

City Council Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2016
7:30 p.m.

The Board of Aldermen met in regular session on Monday, December 12, 2016 in the Council Chamber at City Hall. Mayor Richard Bodi presided with the following present: Ald. Chism, Riley, Wade, Young, Riggs, and Cravens.

1. The Mayor called the meeting to order.
2. The minutes of the November 17, 2016 regular meeting as well as the closed meetings held that night were presented for approval. Mayor Bodi asked that the minutes be amended to show that Ald. Riggs was absent and Ald. Wade was in attendance. Clerk Chapman stated that she would amend as requested. Ald. Chism made a motion to accept the minutes as amended and Ald. Wade seconded his motion. All Aldermen voted "yes" and the minutes were approved.
3. VISITORS: No visitors were present.
4. Resolution to award the Water Plant bid in the amount of \$3,623,903.00 to R.L. Persons Construction of Poplar Bluff, MO. Adm. McGill explained to the Council that at the bid opening the bid from the lowest bidder was \$500,000.00 more than the estimate that had been provided by Smith & Company. After careful review of the bids, Jacob Ortega from Smith & Company accepted the responsibility for the underestimation. Since that time, he has been working with R.L. Persons to see what they could do to reduce the bid. In that process they have shaved off \$203,946.00 on the bid and have come back with the figure before them in this resolution. Adm. McGill stated that the Council's option was to accept the bid as is or reject the bid and start over. A decision is needed as soon as possible as our 90 day period to either accept the bid or reject it is only a couple of weeks away. He also stated that in the review with Smith & Company he was not sure that we can get it down any further. Ald. Wade asked if we really wanted to delay the project another year. He stated that the construction of this water plant was a long range plan of the Council and that our current water plant is 40 years old and showing its age. He feels that this is a priority item for our City. Even though our Water Dept. has done a great job in keeping the old plant going, it is only a matter of time before our situation becomes critical. Ald. Chism agreed and said that "we really need to get it

done". Ald. Riggs wondered if it would do any good to rebid the project with no guarantee that we could save much, if any money by doing so. Ald. Wade said that our citizens know that our infrastructure, as it pertains to water is okay at best. A rebid would most certainly delay that improvement for another year. Adm. McGill said that Smith & Company have a good relationship with RL Persons. The extension of the time frame to 365 days was one of the reasons they were able to get a reduction in the overall price. Ald. Wade stated that if the economy improves and we have industry come in that needs the water, with the current old water plant capabilities, we would be hard pressed to be able to fulfill those needs. The current reliability of the plant is questionable. The water quality is good now and we have been fortunate to have water plant staff that have been able to keep it that way. Ald. Wade made a motion to approve the resolution to award the bid as presented. Ald. Riley seconded. A Roll call vote was taken as follows: Ald. Wade – yes, Ald. Riley – yes, Ald. Riggs – yes, Ald. Young – yes, Ald. Cravens – yes, Ald. Chism – yes. The resolution was approved.

5. Attorney Bock asked that the Council move into executive session. Ald. Wade made a motion to adjourn into closed session relative to A. (Legal actions, causes of action, or litigation (RSM0 610.021.1). Ald. Riley seconded the motion and the Council adjourned to closed session.

Ald. Wade made a motion to return to open session. Ald. Riley seconded and all voted "yes".

6. City Administrator's Report: Adm. McGill notified the Council that the AMI project kickoff is this Thursday. A meeting will take place in the Council Chambers with Mid South and Elster/Honeywell. A previous conference call with the same firms left Adm. McGill with a good feeling as to how everything will go. Ald. Wade asked if the project was expected to take 20 months. Adm. McGill said that he believes, depending on the weather, that could be shortened somewhat. Elster has stated that they intend to install the electric meters and water meters simultaneously and that if the City chooses to shorten the trial period, those things could contribute to a shorter time frame.

Adm. McGill stated that the new Police Station/Fire Station held their open house on Saturday, the 10th. There was a good turnout and the response from the visitors was positive. He also mentioned that the New Madrid City Police joined with the New Madrid Sheriff's Department and Mo State Patrol to

participate in the Shop with a Cop program at Sikeston. He directed the group to check out the photos on the City's Facebook Page. He felt that this was a good community involvement project for the City and the officers.

The City's Annual Christmas Parade was held on Saturday with a good turn out from the citizens. Adm. McGill said that he had enjoyed participating and was quite impressed with the outcome.

He reminded the Council that the City's Christmas Party would be held Wednesday, December 14th at 6:00 p.m. at Rebecca Sharp's and he hoped that they would all come and bring a guest.

Mayor Bodi then mentioned that the State of Missouri's Emergency Management Agency would be holding a Floodplain Mapping Project Initiation Kickoff Meeting for New Madrid County on Wednesday, December 14th at 1:00 p.m. at the Community Building on Mill Street. He greatly encourages all who are able to attend. Atty. Bock stated that he strongly agreed. It is definitely in the best interests of our community for the City and concerned citizens to take part in this as it could result in increased flood insurance premiums for many. He stated that he expects that there will be a good representation by the Levee District at this meeting and feels that the community should become involved as soon as possible.

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