

The Board of Aldermen met in regular session at 6:00 p.m.

Aldermen Present: Connie Painter, Marvin Vilorio, Jason Osbourne, Jeremy Moss (6:45 p.m.), Dane Foster, Melissa Hays

Alderman Absent:

Others Present: Mayor John Long, Michael Williams, Jackie Pangborn, Ronald Krigbaum, Ben West, Matthew Greening, Chris Callow, George Hulet, Jerry Potterfield, Robert Dowell, Rick Poertner, Zach James, John Moskal, Libby Griggs, Hope Lewis, Rich Enochs, Abbey Gerveler, Mandi Kindhart

Mayor Long called the meeting to order.

Mayor Long asked that everyone stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### Consent agenda

- Alderman Foster asked if the aviation fuel was bid out and Ms. Pangborn stated that the Airport Board watches the fuel prices and orders it when the price and/or supply is low. With this order, the price had lowered, and a load was split with another airport. After review, Alderman Painter motioned to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 3, 2019; the financial report for December 2018 and the bills payable; Alderman Foster seconded it with all in favor.

#### Open forum

- Libby Griggs – Mrs. Griggs came to the Council to discuss her water bill. Ms. Pangborn had provided the Council with information regarding her water concern as well as her billing information. Mrs. Griggs reviewed that information. Basically, her water meter reading that was entered in October of 2018 was incorrect and she received the minimum fee for water in October. In November the original reading turned in was correct and it was much higher, so she had requested a re-read and the individual that re-read the meter provided her neighbor's meter reading instead of Mrs. Griggs; so, based on that a corrected billing was done and again her water bill was only the minimum charge. In December, the reading that was taken from her meter was correct which reflected in a much higher usage for December 2018. Mrs. Griggs requested a re-read and it was found that the meter reading and the billing were correct. At this point Ms. Pangborn requested that PeopleService investigate the meter situation and confirm that the meters for Mrs. Grigg's residence and her neighbor's residence were reading the correct apartments. They went on-site and met with the resident in apartment 6 and confirmed that the meters were measuring the correct apartments by having the resident turn her water on, they watched the meter turn and then when the water was turned off the meter stopped. Mrs. Griggs felt that a portion of the water usage for this month should be abated and that she only pays for her average usage.

Alderman Foster reviewed the billing information with Mrs. Griggs; Alderman Painter questioned if she had noticed that the water bills were low the prior months and Mrs. Griggs stated that she didn't notice that, but she noticed that it was high this month. Alderman Painter stated that the water was used by her and that the bill is owed but that the City would work with her on a payment plan. Attorney Williams asked if we were sure that everything was correct on the billing and Ms. Pangborn stated she felt that it was after having PeopleService

confirm that the meters were reading the correct apartments. Mrs. Griggs stated that she would be willing to pay an additional \$10 per month on her bill until this is paid off. Mayor Long stated that it would take 32 months to resolve that and that was too long. Attorney Williams suggested that she pay her average water and sewer bill for this month which would be \$70 and then pay the rest by paying an additional \$20 per month to take care of the water and sewer portion. Alderman Foster motioned to allow Mrs. Griggs to pay her normal utility bill and to pay \$20 a month extra on the water/sewer until it is paid off; Alderman Hays seconded it with all in favor. Alderman Foster apologized to Mrs. Griggs for the issue and the inconvenience.

