

City Council Meeting Minutes
July 25, 2016
7:30 p.m.

The Board of Aldermen met in regular session on Monday, July 25, 2016 in the Council Chamber at City Hall. Mayor Richard Bodi presided with the following present: Ald. Chism, Young, Riggs, and Cravens.

1. The Mayor called the meeting to order.
2. The minutes of both the June 27th, 2016 regular meeting as well as the June 30th Special Session Meeting were presented. Ald. Chism made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Ald. Cravens seconded the motion. All Councilmen voted “yes” and the motion was carried. The minutes were accepted.
3. VISITORS:, Mr. Robert Fitzgerald of 3 Blades Dr. in New Madrid appeared before the Council to ask if anything could be done regarding the crop dusting of crops within the City limits. Atty. Bock stated that the Mo. Dept. of Agriculture oversees all of the crop dusting within the state. If Mr. Fitzgerald has a complaint, he would need to contact them. Atty. Bock said that they were presently working in Southeast Missouri and should be able to answer any questions that he had. The City would have no say or control over the spraying. Mr. Fitzgerald then asked as to what preparations the City has made in the event of an earthquake. The Mayor said that emergency supplies were gathered at three locations throughout the city and more are still being acquired. He said that the City is currently buying new generators for the Community Building and the new Fire Station in order to be prepared for any disaster, not only for an earthquake but for an ice storm or floods like we have had in the past. Mr. Fitzgerald then asked about the status of the mosquito abatement that had been done in the City in the past. Mayor Bodi said that spraying should start within a week with two different applicators.
4. Star Mart at 430 South Main presented an application for a business and package liquor license. Ald. Chism made a motion to approve the license and Ald. Riggs seconded. All Aldermen voted ‘yes” and the license was approved.
5. City Administrators Report: Adm. McGill updated the Council on the following projects and events within the City.

He had been contacted regarding the City of Howardville's efforts in securing a new police car. They have been raising funds but are still short of their goal. The Council may want to consider our City's support in their effort, possibly a \$1000 donation if it is still needed.

The Mayor and Administrator had just met with the new CEO of Associated Electric who has just come on board in May. This was mainly just an introduction. He stated that they would be re-evaluating the agreement with the City during the next year but did not anticipate any changes at the present time.

Adm. McGill then informed the Council that he would be moving \$300,000 from the New Madrid Housing Savings Account, which was money set aside for the possible subdivision that MU required for that anticipated project. Since the economic situation change in the area, those funds will not currently be needed for that purpose.

The conditions that Riley James asked for the Cemetery Expansion Project should be completed this week. The hot tap is scheduled for tomorrow. Our crew will finish up after that.

The NE Pump Station Project – the cover for the outlet structure was installed last Friday. The rip rap has been put in place. They intend to see how it holds up during the rain. If all holds up well, we can close that project out.

Water Plant – DNR's concerns have been addressed by Smith & Company last week. They should get the go ahead very soon.

Most recent drainage projects – Smith & Co has been surveying all the areas. Adm. McGill said that he has been very happy with their responsiveness.

North Substation – the transformer is to arrive this week. Everything is on schedule.

Adm. McGill invited Police Chief Joey Higgerson to address the Council regarding the purchase of new radios for the police and fire departments. Chief Higgerson submitted a hand out for the Councils consideration detailing the recommended

purchase of 10 Motorola APX7500 Mobile Radios and 14 units of the Motorola APX7000 Portable Handheld Radios. These radios are on Missouri State Contract #00081801. He also submitted a tabulation for the MOSWIN System templates and programming's as well as the one time Fleet map service. He informed the Council that New Madrid was the only city around that was not already on the MOSWIN System. Due to that fact, our officers could not directly contact the highway patrol when needed but would have to go through another party. This could often result in delays in public assistance. This purchase would eliminate that delay. Chief Higginson said that he had contacted Sikeston Police Dept. that have used these radios and they had told him that they had purchased 22 and had only had a minor problem with one. The Mayor stated that he expected to see a resolution for this purchase at the next meeting. Atty. Bock informed Adm. McGill that the resolution should reference the state contract.

Adm. McGill then shared information about "Operation Finally Home", which is a national nonprofit organization that addresses a pressing need of our returning troops – a home to call their own. Their mission is to provide custom built, mortgage free homes to wounded, ill and injured veterans, the widows of the fallen and their families, creating a solid foundation for them to move forward. Operation Finally Home partners with corporate sponsors, builders, developers, individuals and volunteers in local communities across the United States. The organization is currently building in Kansas City and St. Louis and wants to expand in Missouri. Adm. McGill stated that he wanted New Madrid to lead the way in becoming involved with this worthy cause. The recent death of a young veteran in our community has brought the veteran's struggles home for a lot of people. His widow is dedicated to bringing awareness of these struggles which will help finding citizens willing to lend a hand to help veterans that need it most. He stated that he will be emailing more information about this organization to the Council.

Adm. McGill informed the Council that he was leaving for the Missouri Main Street Conference immediately after the meeting. He will be getting information about how New Madrid can adapt a "Downtown Revitalization Project". He will prepare something for them at an upcoming meeting that can address both tourism and economic development.

Mayor Bodi informed the Council that the metal should be installed at the new police/fire station this week and the drywall should only take one day, so the interior should be done shortly.

There being no further business, Ald. Chism made a motion to adjourn and Ald. Cravens seconded. All voted "yes" and the meeting adjourned.