

City of New Madrid
City Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 10, 2020
6:00 p.m.

The Board of Aldermen met on Monday, August 10, 2020 at 6:00 pm. Mayor Bodi called the meeting to order. Ald. Riley, Ald. Keene, Ald. Chism, Ald. Young, Ald. Cravens and Ald. White were in attendance.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. The minutes from the July 13th meeting were presented. Ald. Chism made a motion to accept the minutes and Ald. White seconded. A vote was taken and all voted “yes”. The minutes were adopted.

Ald. Keene asked that the Agenda be amended to correct the Bills listed on the agenda as follows: Bill 20-1314 as listed on the Agenda as “An Ordinance to accept the transfer of the property from Cecil and Mary Sue Hicks should have been numbered 20-1315” and “An Ordinance to accept the transfer of the property from Steven Ward in Exchange for the Demolition costs to remove the building on the property” should have been numbered 20-1314” instead of 20-1315. Ald. White made a motion to correct the agenda and Ald. Chism seconded the motion. All voted “yes” and the agenda was so corrected.

NEW BUSINESS:

2. VISITORS: There were no visitors.
3. Bill #1314, an Ordinance to accept the transfer of the property from Cecil and Mary Sue Hicks on Main Street in New Madrid as per the lease/purchase agreement that was executed in 2018. Ald. Chism made a motion to accept the transfer and Ald. White seconded. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ald. Riley – yes, Ald. Keene – yes, Ald. Chism – yes, Ald. Young – yes, Ald. Cravens – yes, Ald. White – yes. The Ordinance was adopted.
4. Bill #1315, an Ordinance to accept the transfer of the property from Steven Ward, Regeania and John Givens of the property located at 402 Main Street. Mayor Bodi read the bill aloud two times over. Ald. Riley made a motion to approve and Ald.

Cravens seconded. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Ald. Riley – yes, Ald. Keene – yes, Ald. Chism – yes, Ald. Young – yes, Ald. Cravens – yes, Ald. White – yes. The Ordinance was adopted.

5. A Resolution was presented authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with New Madrid County for the operation of the emergency 911 telephone system. The County agrees to reimburse the City in the amount of \$33,500 per month for the July 1-December 31 period of the 2020 fiscal year for dispatching payroll, fringe benefits and training expense incurred by the City to provide 911 and the Sheriff's Department for dispatching for the County. The County agrees to appropriate funding for said monthly payments to the City, with the understanding that the monthly payment shall be adjusted semi-annually based upon the city's actual dispatching payroll expenditures for the previous six months. Ald. White asked if there were any changes in the agreement and if the county's reimbursement is being processed as agreed upon. Adm. McGill stated that was the case. Ald. Chism made a motion to approve and Ald. White seconded. All voted "yes" and the resolution was approved.
6. The next agenda item was the Mayoral appointment of Kendra Gregg as the new City Clerk. The Mayor stated that he has known Ms. Gregg for some time and actually had a business contact with her when he worked for Associated Electric. He said that he found her to be friendly and efficient in all of her duties. He said that he knew that she would be reliable and able to get along with all the staff as well as the public. Ald. Chism said that he had known Ms. Gregg all of her life and that there she was honest and a very good person. All members voted "yes" to approve the Mayor's appointment except Ald. White, who abstained.
7. City Administrator's Report: Adm. McGill said that he wanted to inform the Council that the City has had an employee to test positive for Covid. As soon as he received the notification, that employee was sent home to quarantine and all members of that department were sent to have a "quick result" test done. All of their tests results were negative for the virus. Ald. White stated that the rapid swabs are not too accurate. Adm. McGill said that the County is looking at buying some rapid tests. As for any other restrictive orders for the public, nothing is going to be done until the Governor issues an order. He noted that the social distancing seems to have become very lax.

Adm. McGill informed that the City's 2019 audit was just completed with no findings. He also mentioned that the City has not had one finding since Finance Officer Kristy Taylor was hired. He said that he gives her all the credit for the exceptional audits.

Adm. McGill then mentioned that the Sewer Project is moving forward. Material is being delivered with an expected start date of Monday. The bid opening for the North End Sewer Project will take place on Tuesday, August 18th. The Street Project will begin no later than August 31st.

He then mentioned that the electric agreements are moving along fine and that he expected something by the end of the week regarding the negotiations.

Mayor Bodi told the Council that County Prosecutor, Andrew Lawson stated that he would be glad to prosecute those who are quarantined but did not remain confined to their homes.

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