

City Council Meeting Minutes
July 10, 2017
7:30 p.m.

The Board of Aldermen met on Monday, July 10, 2017 in the Council Chamber at City Hall. Mayor Richard Bodi presided with the following present: Ald. Chism, Riley, Wade and Cravens.

1. The Mayor called the meeting to order.
2. Minutes of June 12, 2017 Council Meeting were presented. Ald. Chism made a motion that the minutes be accepted as presented. Ald. Cravens seconded. All Aldermen voted “yes” and the minutes were accepted.
3. Visitors: There were no visitors
4. The New Madrid County Clerk’s “Certification of Election” was presented as follows:

<u>WARD 2 ALDERMAN</u>	
RUSSELL J. RIGGS	103
NICK WHITE	131
JOHN GARNER	6

Ald. Chism made a motion to accept and acknowledge the election results as presented. Ald. Wade seconded the motion. All Aldermen voted “yes” and the certification was accepted.
5. Mayoral Appointment: Mayor Bodi asked the Council to consider the appointment of Alderman Tommy Chism as Mayor Pro Tem. He stated that Ald. Chism was a valuable and senior member of the board and his choice to stand in for him in any circumstance. All Aldermen voted “yes” and the appointment was approved.
6. Resolution: A resolution adopting the amended Public Notice of Rights guaranteed under the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was presented as was recommended during a site review completed by the Federal Transit Authority. Ald. Chism made a motion to approve and Ald. Wade seconded. All Aldermen voted “yes” and the resolution was approved.
7. Discussion: Mayor Bodi wanted to bring up a subject from the previous meeting as to whether or not we had an ordinance that requires all residences to be

hooked up to City utilities. Atty. Bock consulted the Municipal Code book and stated that electricity was not required but the ordinance did require any residence that was occupied or intended to be occupied must be connected to city water and sewer. Any property owner allowing individuals to reside in their property without that service would not be in compliance with the City code. The Code Enforcement Officer will be notified and will proceed with notifications to property owners involved.

8. City Administrator's Report: Adm. McGill stated that the Independence Day Celebration was a great success. He has received many comments from citizens that were very pleased with the event. He said that notice was made of improvements that they will consider and things were recommended to be added as well, but this was a very good start. He hopes to have a meeting with the planning committee soon to debrief and to start planning for next year to make it bigger and better. He also said that he had heard nothing but good things about the firework display.

The AMI project is going very well. It appears that the electric meters will be installed by the middle of August and the water meters should be installed by the middle of September. Ald. Wade asked if the new meters would look similar to what we have now. Adm. McGill said that they will be. He then asked how long the resident's electricity would be off during the installation. Adm. McGill said that it would only be a matter of seconds. He also stated that MidSouth was in daily contact with the crews and was staying on top of every aspect of the project.

Adm. McGill informed the Council that the progress on the steel mill was moving ahead slowly but steady. He has not heard anything that was not positive for New Madrid. He and Mayor Bodi had met with the consultant team out of St. Louis and were told that the company could build at any of the three sites being considered but that they were recommending New Madrid. He also said that they had been told that the construction company would be using mostly local people for the build of the plant. Ald. Cravens asked about the plan for the road construction. Adm. McGill said that the site plan shows the roads as being private within the plant. Donnie Brown has made a study and expects that they will need 4 miles of roads. He said that public money could be used and that the county employees could supply the labor. Ald. Wade asked what about acreage they would need. Adm. McGill said that they were requesting 135 acres which was

more than we had wanted to give up, however, it still leaves us with room for 2 more industries on that property. It will also allow two entry points off of Route U to the plant. He said that they were now waiting for the green light from Jefferson City for the interchange so that MoDot would draw up the plans. It is expected that DD will find the money for ½ of the interchange cost. He also said that MidSouth had informed him that there had been some progress on the electric rate issue. Ameren is running the show but is working with the engineers to simplify the relay system in order to provide more savings on the rate. The owner of the company will be in New Madrid on the 21st and 22nd and he hopes to be able to meet with the Aldermen. He said that Dennis, the consultant at Missouri Partnership, said that he is definitely a smart businessman but also would very much like to be able to put people back to work. Adm. McGill said that he is very confident and optimistic that everyone is working very hard on our behalf.

The Water Treatment Plant is ahead of schedule. He said that Billy Cobb, of Smith & Company is very pleased with the progress. Mayor Bodi said that our employee will definitely been needing Hazmat training and Jimmy Harris is looking into what we need to do to get that done.

Ald. Chism said that he thinks that the new stop sign at Diggs Street might need to be placed differently. He said that there is not enough room for bigger vehicles and buses to turn and stop there. Ald. McGill said that they would check it out and get back to him.

Ald. Chism said that he wanted to mention that he was very proud of the City workers getting the power back on in such a short time during the most recent storm. Adm. McGill said that he and the Mayor and the 3 police officers on duty were out during the storm looking for trouble spots in advance of sending the linemen out. Ald. Chism asked if there were still openings in the police department. Adm. McGill said that there was one opening but that they would not be in any hurry to fill it unless they found just the right person.

Ald. Wade wanted to mention that he was grateful for all the work that the Council from the last 10 years or so had done. They had the foresight to do the right things that put the City in as good a position as it is and hopes that the residents know it. Those Councils had the vision and determination to do what

was best for the town without any personal gain for themselves. That vision is in place now.

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