

The Board of Aldermen met in regular session at 6:00 P.M.

Aldermen Present: Shelby Neill, Marvin Vioria, Jason Osbourne, Jeff Botkins, Rusty Rothweiler and Juben Moss.

Aldermen Absent:

Others Present: Mayor Jerry Potterfield, John Russell, Blake Rodgers, George Hausdorf, Rich Enochs, Brad Pfanner, Ben Luetkemeyer, Todd Young, Terry Gibbs, Connie Painter, Melissa Hays, Jackie Pangborn, Amy Moss, Zach James, Kari James, Jennifer Adams, Ralph Lemongelli, Julie Powell, Shirley Arch, Davey Benson, Brian Walters, Becky Chinn

Mayor Potterfield called the meeting to order.

Mayor Potterfield asked everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Board of Alderman reviewed the consent agenda:

- Alderman Botkins made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 21, 2022 meeting; Alderman Neill seconded with all in favor.
- Alderman Botkins made a motion to approve the bills payable for March 10, 2022; Alderman Moss seconded with all in favor.

### **Open Forum**

- Becky Chinn asked about the roads at the cemetery. She stated they are currently in bad shape and asked when they would put rock down. Blake Rodgers stated this is usually taken care of in the spring when it dries up but he will discuss it with Kevin O'Bryan.
- Todd Young & Ben Luetkemeyer addressed the Board of Aldermen about the old UMB bank building. They would like to open a pizza place and have plans to apply for a liquor license. Before doing so, they wanted approval from the Board of Aldermen before going any further. Alderman Rothweiler and Attorney Russell will discuss this with the deacons of the church and will be discussed again at the next meeting.

### **Presentations**

#### **Mayor's Report**

- The phishing scam was discussed at length. Several questions were asked regarding how the funds are going to be paid back and if this will increase the sewer rates. We are currently looking into ways to get this money back, but this will not be the cause of increasing rates. More in depth cyber security is being discussed with the IT company and measures will be implemented for prevention

of any other problems. Chief Zach James also stated that the Police Department has been working on pulling the preliminary information and gathering data, but other federal agencies will be doing the actual investigation.

- Financial statements have been reworked to make them easier to read and understand. The Board is to review before the next meeting.
- Pay rates for elected officials were discussed. Mayor Potterfield has contacted surrounding cities to compare their pay compared to Monroe City and feels that the Board of Aldermen and Mayor are being overpaid. It was asked why he didn't bring this up at the beginning of his term rather than at the end.
- Mayor Potterfield stated people have talked with him about getting rid of South Lake. He stated it is rarely used, there are no fish in it and it is ugly. The lake has not been used as a water source for the city for over 20 years. Alderman Botkins stated that there are plans to apply for grants to get handicapped fishing spots installed at the lake. Alderman Rothweiler also stated the utilization of South Lake needs to be reviewed as there are many ways it could be improved.
- Route J Logging contract has been signed and initial payment was made today.
- Monroe Family Restaurant meter tests have come back and they all tested good, within all limits. Mayor Potterfield stated the owner said she would pay back the money that was refunded to her if everything was good. Alderman Botkins stated a copy of the meter testing information should be sent to the owners for their information.
- The jail door was discussed. Mayor Potterfield said at one time it was mentioned that the door would be displayed somewhere, he has also had people ask if they could buy it. Alderman Rothweiler stated he would like to speak to the Park Board about this.
- A few complaints have been received regarding the new stop signs on Lawn and E Cleveland, but there have also been people thankful for them. The plan is to leave them as is as they are helping.

### **Planning and Zoning**

- Nothing to report.

### **Public Works**

- Eaton has requested some additional funds. When they did the relay testing, they didn't realize how bad things were and need to plan for an additional two days for finish up. Alderman Botkins made a motion to approve the additional \$9,474 for Eaton to finish their testing, Alderman Rothweiler seconded with all in favor.
- A program has been reviewed for work orders to streamline the process, track data better, see high maintenance areas, history of work, and also equipment inventory. This is from a company formerly named Dude Solutions, which recently changed their name to Brightly. The cost will be \$1800 per year/per department. Mayor Potterfield sat in on the presentation as well and highly recommends going forward with this. Alderman Neill made a motion to approve hiring Brightly for a new work order system; Alderman Rothweiler seconded with all in favor.

- George Hausdorf said the wastewater treatment plant is coming on well. They are changing how they are doing the walls so will see more happening once the east wall is up.
- Bids for initial upgrades for the water plant will be in next Friday.
- The current sewer rates need to be increased before the treatment plant is complete. As of right now, the current rate structure will not cover the entire payment. Increasing the rates now, will allow for funds to be built up in order to have money available to make the payments.
- Water and Sewer rates of Monroe City versus Palmyra were reviewed.
- Alderman Rothweiler stated he went with Heath Hall to visit the Marion County Commissioners regarding the CCWWC project and that went well. Unsure if Mr. Hall has visited with Monroe or Ralls Commissioners yet.

### **Public Safety**

- Chief James stated they are starting up mini overtime grants again so you will see more officers out and about.
- Nuisance issues are being address and will be discussed again in a few weeks. Also, the Building Inspector and the Fire Chief are working on a plan to address several of these derelict properties as well.

### **Administration**

- Nothing to report.

### **Park Board**

- Nothing to report.

### **Economic Development**

- Alderman Botkins stated a price should be set on the land at the Industrial Park. It was previously discussed that this would be priced at \$10,000 per acre. The number of jobs being created as well as tax revenue generated could adjust that price. Alderman Botkins made a motion to set the price of the land at the Industrial Park at \$10,000 per acre minimum with adjustments possible due to job creation and tax revenue, knowing that all sales are subject to final approval by the Board; Alderman Rothweiler seconded with all in favor.

### **City Attorney Report**

- Mr. Russell is working on the easement for the Elevator project.

Alderman Rothweiler motioned to move into Executive session authorized by RSMO 61.021 (3) hiring, firing, disciplining or promoting of particular employees; Alderman Moss seconded with roll call vote:

March 10, 2022

Shelby Neill ..... Yes  
Marvin Vioria..... Yes  
Jason Osbourne ..... Yes

Jeff Botkins ..... Yes  
Rusty Rothweiler ..... Yes  
Juben Moss ..... Yes

Open session reconvened at 7:33 p.m.

There being no more business to discuss, Alderman Botkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting: Alderman Moss seconded with all in favor. Meeting ended at 7:34 p.m.

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Jerry Potterfield, Mayor

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Chris Ellison, City Clerk