

MARIONVILLE BOARD OF ALDERMEN REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

Marionville Conference Room, 101 S Central

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mayor Blankenship called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. On roll call the following Aldermen were present: Joanne Lawrence, Murlin Bettinger, Doris Rapp, Gina Herndon and Melissa Freeman. Absent was Kay Leffingwell.

Following roll call, Mayor Blankenship led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and Doris Rapp opened the meeting with prayer.

**Approve Order of Agenda:** Alderman Freeman made the motion to approve the order of the agenda as presented. Alderman Herndon seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:

AYES: 5- Herndon, Rapp, Freeman, Bettinger, Lawrence

**Approve minutes of the Public Hearing and Regular Session on March 11, 2021:**

Alderman Rapp made the motion to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing and Regular Session on March 11, 2021 as presented. Alderman Bettinger seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:

AYES: 5- Freeman, Herndon, Rapp, Lawrence, Bettinger

**Approve payment of Bills, Adjustments, Bank Recs and Cash Reports:** Alderman Herndon made the motion to approve payment of Bills, Adjustments, Bank Recs and Cash Reports as presented. Alderman Lawrence seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:

AYES: 5- Freeman, Lawrence, Bettinger, Herndon, Rapp

***Citizens Comments/Official Guests & Visitors***

*Jack Brueggeman:* Mr. Brueggeman asked who owned the sidewalks. It was noted the property owner helps maintain them. The city will pay for half the cost to install a sidewalk. Mr. Brueggeman stated in other cities they have asked the schools to help with this issue. Mayor Blankenship said he would be interested in checking into that. Mr. Brueggeman mentioned he had some experience with asphalt and street maintenance and he would be willing to help the public works department with suggestions or answer any questions they might have.

A resident who lives in the Cottages at the Manor requested a pot hole be repaired at Lyon and Chicago. She also asked if the city had codes pertaining to messy yards. It was mentioned there are codes regarding nuisances and City Hall can be notified of any complaints. There is a process to follow.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

*Chief Witthuhn:* The Police Department is still short officers. Mr. Holmes is trying to find a couple of available dates to set up a meeting with both boards.

*Sewer Department:* Mayor Blankenship stated we are still experiencing Inflow and Infiltration issues when it rains a lot. We will need to address this more in the future. The DNR came down to

this area and took a few samples. Our monthly testing's have been good. The UV lights are up and running. The auger is installed and running. The extra sludge hauling resulted from the hard freeze when the water line broke; plus we are still trying to get caught up from very little hauling in previous years.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

*Cemetery mowing bids/mower:* We had advertised for bids earlier with no response, however after inquiring we received three (3) bids. Mayor Blankenship opened the following bids:

AK Pavement Solutions, LLC-Cape Fair, would mow as needed or every two weeks at a cost of three thousand dollars (\$3000) a mowing. (insured)

Reliable Lawn Care-Marionville, would mow, weed eat, blow off grass every two weeks or as requested at a cost of twelve hundred fifty dollars (\$1250) per mowing. (insured, licensed, bonded, carries work comp)

Ryan Combs-Marionville, would mow, weed eat, remove limbs for nine hundred dollars (\$900) per mowing. (insured) Mayor Blankenship had the public works department mow and weed eat to see if our mowers would work and possibly have them maintain the cemetery. A true cost to have public works maintain the cemetery would be about fifteen hundred dollars (\$1500) a mowing. This doesn't include any fuel or wear and tear on our mowers. After discussing, the Aldermen didn't feel like the city could afford having our public works do it with only two people. The aldermen reviewed the bids again. Some were concerned if an individual would have time for such a big job. Alderman Freeman believed a business would have more time to get the job done seeing it takes several hours and made the motion to have Reliable Lawn Care maintain the cemetery for the 2021 season for that reason. Alderman Bettinger seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:

AYES: 5- Bettinger, Freeman, Herndon, Rapp, Lawrence

*Cemetery CD Account:* The Board looked over interest rates from different banks ranging from .20 percent for twelve months to .80 for twenty-four months (24). Alderman Freeman made the motion to move the Cemetery CD to Freedom Bank for twenty-four months (24) for an interest rate of .80. Alderman Lawrence seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:

AYES: 5- Herndon, Rapp, Lawrence, Bettinger, Freeman

*Paving Bids:* The following bids were opened:

Emery Sapp & Sons Inc. ----- \$94.50 per ton, \$5500 mobilization

APAC----- \$87.88 per ton, \$3750 mobilization

Blevins Asphalt----- \$73.55 per ton, \$8345 mobilization

Capital Paving & Construction\$92.00 per ton, \$3100 mobilization

After discussing the bids and the estimated tons each and previous paving jobs, Alderman Freeman made the motion to award the paving to APAC based on the tons that were estimated and price.

Alderman Rapp seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:

AYES: 5- Herndon, Freeman, Bettinger, Rapp, Lawrence

*Bids for sale of 2002 Ram Dodge:* The following bids were opened:

--Tyrrel Snider \$800.00

--James Barnett \$751.00

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Alderman Rapp made the motion to accept the bid of \$800.00. Alderman Lawrence seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:

AYES: Lawrence, Herndon, Freeman, Bettinger, Rapp

*Bids for Sale of Cattle Guards:* There was only one (1) bid on the cattle guards. Keith Rapp bid \$303.00 on the cattle guards. Alderman Herndon made the motion to accept the bid of \$303.00. Alderman Bettinger seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:

AYES: 4- Bettinger, Freeman, Lawrence, Herndon  
ABSTAIN: 1- Rapp

### **NEW BUSINESS**

*Reading of the certified returns for the General Municipal City Election held on April 6, 2021:*

Mayor Blankenship read the certified election results from the April 6, 2021 election.

