

City of New Madrid
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, January 9, 2023
6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The January 9, 2023, regular meeting of the Board of Alderman of the City of New Madrid was called to order at 6:05 p.m. with Mayor Pro Tem Tommy Chism presiding. Alderman Keene, Alderman Riley, Alderman Cravens and Alderman McSpadden were present. Alderman White was absent.

Also in attendance was City Administrator, Aaron Griffin; Richard McGill; City Attorney, Chance Hunter and City Clerk, Paige Keene.

Alderman Keene led us in prayer.

A. Approval of minutes

The minutes from December 29, 2022, special meeting was presented.

MOTION: Alderman Riley made a motion and Alderman Keene seconded. All Alderman present voted "Aye." The vote was unanimous **MOTION PASSED.**

B. New Business

Oath of office was given to newly appointed Mayor Kevin Lyons, and he was sworn in and took the seat as mayor.

C. Public Forum

Liz Higgerson with the New Madrid food pantry coordinator came to address the council about the current state of the O'Bannon community building. She gave a brief history of their time in the building and what they do for the community out of the building. She stated the roof is leaking significantly to the point they are now having to cover the food inside with tarps. They feed about 210 families right now but have the food prepared to feed many more but are concerned with the damage and possibility of mold due to leaking.

A representative with Bootheel Regional Planning Commission came to close out the drainage project the city had through them since 2018. The project had to be closed out for the city to apply for new grants in the future since there can only be one open at a time. She stated the city would have to de-obligate the remaining unused funds to close out this cycle. The council had no further questions.

D. City Administrator's Report

- Missouri Ethics Commission is requiring everyone on the council to fill out a PFD (personal financial disclosure) in order to serve on the council and for those running in the next election. This is due to an ordinance expiring this fall.
- Governors cost share announced a grant for \$874,250 for improvements on Levee Rd and Bloomfield Rd leading to CST.
- McGill and Griffin have a meeting with the YMCA Wednesday.
- McGill and Griffin plan to attend a meeting in St. Louis to discuss the power need for the new business coming to town.

Motion: Alderman Keene made a motion and Alderman Chism seconded to adjourn to closed session in accordance with section 610.021.2 of RSMo.

The vote thereon was as follows:

Alderman Keene	"Aye"
Alderman Riley	"Aye"
Alderman Chism	"Aye"
Alderman McSpadden	"Aye"
Alderman Cravens	"Aye"

Motion: Alderman Riley made a motion and Alderman Chism seconded to reconvene to regular session. All alderman present voted "Aye". The vote was unanimous **MOTION PASSED.**

E. Other Business

- Alderman Keene told the council he spoke to a guy who wants to come to New Madrid and look at land to put prefab small homes. He wants to build a custom plan to fit the area with videos of what that will look like.
- Cooksey is meeting with McGill and Griffin about the next plot of land to start building more houses on.
- Alderman Chism brought up the issue with some sinking manholes on Mill Street and Water Street.
- Alderman Keene would like the council to explore the process for getting some businesses to town since we have the property to put them on.

H. Adjourn

Motion: There being no further business Alderman Riley made a motion and Alderman Keene seconded to adjourn the meeting. All Alderman present voted "Aye." The vote was unanimous **MOTION PASSED.**