

City of New Madrid
City Council Meeting Minutes
March 23, 2020
6:00 p.m.

The Board of Aldermen met on Monday, March 23, 2020 at 6:00 pm in the Council Chamber at City Hall. Mayor Richard Bodi presided with the following present: Ald. Chism, Young, Keene and White.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. The minutes from the March 9th meeting were presented. Ald. Chism made a motion to approve the minutes and Ald. Ryan seconded the motion. A vote was taken and all voted “yes”. The minutes were adopted.
2. The Mayor then noted that there was a recommendation from the Housing Authority Board Commissioners that Diana Bell be appointed to the vacant seat on the board. The Mayor asked if there were any comments from the board members regarding the appointment of Ms. Bell. Chief Higgerson, being present in the chamber, was asked by the Mayor if he knew Ms. Bell. He said that he did and that he felt that she is a woman of good
3. Council to approve his appointment of Ms. Bell to the Housing Authority Board. A vote was taken and the appointment was approved.
4. The next item on the agenda was a resolution to award the bid for the replacement of the street at the intersection of Mott Street and Capitol to Fronabarger Concreters, Inc. in the amount of \$59,280.00. Adm. McGill said that they will concrete and replace the water lines. This is sinking daily and growing larger as well. Ald. Ryan asked if we should wait until the water level goes down. Mayor Bodi and Adm. McGill said that this is an urgent situation and cannot wait, mainly because of the water lines. They were the lowest bidder and recommended by the Project Engineer, Chris Lambert. Ald. Chism made a motion to approve and Ald. Keene seconded. A vote was taken and all voted “yes”. The resolution was approved.
5. The next item on the agenda was a Liquor License Renewal application from M & M Deli. Mayor Bodi asked Chief Higgerson if there were any problems at this establishment over the last year. Chief Higgerson said that they did not have any at all. If things arose, Ms. Susie contacted the Police Department and it was taken care of right away. Ald. Young made a motion to approve and Ald. Riley seconded. A voted was taken as follows: Ald.

Riley – yes, Ald. Keene – yes, Ald. Chism abstained due to relations with the owners of the business, Ald. Young voted yes as did Ald. White. The license was approved.

6. City Administrator's Report: Adm. Richard McGill deferred to Mayor Bodi. Mayor Bodi said that he had met with Deidra Hall, NM County Juvenile Officer as her office wishes to help with providing assistance to the disabled and people shut in our community that might need meals or other necessities delivered to them. Mayor Bodi said that he and met with the manager at Ramey's to discuss their ability to take online or phone in orders that could be packaged and then delivered by the City and other organizations. He said that Ramey's was working on the ability to do this but did not have it in place just yet. Chief Higgerson said that he has spoken with Ms. Hall as well about networking to offer this assistance to those in need. He stated that Jane Dees of the NM County Health Department had been named as the State Point of Contact. The Mayor said that the problem right now is the shortage of testers and Personal Protective Equipment for those first responders and volunteers. Adm. McGill said that he had met with the Department Heads to discuss possible options for work schedules that might reduce the threat of exposure for the employees. Ald. Keene said that as a pastor, his experience with our older citizens, when asked how they were doing, the response is usually "okay", even when they are not. Adm. McGill said that the Governor stated in his address, that there are no shortages in the state, the problems are the panic that has resulted in hoarding. Ald. White then brought up his concern about the people that have lost their jobs and may be unable to pay their utility bills and what would be the City's plan for next month to help these people. The Mayor stated that we would continue to work with anyone that had a problem with their bill, just like we always have and will reevaluate as needed in the coming weeks. Adm. McGill said that when Noranda closed, none of those employees were shutoff. The City worked with everyone. Atty Bock stated that there was a bill on Capitol Hill in Jeff City that deals with public utilities and shut offs during the pandemic crisis.

There being no further business, Ald. White made a motion to adjourn and Ald. Chism seconded. A vote was taken as follows: Ald. Riley – yes, Ald. Keene – yes, Ald. Chism – yes, Ald. Young – yes, and Ald. White – yes. The meeting adjourned.