

City of New Madrid  
City Council Meeting Minutes  
Monday, March 12, 2021  
6:00 p.m.

The Board of Aldermen met on Monday, March 12, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Bodi called the meeting to order. Ald. Keene, Ald. Chism, and Ald. Young, Ald. Riley, Ald. Cravens and Ald. White were present. Ald. Keene lead us in prayer.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. The minutes from March 8th, 2021 meeting were presented. Ald. Chism made a motion to accept the minutes and Ald. Cravens seconded. A vote was taken and all, including Mayor Bodi, voted "yes". The minutes were approved.
2. Certificate of Municipal Election April 6, 2021.
3. The Oath of Office was given to Ald. Cravens, Ald. Keene, and Ald. White to recite & sign. They were sworn in.

Ald. Chism made a motion to adjourn this session, Ald. Riley seconded.

Call to order was taken again with the re-elected officials.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Visitors:**

We had one visitor, Mr. Edward Riley. His topic was Evergreen Cemetery and its appearance and upkeep. He had City Clerk Kendra Gregg, pass out a letter to Mayor Bodi, all of the Aldermen, City Administrator Richard McGill, and City Attorney Lynn Bock, which will be a permanent part of the minutes. He read it aloud, then expressed more questions and concerns about the cemetery. Ald. Riley made a suggestion to contract the cemetery to someone here in town, rather than out of town so that way it would be easier to maintain.

Mayor Bodi stated we are getting quotes for a spray that is supposed to help keep the grass from growing as fast and will help make it better to maintain.

Ald. Keene stated we will make it right, it is on us. Ald. White agreed and stated "the buck stops here", it is 100% on us and it is up to us to make sure it is taken care of. Mayor Bodi

informed Mr. Riley that we will have a resolution for this problem soon and will let him know as soon as we do and what we decide to do.

**For council approval:**

A variance meeting was held prior to the council meeting, where Mayor Bodi, Ald. Chism, Ald. Keene, Chief Higgerson, and City Administrator Richard McGill were present.

The Eagles variance was approved to allow them to put camper spots behind the building for the out of town workers, Eagle travelers, carnival workers, etc. Ald. Riley made a motion to approve the variance by the council, Ald. Young seconded. A vote was taken and all voted "yes", including Mayor Bodi.

Hayden Dawson also requested a variance to put 1 camper in each of the 4 bays at his carwash on Kingshighway. However, a new transformer is needed so our Electric Superintendent, Tim Henry is to get an estimate for a new transformer. We will then ask Mr. Dawson if he is willing to pay for the new transformer for the variance he has requested. This was TABLED until next meeting.

4 liquor licenses were brought to the council for approval:

Mayor Bodi asked Chief Higgerson if there had been any issues with El Bracero. Chief Higgerson replied none at all. Ald. White made a motion to approve, Ald. Riley seconded. A vote was taken and all voted "yes", including Mayor Bodi. El Bracero liquor license was approved.

Mayor Bodi asked Chief Higgerson if there had been any issues with Ramey's. Chief Higgerson replied none at all. Ald. White made a motion to approve, Ald. Chism seconded. A vote was taken and all voted "yes", including Mayor Bodi. Ramey's liquor license was approved.

Mayor Bodi asked Chief Higgerson if there had been any issues with Star Mart. Chief Higgerson replied none at all. Ald. White made a motion to approve, Ald. Cravens seconded. A vote was taken and all voted "yes", including Mayor Bodi. Star Mart liquor license was approved.

Mayor Bodi asked Chief Higgerson if there had been any issues with M&M Deli. Chief Higgerson replied none at all. Ald. Riley made a motion to approve, Ald. White seconded. A vote was taken and all voted "yes", including Mayor Bodi. M&M Deli liquor license was approved.

**Resolutions:**

A motion was made by Ald. Chism to amend the resolution to change the price on the Persons & Son from \$18,150 to \$43,150 for the sewer line repairs & street improvements, Ald. Riley seconded.

Ald. White made a motion to approve the resolution as amended, Ald. Chism seconded. A vote was taken and all, including Mayor Bodi voted "yes". The resolution was amended.

A resolution to award the bid for the FY 2021 Street Improvements to Apex Paving Company of Cape Girardeau, MO in the amount of \$383,531.40, as recommended by Lambert Engineering & Surveying. Ald. Keene made a motion to award this bid, Ald. Chism seconded. A vote was taken and all, including Mayor Bodi voted "yes". The bid was awarded.

A resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign a memorandum of option for easement between the City of New Madrid and Ameren Transmission Company of IL.

Ald. White made a motion to approve, Ald. Chism. Seconded his motion. A vote was taken, all voted "yes" and the option for easement was approved.

**Discussion:** Ald. White addressed the bathrooms at the ballpark not being handicapped equipped and had received pictures from a citizen showing the current shape of the bathrooms. Mayor Bodi stated the bathrooms were to be remodeled this year. Ald. White stated they need to be ADA equipped.

Parking issues at the ballpark were also brought up, need more parking. There will be more discussion on this later and other issues/concerns at the ballpark.

**City Administrator's Report:** Vicki from the Hunter Dawson home contacted the City Administrator this week. She stated they are working to put a walking track in the field east of the Hunter Dawson home and asked if the city would be interested in connecting it to theirs at some point?

The Corp of Engineers held a ribbon cutting today on the levee for the work they've done along Kingshighway and the levee. The Mayor & City Administrator went.

Gov. Eric Greitens will be here Tuesday, April 13, 2021 for a meet & greet. He is running for U.S Senate.

Ald. White made a motion to go into closed session, relative to (B.) Leasing, purchase or sale of real estate where public knowledge of the transaction might adversely affect the legal consideration there for (RSMo 610.021.2)

Ald. White made a motion to go back into open session, Ald. Keene seconded. A vote was taken and all including Mayor Bodi voted "yes". Open session was resumed.

There being nothing further, Ald. White made a motion to adjourn and Ald. Keene seconded. A vote was taken as follows: Ald. Riley – yes, Ald. Keene – yes, Ald. Chism – yes, Mayor Bodi – yes, and Ald. Young – yes, Ald. Cravens – yes, Ald. White – yes. The meeting adjourned.