

City of New Madrid
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday October 28, 2024

6:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER

The October 28, 2024, regular meeting of the Board of Alderman of the City of New Madrid was called to order at 6:00pm with Mayor Nick White presiding. Alderman Riley, Alderman Keene, Alderman Cravens, Alderman Chism, Alderman Lawfield and Alderman Henderson were present.

Also in attendance was City Administrator, Aaron Griffin, City Clerk, Paige Keene, and City Finance officer Kristy Taylor.

Alderman Keene led us in prayer.

Mayor White led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. Approval of minutes

The minutes from September 23, 2024, regular meeting was presented.

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

B. Visitors

LaKishea Braxton the owner of Heart 2 Help- a sober living recovery treatment facility, came to the council asking to rezone the property behind her current building. She is looking to expand her business and open a 20 room 40 bed facility. The rezoning of the property would be helpful for her process with the bank. The council agrees this would be doable.

C. New Business

Officer Shane Grissom who was earlier appointed to work on code enforcement feels he did not have the time to dedicate to the position. Officer Sisk has shown interest at least temporarily.

MOTION: Alderman Riley made a motion to accept the appointment of Officer Sisk and Alderman Keene seconded. All Alderman present voted "Aye." The vote was unanimous **MOTION PASSED.**

The council took some time to review all current agricultural lease agreements the city has. All contracts are valid until 2028 with exception of the property near the nursing home this lease renews yearly at this time. There is no signed up to date contract for the industrial park land with the current farmer. The council agrees we need more money from this land and Attorney Hunter will write up a new contract and pass it by the end of the month for 3 years to get this land on track with the rest of the property owned.

Finance Officer Kristy Taylor reviewed the basic financials from the 3rd quarter.

D. Resolutions(s)

None

E. Ordinance(s)

24-1348 GRANTING FRANCHISE BY THE CITY TO LIBERTY UTILITIES

Motion: Alderman Chism made a motion and Alderman Henderson seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

Alderman Chism	“yes”
Alderman Keene	“yes”
Alderman Henderson	“yes”
Alderman Cravens	“yes”
Alderman Lawfield	“yes”
Alderman Riley	“yes”

F. City Admin Report

Fall Festival

The fall fest was October 5th and there was a great turn out. Over 50 vendors were present and there was a great crowd the entire duration of the event and Catfish Weigh-in

Street Paving

This project has been completed and Asa did a great job.

Beck’s Site

On October 2nd Admin Griffin went to tour the site off I-55. They are making great progress, and the first warehouses are under construction. They will have a press release in the coming days for the official announcement.

Fall Cleanup Week

We deemed this week a success. Everyone was respectful and it was cost-effective.

Tourism

Admin Griffin will be meeting with the Hunter Dawson Home, New Madrid Historical Museum and Higgerson Landing soon to discuss tourism, including bringing back the river boats.

2025 Mowing

The 2024 mowing season is ending. The current contracts are for one year so we will be putting those out to bid soon. Both mowing contracts this year were worthwhile.

H. Adjourn

With no further business to discuss Alderman Chism made a motion to adjourn and Alderman Henderson seconded. All Alderman present voted "Aye." The vote was unanimous **MOTION PASSED.**