

City Council Meeting Minutes  
May 22, 2017  
7:30 p.m.

The Board of Aldermen met on Monday, May 22, 2017 in the Council Chamber at City Hall. Mayor Richard Bodi presided with the following present: Ald. Chism, Riley, Young, Wade, White and Cravens.

1. The Mayor called the meeting to order.
2. Minutes of May 1, 2017 Council Meeting were presented. Ald. Chism made a motion that the minutes be accepted as presented. Ald. Wade seconded. All Aldermen voted "yes" and the minutes were accepted.
3. Visitors: Ms. Ann Odom of 633 Riley came before the Council to ask that they consider installing additional stop signs at the intersection of Riley and Mitchell Streets. Ms. Odom stated that there are several young children in the area that will invariably wander out into the street or ride their bikes in the street and that the configuration of the street does not allow needed site lines at that intersection to keep the children safe. Mayor Bodi remarked that he had received Ms. Odom's request and upon consideration, was recommending to the council that the signs be installed as well as another "children at play" sign and the installation of another stop sign at the corner of Riley and Diggs in that same area. Ms. Odom asked how long this would take. Atty. Bock stated that this would require the adoption of a new ordinance. Mayor Bodi said that the Council could vote on it at the next regular meeting and if adopted, they could be installed soon after. Mayor Bodi thanked Ms. Odom for bringing it to the Council's attention.
4. Bill 17-1273: An ordinance to amend section 34-78 of the municipal code by increasing the number of days that fireworks may be sold in the City to 30 days, from June 4<sup>th</sup> thru July 4<sup>th</sup>. The Mayor read the title of the bill twice aloud. He then stated that he had been approached by T&T Fireworks and that they would like to sell fireworks within the City limits but would need to be able to do so for at least 2 weeks to make it feasible for them. Ald. Young said that the Council should consider the likelihood that there would be an increase in police calls regarding kids shooting off fireworks. The Mayor pointed out that the dates that allowed fireworks was not being changed, only the additional time for sales would change. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ald. Wade – yes, Ald. Chism

– yes, Ald. Young – yes, Ald. Cravens – yes and Ald. White – yes. The ordinance was adopted.

Ald. Riley joined the meeting.

5. Resolution: A resolution was presented allowing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with All American Fireworks LLC of Poplar Bluff, Mo to conduct a fireworks display for the City for the Independence Day Celebration. Atty. Bock asked if Mirma had been consulted regarding this agreement. City Adm. McGill and City Clerk, Karen Chapman both responded that they had not spoken to anyone at Mirma. He stated that he did not believe that they would cover this event. The Mayor directed the City Clerk to contact our loss control specialist, Jeff Arp and get their decision right away. Ald. Riley asked where the fireworks would be ignited. Mayor Bodi said that a meeting was going to be held this Wednesday to work out the details of the event. He hopes that Liz Riley, president of the Park Board will be able to attend. Ald. Wade asked how long a show would be purchased. Adm. McGill said that it would be 15-20 minutes. Ald. Chism made a motion to approve the resolution and Ald. Cravens seconded. All Aldermen voted “yes” and the resolution was approved.

Ald. Riley joined the meeting.

City Administrator’s Report: Adm. McGill spoke to the Council regarding the Governor’s visit to the City last Saturday morning. He spoke before a crowd of 600-700 at the site of the aluminum plant. Adm. McGill introduced the Governor and Rep. Don Rone at the event. They each spoke about efforts to bring jobs back to New Madrid County, specifically the possibility of a new steel mill locating here and the reopening of the smelter as well. They were all there to inform the citizens of the need for their encouragement of their senators to pass legislation that would facilitate the creation of these much needed jobs. The Governor informed the group that he had called all of the legislators back to Jefferson City for a “Special Session” in order for them to do just that. He said that citizens should call their senators directly and demand action that would greatly benefit hundreds of families in this area and the economy of the entire state of Missouri. Buses will be picking up citizens at different locations in the area to transport them to and from the Capitol tomorrow for a rally to show that job creating legislation was crucial to them, their families and communities. Adm. McGill said that he had been asked to testify before the state Senate this Thursday on this

very subject. Earlier today he had talked to the Governor and the Speaker of the House. Everyone is fully involved and this is the sole reason for the Special Session. Adm. McGill said that the Governor had told him that the steel mill company is planning on making a decision very soon so no time can be lost in this effort. Rep. Rone and the Governor met with the Company on Friday. Adm. McGill then stated that he feels that they had all done everything they could to make this happen. He then said that Don Lloyd was in contact daily with a consultant specializing in grants for cities. He will be helpful if these projects come to fruition. Ald. Chism thanked Adm. McGill and the Mayor for all their efforts and he thought that Richard had done a great job at the Governor's meeting. Ald. Riley said that he had been impressed with Richard and the Mayor at the meetings in St. Louis and felt that they had done a great job there. Adm. McGill asked if there were any other questions.

He said that the water plant project was going well with Smith & Company being onsite every day.

Adm. McGill said that the signs for Main Street should be arriving tomorrow or the next day and that project will then be complete. Chris Lambert said that the clean up will be finished no later than Wednesday. Everything looks good and there have been lots of good comments.

A question came up regarding the installation of an additional 2 or 3 lights to finish Main Street out to Dawson Road. The Mayor said that the City had 2 spare poles already that could be used but then would need to be replaced to have on hand.

Adm. McGill stated that Chris and Norm Lambert had been working on the cemetery lay out and will be done soon.

He then said that the meter people will be in town tomorrow and all is going well. Ald. Cravens asked if he knew where they will be installing the meters first. Richard responded that some had been received this week with the rest expected in by June 1<sup>st</sup>. The electric meters will be installed by a group and the water meters by another. He said he was not sure if they would be installed separately or at the same time. Ald. Wade asked if they would need to do much work to the existing plumbing or would it merely be a switch off. Adm. McGill said that he

didn't think there would be much to it. He also said that this group had been a pleasure to work with.

Ald. Riley asked when the water plant was expected to be completed. Adm. McGill said that no later than the end of November.

Ald. Chism asked if any solution had been decided on to alleviate the water backup at the culvert near Dr. Rausch's house in the Northgate Subdivision. Mayor Bodi said that he thinks that he has a solution to that issue and wants to try it during the next heavy rainfall. If it works, the cost to the City will merely be \$100.00. It is a solution that he has used before during his employment at Associated. It could possibly save the City thousands of dollars.

Ald. Riley asked if any more plans had been made for the Independence Day Celebration event on the levee. The Mayor said that a meeting will be held on Wednesday to discuss plans. He also mentioned that even though the boat races were already booked for that weekend, he understands that they still have 2 or 3 open dates for the rest of the year. He said that he can remember when they held those at Lake Wappapello and that 3000-4000 people attended. He would love to see that here. Our riverfront is our best asset and we need to be taking advantage of it. Ald. Chism said that if we didn't promote our town, no one else would.

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