- Robert Dowell was present on behalf of the Mosswood Golf Course. Mr. Dowell stated that the Council had challenged him to make cuts at the Golf Course and he has done that. Part of that was to possibly take Danny Adams and make him a full-time City employee to save money on insurance. Since that meeting, the Golf Course has received their renewal rates for this year, and it has increased over \$300.00 per month. If the City made Mr. Adams a full-time employee, then it would save the City/Golf Course \$6,000 annually. Mr. Dowell further explained that the Golf Course would reimburse all these expenses - payroll, taxes, insurance and all other benefits to the City. Mayor Long stated that he felt that Mr. Dowell had done his homework on this issue. Alderman Foster questioned how the money would be reimbursed and when. Mr. Dowell stated that he would do whatever the City wanted – it would be a quick reimbursement. Alderman Vioria questioned what would happen if a new person is hired and whether or not they would be a City employee. Mr. Dowell stated that no one is hired yet, and although they have talked with an individual about this position, he doesn't feel that he should comment on this yet. Mr. Dowell stated that he would love for them to be a City employee because it would be a great benefit for the employee; however, nothing has been confirmed and it won't be addressed until 2020. They do hope to hire a part-time person this summer to train with Mr. Adams. Alderman Vioria questioned if the part-time person would have insurance and Mr. Dowell stated that only the full-time person that would be hired in 2020 would have insurance. Alderman Painter questioned if they would have to go out for bids for this position if in fact this position became a City employee position even though they would be working at the Golf Course. Attorney Williams stated that he will have to investigate this and will have additional information at the next meeting. The Council thanked Mr. Dowell for his time.
- Jerry Potterfield stated that based on the prior discussions in this meeting, it sounds like money may be a little tight. He stated that he had a question for Mayor Long - why did the Council approve the insurance proposal for casualty and liability insurance without the Workman's Comp which will cost another \$50,000.00, \$60,000.00, or \$70,000.00 when there was a significant difference in other options that were available. Mayor Long stated that the Council felt that they liked what we currently have. With regards to the Worker's Comp, it isn't renewed until April and at that time there will be some past claims that will be removed from our history which will result in a lower expense. Mr. Potterfield stated that they based their decision on guesses and not actual information. Alderman Foster stated that calls were made, and it was determined that there may be other requirements that would have to be met by the City for the other plan; Mr. Potterfield questioned what those may be. Alderman Foster stated that if the insurance company stated that the pea gravel in the playground areas at the parks was not safe and that it needed to be replaced with another material then the City would be required to remove all of the pea gravel from all of the playground areas and replace it with another material approved by the insurance company – there could be a substantial amount of expense. He further stated that the difference in the premium would most likely be made up with the additional expenditures; and it would be on the insurance company's time frame and not ours. Alderman Hays stated that if Mr. Potterfield had been at the meeting in which this

was discussed he would have seen that there was careful deliberation on this matter. Mr. Potterfield asked Attorney Williams if there was a possibility of a civil litigation for the City not spending money prudently. Attorney Williams stated that the insurance company met the specifications; but if a private citizen wanted to bring litigation then they could. Mr. Potterfield questioned if the company with the lowest bid could bring litigation and Attorney Williams stated that they could but there would be many things to prove and many variables. Mr. Potterfield stated that if the purpose is to get bids, but the bids aren't evaluated then why get the bids. Alderman Hays stated that cheaper is not always the best. Mr. Potterfield stated that the low bidder insures municipalities all around the state. Alderman Osbourne stated that he contacted Gary Osbourne (former City Clerk) about this issue. Mr. Gary Osbourne advised that he didn't feel it was a good idea; they would nickel and dime you to death and nit-pick about things and not let up on them until they are resolved. Mr. Potterfield stated that they have more experience than the local company who has one municipality. Alderman Osbourne stated that the City has had Mrs. Cooper for 25 years and they are local and right outside the back door. Alderman Painter stated that the Council had talked it over and felt it was in the best interest of the City.

- Mr. Potterfield then asked Attorney Williams if he had received the releases back from the property at 105 N. Main. Attorney Williams stated that one of the heirs contacted him last Thursday and advised that with the holidays things got delayed, but that he would get it sent in. Mr. Potterfield questioned if we were any closer on the bids for the project. Attorney Williams stated that Mr. Purol was at the last meeting and that he would have something soon with regards to an estimate and a cost to tear it down, but it isn't completed yet.

Planning & Zoning - Alderman Viloría had nothing to report.

