, Oplinger, Wiles

NAYES: 0

XII. *ADJOURNMENT*

Chairman Pro Tem Wiles moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 p.m. Mayor Ferguson seconded the motion. All council members voted aye:

AYES: Oplinger, McWade, Wiles, Ferguson

NAYES: 0

APPROVED:

Doyle Ferguson, Mayor (01/14/2020)

ATTEST:

Devin Fisher, City Clerk (01/14/2020)