

**City of New Madrid**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, February 16, 2023  
6:00 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The February 16, 2023, regular meeting of the Board of Alderman of the City of New Madrid was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Kevin Lyons presiding. Alderman Cravens, Alderman Riley, Alderman Chism and Alderman McSpadden were present. Alderman Keene and Alderman White were absent.

Also in attendance was City Administrator, Aaron Griffin, City Clerk, Paige Keene and City Attorney Chance Hunter.

Dee Moore led us in prayer.

**A. Approval of minutes**

The minutes from January 23, 2023, regular meeting was presented.

**MOTION:** Alderman Chism made a motion and Alderman Cravens seconded. All Alderman present voted "Aye." The vote was unanimous **MOTION PASSED.**

**B. Public Forum**

Mary Brockman came to discuss the utility bills. Brockman stated that she had previously sat on the council. She read an article from, 2013 discussing the utility situation at that time and the power deal the city had with associated electric. She feels the promises made in the article were broken, referring to the increased utility rates. She felt if the city had money to buy property and farmland the city should be spending that money on city work that is not finished.

John with Ameren came to the meeting and Admin Griffin presented a map to the council with the proposed Ameren line. The option for this easement was signed back in 2021 but has since expired and they were asking that it be renewed. The line would go through the same utility space as out current sewer and liberty line.

Rick Reed with Easy Portable Buildings and tiny homes brought forward papers set to scale with each tiny house in a lot and asked for feedback. The council suggested less houses and more yard space and parking. Rick said he will have a 3D rendering of these properties soon for the council to see.

**C. Resolution(s)**

A RESOLUTION AWARDING PAYMENT TO TOTH AND ASSOCIATES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,134,596.00.

**Motion:** Alderman Chism made a motion and Alderman Riley seconded. All Alderman present voted "Aye." The vote was unanimous **MOTION PASSED.**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OT SIGN SIGN INTO A CONTRACT WITH MARKSNELSON.

**Motion:** Alderman Riley made a motion and Alderman Chism seconded. All Alderman present voted "Aye." The vote was unanimous **MOTION PASSED.**

A RESOLUTION GRANTING EASEMENT TO AMEREN TRANSMISSION COMPANY OF ILLINIOS.

**Motion:** Alderman Chism made a motion and Alderman McSpadden seconded. All Alderman present voted "Aye." The vote was unanimous **MOTION PASSED.**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OT SIGN AN AGRICULTURAL LEASE AGREEMENT WITH Robert

Riley, Jr **Motion:** Alderman Chism made a motion and Alderman Cravens seconded. Alderman Riley abstained. All other alderman present voted "Aye." The vote was unanimous **MOTION PASSED.**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OT SIGN AN AGRICULTURAL LEASE AGREEMENT WITH Robert

Riley, Jr **Motion:** Alderman Chism made a motion and Alderman Cravens seconded. Alderman Riley abstained. All other alderman present voted "Aye." The vote was unanimous **MOTION PASSED.**

#### **D. Ordinance(s)**

Ord. No 1334 AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MISSOURI FIREFIGHTERS' CRITICAL ILLNESS TRUST AND POOL.

Admin Griffin gave the council information regarding this pool, the fee to join is smaller than the penalty if you don't.

**Motion:** Alderman Riley made a motion and Alderman Chism seconded. Alderman Riley abstained. All other alderman present voted "Aye." The vote was unanimous **MOTION PASSED.**

#### **E. City Administrator's Report**

Grants- working on several grants hoping to submit one tomorrow for the rail spur and matching funds for governors cost share. Finished a firefighter equipment grant and submitted for new gear last Friday.

Steven Medlin and Griffin working on a grant for concession stand upgrades. Also, after school program grants.

Smith and Co water tower project- Water tower on Mill St. needs work. There is rust, holes, and ladders out of compliance. They are getting bids and working on that right now.

Phone System- our city phones are very outdated. This will allow for an internet-based system with the cloud so you can control things with their cell phones and things are internally more efficient. The monthly payment will be cheaper since it is internet based and not land line based.

Brush Prairie properties- four houses are in motion on those properties.

Vacant properties- Dana Perry and Admin Griffin rode around and looked at some vacant properties and how to beef up the ordinances to tear down or fix up some properties. So, we're getting the ball rolling to start these properties.

Joey Higgerson - He has been looking all over and will be going to Kansas City Tuesday to look at a fire truck. He wants to come back to the next meeting with options for trucks as far as age and type. He does not see spending more than 250,000.

The board discussed the condition of scoreboard at the softball field and what they could do to help revamp them.

Mayor Lyons- has had several people calling out complain about basketball goals hanging over into the street. The UPS, FedEx and mail carrier have had issues with the goals being in the way of the trucks and obstructing the road. Joey Higgerson said he will have his guys started stopping and asking them to move them back off the road.

#### **G. Adjourn**

**Motion:** There being no further business Alderman Chism made a motion and Alderman Riley seconded to adjourn the meeting. All Alderman present voted "Aye." The vote was unanimous  
**MOTION PASSED.**