#### Public Works

- Alderman Viloría questioned why there was no report for the Public Works Department and Ms. Pangborn advised that they had been taking care of the snow, so she did not bother them. Alderman Viloría wanted to thank the Street Department for taking care of the snow removal as well as the Electric and Gas Departments for assisting as well. Those employees are Kevin O'Bryan, Mike Tuley, Raymond Purol, Austin Hawker, Ronnie Smith, Seth Hagan, Kerry Lee, Blake Rodgers, Terron Ritter and Chris Whelan. Alderman Viloría felt this was a good example of good team work amongst the departments. He further stated that he received many positive comments on the snow removal and a few complaints, but he advised that he addressed those.
- George Hulet of PeopleService had several items to present to the Council.
  - He advised that the Sewer plant bridge is out of service. There is an issue with the axle and the bearings have gone out of it. It was taken to Hannibal Machine for an estimate and the cost is \$3,966. There is a sump pump in operation on a temporary basis until this is fixed. It will take approximately 2 weeks to make the repairs. As this is an emergency situation, it was requested that the bidding process be waived. Alderman Foster motioned to allow Hannibal Machine Inc. to make the necessary repairs at the estimated cost of \$3,966; Alderman Hays seconded it with all in favor.
  - At this stage of the contract we should be around 39% of the maintenance/chemical budgets; however, we are at 45% and it will most likely increase. The City exceeded the budget last year on chemicals and will exceed the budgeted amount next year as well. They are making some changes on chemicals and they are working on getting better pricing – although that won't make up the difference on the amount that will exceed the budget. However, the changes that they are making at the plant are providing very

good numbers. Attorney Williams did want to confirm that at this point we are over 6% of the budgeted amount currently and Mr. Hulet did confirm that. He did state that the chemical costs normally increase during the summer months. Mayor Long stated that originally it was stated that they would be able to lower our chemical costs; Mr. Hulet stated that was correct, but they couldn't lower the costs enough to alleviate a 100% of an increase. Mr. Potterfield questioned Mr. Hulet as to how much the increase would be and Mr. Hulet advised that would be about double the budgeted amount of \$59,000. Mr. Potterfield stated that it would be around \$5,000 per month, or the cost of another full-time City employee.

Alderman Moss entered the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

- Mr. Hulet stated that DNR was here this week and met with them on the THM issue as they have gotten higher. Normally they are collected once per year; however, there was a bad sample in June and therefore we were put on a quarterly monitoring basis. The plant hasn't been able to meet the limits since then. Chlorine will create THM's, so a lot of plants have gone to chlorine dioxide and it works well. If that is something that we want to proceed with, it would have to be engineered and there would be an equipment expense as well. Alderman Foster questioned if that change would keep us in better shape down the road. Mr. Hulet stated that they haven't had any issues with the other plants that have gone to this. Mr. Hulet stated that there are two parts to the equation as the distribution system would also have to be treated and chloramines would have to be fed – in their experience it works well. He also mentioned that when PeopleService began in Monroe City there were concerns with the pH levels, but that has been corrected. He stated that he would rather be proactive with these items than reactive and that there is no decision that needs to be made tonight, but we should consider this at budget time.
  - He stated that the sludge has built up in the primary basin at the water plant and it needs to be cleaned out, it has been about 2 years since this was done. In the past they flooded the basement of the water plant and then ran it to the other lagoon. He stated that this makes a huge mess and is not a good idea. He would like to have a pump truck remove it and then pump it to the lagoons. The City's sludge truck will most likely not be able to handle this, but he will check. They will develop Request for Proposals for this.
  - He stated that on a positive note, we are not in violation.
  - Alderman Moss stated that these are things that we need to do to make sure that we are getting the best for our citizens. Depending on the bids, they may be things that we will have to budget. Mr. Hulet stated that he did check with an engineer on the chemical changes and it would be around \$30,000 just for the engineering.
- Ms. Pangborn stated that she had revised bid specifications for the painting of the pool and would like for the Council to approve these so that they can be sent out. Alderman Osbourne motioned to solicit bids for the painting of the pool, Alderman Foster seconded it with all in favor.
  - Ms. Pangborn requested that the City solicit applications for summer help for the Public Works Department and the Swimming Pool. It was mentioned that we would have to run a different advertisement if we wanted to hire a part-time person to start before the school year ended. Alderman Painter stated that she thought it would be beneficial to have a program with the

school such as a work study program and that maybe we could look into that in the future. She felt that it would be good in the office. Alderman Moss stated that it may be something that the school could do through a grant. Jackie – solicit applications for summer help – would have to do something separate if wanted to hire someone before summer help normally hires. Connie – also mentioned having a program with the schools like a work study. Maybe we could look at that in the future – in any department. Connie felt it would be good in the office. Attorney Williams stated that we can approve the ads for the summer help today and then if we want another position then we will need to have it approved at another meeting. Alderman Hays motioned to solicit applications for summer help for Public Works and the Swimming Pool, Alderman Osbourne seconded it with all in favor.

