

The Board of Aldermen met in regular session at 6 PM.

Aldermen Present: Connie Painter, Marvin Vloria, Jason Osbourne, Jeremy Moss, Dane Foster

Aldermen Absent: Melissa Hays

Others Present: John Long, Michael Williams, Jerry Potterfield, Joyce Adams, Zach James, Kevin O'Bryan, Forrest Gossett

Mayor Long called the meeting to order at 6 pm.

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

Mayor Long requested a motion to approve the consent agenda. Alderman Painter motioned to approve the Consent Agenda that includes the minutes from October 22 2019 meeting and the bills payable; Alderman Foster seconded it with all in favor.

Open Forum

- Jerry Potterfield – Mr. Potterfield suggested that when notices are sent out regarding water, etc. that there be a date on them. Also make sure minutes are updated on the website.
- Joyce Adams– Ms. Adams is looking to run a gas line to her house but has been told that it may cost her \$1200 to get this done. She is asking that the City reconsider this cost because when her house was built, there was not gas available in her location. This will be discussed later in the meeting.
- Alderman Painter asked for clarification on where the City stands with Clarence Cannon Wholesale Water Commission as she has had several phone calls requesting this information. Alderman Moss reminded everyone that there are many moving parts. We are currently in the process of an engineering study and are working to correct our current issues. One of the items that has been brought up is that Mr. McNally had stated the City could make \$265,000 by using CCWWC however that number doesn't include personnel that they City would have to hire, maintenance on the building and system for distribution, etc. Attorney Williams stated the there are dual goals – one is to get Monroe City water where it needs to be and two, if that can't happen CCWWC is one option that can be discussed. Alderman Foster also mentioned that he feels the City has done a good job at fixing issues that have been put to the side in the past.

Planning & Zoning

No report at this time.

Public Works

- Alderman Vloria gave a general update on work the departments have been doing.
- Bids for a new post hole digger were reviewed:

Bids for Post Hole Digger – \$3,000 Budgeted

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Details</u>
Martin Equipment	\$2,900.00	PA30B Planetary Drive Auger & Mounting Bracket – 12" heavy duty bit Delivery – 3 Weeks Warranty – 1 year as long as it is not abused.
Meyer Implement	\$2,395.00	Landpride AP-SA20 Post Hole Digger Hyd. Drive 10-20GPM w/8" hoses & 12" double flight auger Delivery – 30 days after order Warranty – 1 year
Luby Equipment	\$2,545.00	McMillen x1475 Power Head on SSL Bracket with 12" bit 4' x 2" hex drive Warranty – 2 years Delivery – 3 to 7 days
Altorfer, Inc.	\$2,545.00	Caterpillar A14B Direct Drive Auger & 12" bit – 2" hex shaft Warranty – 1 year, hard parts not hoses Delivery – 2 weeks
Altorfer, Inc.	\$2,930.00	Caterpillar A19B Planetary Drive Auger & 12" bit, 2" hex shaft Warranty – 1 year, hard parts not hoses Delivery – 2 weeks

Kevin O'Bryan has suggested purchasing from Luby as their lead time is quicker and has a two-year warranty. This digger will be needed soon as the Street Department needs to get holes dug for the Library Story Walk before the ground freezes. Alderman Moss made a motion to purchase the Post Hole Digger for \$2,545 from Luby Equipment, Alderman Painter seconded with all in favor.

- An agreement with D & F Services for the Water Plant Trial was discussed. The Council would like some clarification as to whether or not this has been approved by the state before signing. A special meeting to approve will be held if needed.

Public Safety Report

- Alderman Painter gave a Public Safety report.
 - Chief Wheeler will be getting an estimate for replacing guttering on one side of the Police Department.
 - Alderman Painter will be checking on the status of the fence.
 - Trunk or Treat was a big success, Alderman Painter was very pleased at the turnout.
 - The Fire Department will be receiving an reward from a local 4H group for going above and beyond in assisting with their Fishing Derby each year at South Lake.
 - Cameras have been installed at the Fire Department, but they are having trouble with wi-fi.
 - The Fire Department has been given an old house in the country that they will be using for training.
 - The status of the Administrative Assistant was also discussed.

Administration Report

- The Board of Aldermen reviewed the adjustments to the 2018-19 budget. These adjustments bring the 2018-19 budget in line with the actual revenues and expenditures. After review and discussion, Alderman Moss motioned to approve the adjustments to the 2018-19 budget; Alderman Foster seconded it, with all in favor.
- City Clerk Chris Ellison requested to solicit Request for Qualifications for a Collection Agency. Alderman Foster made a motion to allow this request, Alderman Painter seconded with all in favor.
- Third Party Co-Signers for Utilities – Currently the City allows residents to use a third-party co-signer in the event they are unable to make their deposits when setting up utilities. Recently there have been two issues where the co-signer was contacted as the bills had not been paid which has caused some disagreement. Alderman Painter made a motion to eliminate co-signers effective November 7, 2019; Alderman Osbourne seconded with all in favor.
- Gas Installation Charges – currently the City charges a \$150 flat fee and \$1.50 per foot of line however this was when we had a certified welder. Now we have to hire out a welder and they cost \$1500-\$1700 depending on the number and the time it takes. Attorney Williams will be checking to see if we need to go out for request for qualifications for certified welder. It was also determined to make no changes to the current policy regarding charges, the City will have to absorb the cost of the welder until someone is certified within the City.
- Arcadia Metalcraft is currently one month behind on their utility bill. They have asked for special demand cost adjustments which would save them approximately \$8,000 per month however this cost will still be charged to the City. It was requested that MEUC be contacted to see if those demand charges can be reduced for the City as well but until then it was decided to follow our current ordinance. If Arcadia would like to plead their case to the Council, they can come to the next meeting.
- The Mark Twain Solid Waste Management District are accepting grant applications for recycling. No action was taken at this time.
- Benefit Brokers for Health Insurance request for qualifications have been received. There is a lot of information that the Council feels would be beneficial if the brokers could meet with the Council to present their information. A special meeting will be set up for these presentations.

Nuisance Committee Report

- Currently there are three properties that will be starting the abatement process.
- The abatement issues with the apartments on South Monroe Street have been taken care of but still waiting on the property on East Cleveland, which has until November 18, 2019 to abate.

- The next item will be meeting with the Building Inspector to note any dangerous meetings.

Park Board

No report at this time

Economic Development Report

- An Economic Development meeting will be scheduled during the Council meeting on November 21, 2019.

City Attorney Report

- An ordinance and deed have been prepared for the sale of 105 North Main to Matthew Perrine. The ordinance will be posted, and a special Council meeting will be held on Monday, November 11, 2019 at 11:45 to approve this ordinance.

Mayor's Report

- Census Committee – a committee is being set up, a Facebook page has been started and the committee is planning for a meeting on November 20 – time to be determined. Ms. Ellison will contact the Census representative to let him know the committee has been formed and are ready for training.
- Mayor Long asked about Ruth Lane being washed out – approximately 5-foot hole. He will get with Kevin O'Bryan to discuss.
- The old generators at the Electric Plant were discussed. It was also mentioned that the old fuel that is there needs to be sent to MFA for testing to make sure that it is still good.
- The owner of the Wedge has contacted the Mayor regarding the stairwell in the front of the building. They are looking to replace that stairwell and have asked if the City could supply a dump truck for them to use to haul off the old concrete. As this is a liability issue, the Council did not approve this request.

There being no additional business to discuss, Alderman Foster motioned to adjourn the meeting; Alderman Moss seconded it with all in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

John Long, Mayor

Christine Ellison, City Clerk