

City Council Meeting Minutes
October 24, 2016
7:30 p.m.

The Board of Aldermen met in regular session on Monday, August 22, 2016 in the Council Chamber at City Hall. Mayor Richard Bodi presided with the following present: Ald. Chism, Riley, Young, Riggs, and Cravens.

1. The Mayor called the meeting to order.
2. The minutes of the September 26, 2016 regular meeting as well as the closed meetings held on September 26th and October 13th were presented for approval. Ald. Riggs made a motion to accept the minutes and Ald. Young seconded his motion. All Aldermen voted "yes" and the minutes were approved.
3. VISITORS: David Goncher with Colonial Life Insurance of Cape Girardeau appeared before the Council to ask that they consider using him as the broker with the renewal of the City's health coverage through MIRMA. MIRMA has indicated that they will be using a Colonial Broker to complete the enrollment process for the City's employees. At that time, the broker will also provide information for additional voluntary policies that Colonial has available for the employees with payroll deduction. Mr. Goncher asked that the City consider requesting that we use him as a local representative to complete this process. He emphasized that his agency has several governmental and hospital accounts in the Southeast Missouri area including Missouri Delta Hospital in Sikeston. The Mayor thanked him for coming.

The next visitor was Ms. Linda Brockman of 906 1st St. Ms. Brockman appeared before the council to ask for assistance in getting the water pressure at her home and at the home of her neighbor, Mr. Donnie Minner at 908 1st St. Ms. Brockman stated that the water pressure became a trickle last Thursday. At that time she contacted City Hall and spoke with one of the Utility Clerks who said that they would complete a work order and inform the Water Department of her problem. She called again on Monday when they had not seen any city employees nor had their water pressure improved. In fact they now have standing and rising water in front of both houses. Mayor Bodi told Ms. Brockman that they would see that it was repaired as soon as possible and directed her to contact Adm. Richard McGill if she had any future problems of

any kind. Adm. McGill apologized to Ms. Brockman for her inconvenience and said that he would see to it that City workers were at her residence first thing in the morning. Ald. Riley mentioned that he had noticed a leak at Evelyn's restaurant at the fire hydrant. Adm. McGill said that he would pass that along as well.

4. Resolution to award the AMI bid to Honeywell Elster for the amount of \$1,114,832.00. Adm. McGill explained to the Council that previously this bid had been awarded to Eaton Cooper. However, upon review by the engineering firm of Mid South, it was determined that several requirements were left out of their bid. When those items were added in, they ended not being the lowest bidder. At that time the Council decided to go to the second lowest bidder and see if they would still honor the bid that they had submitted. Smith & Company has been negotiating with them to secure a contract that meets the City's needs and budget. Ald. Young asked how long the project would take. Mr. McGill said that he had been estimated it a 20 months. The changing out of the water meters is expected to take the most time. The Mayor instituted a roll call vote as follows: Ald. Riley – yes, Ald. Riggs – yes, Ald. Young – yes, Ald. Craves – yes, Ald. Chism – yes. The resolution carried.
5. City Administrator's Report: Adm. McGill informed the Council that ARG the new owner of the local Noranda property had not been the winner in the auction of the Gramercy, Louisiana property as had been hoped. Since the ARG representatives had been unable to visit New Madrid, it is unknown at this time what their plans are for future use of the Noranda site.
6. Adm. McGill stated that the 911 Dispatch System will be fully operational this Wednesday. All of the dispatch staff have been hired and are undergoing training. The Police Department and Municipal Court have moved their offices to the new station. At some point the City will hold an open house.
7. As for as the status of the new Water Plant Project, the bids that were received are \$500,000.00 about the projected costs by Smith & Company. The Mayor and Mr. McGill are looking at ways to cut some of the costs and may ask that this project be put back out to bids in order to secure a better price.
8. Monday, October 31st is Trick or Treating in the City of New Madrid. Adm. McGill said that our ordinance does not allow any trick or treating after 9 p.m.

9. The Park Board has set the Christmas Parade for Saturday, December 10th.
10. The North Substation Project is moving along on schedule.
11. Ald. Young asked if there was any intention to asphalt the drive and parking lot at the new Police/Fire Station. Mayor Bodi stated that the intention was to gravel and let the heavy trucks and other equipment pack it down by use during the fall and winter. In the spring, they would lay large aggregate asphalt that has proven to hold up to heavy vehicle traffic better.
12. Ald. Chism asked that the City pave the levee along Old Kingshighway at Cargill. The residents in that area are inundated by dust created by traffic, some by speeders and heavy trucks. Their cars and house are always covered. Ald. Riggs said that it should be paved all around the City. Mayor Bodi said that prices were be tabulated to see what that cost would be with the intention of doing just that. Ald. Riggs said that we should have paved that a long time ago.

There being no further business, Ald. Riggs made a motion to adjourn. Ald. Chism seconded and all Aldermen voted "yes". The meeting was adjourned.