#### Public Safety –

- Alderman Painter asked Officer James if there was anything for the report. It was stated that Officer Pugh has resigned, and they are taking applications.
- Alderman Painter asked Fire Chief Enochs if he had anything to report.
  - He stated that they will try to have the Christmas dinner this Saturday night, January 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.
  - He stated that he will be bringing up the fireworks at the next meeting. He stated that they have received \$2,000 in donations from community members. Alderman Vioria questioned how much we normally spend on fireworks and Chief Enochs stated that it was around \$5,000. He stated that if he had to hire someone to come in and provide the fireworks display it would be around \$32,000. Some of the Fire Department staff go to pyrotechnic training for this project and they also have a gentleman that assists them with it. The fireworks are purchased from Aerial FX, they are delivered to the bunker by the Cannon Dam and then the Fire Department picks them up and staff stays with the fireworks until the display.
  - He stated that he is still working with his dalmatian. She will be at his expense including housing, food, vet, and insurance. He feels it is a public relations tool. He has taken the dog on several outings to get a feel as to how she will react. He will get her trained and then bring her to meet the Council. He will check on insurance through his homeowner's policy and may go through a therapy animal training class.

#### Administration report – Alderman Osbourne asked Ms. Pangborn to present the Administration Report.

- Ms. Pangborn stated that she would like for the Council to consider closing the pool down in mid-August prior to school starting. There have been a large variety of issues and expenses with keeping the pool open on the weekends until Labor Day with everything from chemical costs to scheduling. She also stated that the prices for passes have been the same for several years and she would like to keep those the same, even though we will be decreasing the season by about 6 days. The Aldermen had no issues with this.
- Drug Testing – At the last council meeting Ms. Pangborn presented an agreement with TOMO, a drug testing company since the company that is currently used is closing its Quincy office. Attorney Williams had concerns with the agreement and TOMO has amended the agreement per Attorney Williams' suggestions. Attorney Williams has no issues with the Council approving this agreement. Alderman Moss motioned to allow the Mayor to enter into an agreement with TOMO for drug testing; Alderman Foster seconded it with all in favor.
- Ms. Pangborn stated that she would like to proceed with soliciting qualifications and proposals for a Worker's Compensation Insurance provider. The bids will be due by February 26<sup>th</sup> and the agents are to make their presentations to the City Council on March 5<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. They will be

allowed 10 minutes for the proposal and then 5 minutes for questions. Alderman Foster motioned to solicit requests for qualifications and proposals for Worker's Compensation Insurance; Alderman Hays seconded it with all in favor.

Nuisance report – Alderman Hays had nothing to report other than there will be a meeting on Tuesday, November 22, 2019 at 5 p.m.

#### Park Report

- Alderman Painter stated that the Park Board met on Tuesday, January 15, 2019, at 4:30 p.m. She stated Ms. Pangborn had met with Matt Harris and Randy Hills regarding a trail system connecting the City parks and potentially the lakes as well. She stated that they will do a presentation at the next Park Board meeting on February 19, 2019. She stated that they had reviewed information on the cemetery and had a preliminary listing of those that would be portrayed for the Cemetery Walk that will be held on Memorial Day. She stated that she and Ms. Pangborn want to pursue the history project and continue collecting information about our citizens, homes and businesses both past and present. She stated that Alderman Osbourne will be working with the school to see if we could work together to have a history project with the school covering the Main Street area from 1959 to 2019.

Economic Development Report – Alderman Moss stated that he had nothing to report.

#### City Attorney Report

- Attorney Williams stated that he has been working with the heirs of the property located at 105 North Main Street.
- Attorney Williams stated that the purpose of the Nuisance meeting Tuesday will be to review the state statute and work on cleaning up our ordinances.

#### Mayor's report

- Mayor Long stated that the gentleman from Missouri American Water contacted him to see if the Aldermen had any other questions. Mayor Long asked the Aldermen to e-mail him any questions they may have regarding this presentation.

With there being no additional information to discuss, Alderman Moss motioned to adjourn the meeting; Alderman Foster seconded it with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.