Alderman Ward I      Doris Rapp                      3

(those receiving one vote a piece were: Bill Gish, Joe Walker, Chris Murphy, Danny Cleneager, D. Clevenger)

Alderman Ward II      Mathew Goodman      19

Alderman Ward III      Murlin Bettinger      15

Alderman Freeman made the motion to accept the certified election results as read. Alderman Lawrence seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:

AYES: 5- Freeman, Herndon, Lawrence, Rapp, Bettinger

*Recognize Outgoing Aldermen:* Mayor Blankenship stated Kay Leffingwell was unable to attend tonight's meeting and he asked everyone to tell her "Thank You" when they saw her, for her many years of dedication and service to the city.

*Oath of Office for Incoming Aldermen:* Doris Rapp, Mathew Goodman and Murlin Bettinger took the oath of office from City Clerk, Debbie Bateman.

*Elect Mayor Pro Tem:* Alderman Lawrence made the motion for Melissa Freeman to continue as Mayor Pro Tem. Alderman Rapp seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:

AYES: 5- Herndon, Lawrence, Bettinger, Rapp, Goodman  
NAYES: 1- Freeman

*Bank Signers:* The signers on all of the City's bank accounts are the mayor, mayor pro tem and one other alderman. Alderman Freeman made the motion to add Mathew Goodman as a signer on the bank accounts. Alderman Lawrence seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:

AYES: 6- Lawrence, Freeman, Bettinger, Herndon, Goodman, Rapp

The bank signers for all bank accounts will be Mayor Dale Blankenship, Mayor Pro-Tem Melissa Freeman and Alderman Mathew Goodman.

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*Radio Repeater located at Washington & Youngblood:* This repeater hasn't been working for several years. Bonnie Witt-Shulte with the Monett-Lawrence County 9-1-1 Emergency Services stated they did get the repeater working again and would like to take ownership to utilize it. They would maintain it and hopefully get the police department switched over to it. Chief Witthuhn stated it would be good for them to utilize it and if it doesn't work for the police department, it could be switched to the fire department. Alderman Freeman made the motion to allow the Lawrence County Emergency Services Board to take ownership of the radio repeater at Washington & Youngblood. Alderman Lawrence seconded and the motion passed on roll call vote as follows:

AYES: 6- Herndon, Freeman, Rapp, Lawrence, Bettinger, Goodman

*Repairs to Fire Truck:* The cab locks aren't functioning properly. The quote to repair them was for \$857.92 from Fire Master. Alderman Bettinger made the motion to repair the cab locks for \$857.92. Alderman Freeman seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:

AYES: 6- Lawrence, Rapp, Goodman, Bettinger, Herndon, Freeman

*Bond Issue---Fire Department:* Mayor Blankenship stated the Fire Department has been working on improving our ISO rating which would lower the home owners insurance rates. He had asked the Fire Department for a list of things that would help accomplish this. This is basically their wish list. On the list is a ladder truck which would require an addition to the fire station. They are trying to look towards the future growth plus improve the department. They are looking at maybe bringing a bond before the voters to accomplish this. Mayor Blankenship asked for the board's approval to send this to our engineers for a cost analysis. Alderman Lawrence made the motion to allow this to go to Toth to get a cost analysis. Alderman Rapp seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:

AYES: 6- Freeman, Herndon, Rapp, Goodman, Lawrence, Bettinger

*General Code Estimate to Codify New Ordinances:* This year the estimated cost to do this is between one thousand, five hundred ninety-four dollars (\$1,594) and one thousand, eight hundred thirty-three dollars (\$1,8330). Alderman Freeman made the motion to approve codifying the ordinances with General Code. Alderman Lawrence seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:

AYES: 6- Bettinger, Rapp, Goodman, Lawrence, Freeman, Herndon

*Machine for Street Sealing:* One way to help our paving last longer would be to seal the streets. We could purchase a small machine to do this; but it would be time consuming. Mayor Blankenship stated there is a company in Springfield that rents a machine for this by the day, week or month. He wanted to put this out there for the aldermen to think about. Alderman Freeman made the motion to postpone this until August. Alderman Rapp seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:

AYES: 6- Herndon, Freeman, Lawrence, Bettinger, Rapp, Goodman

*Bill No. 2021-06/Ordinance 06-2021 "AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE A STREET IN THE CITY LIMITS OF MARIONVILLE":* Bill No. 2021-06 was read twice by title only. This ordinance will vacate Kings Street east of Newton. That portion of the street has not been used for years. Alderman Herndon made the motion to approve Bill No. 2021-06 as presented. Alderman Goodman seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:

AYES: 6- Rapp, Bettinger, Goodman, Herndon, Freeman, Lawrence

*P & Z Appointment:* Mayor Blankenship said he is waiting to hear back on this. No votes were taken on this.

*Vote to go into closed session per: RSMO 610.021(14)Records which are protected from disclosure by law:* Alderman Rapp made the motion to go into closed session per: RSMO 610.021(14)Records which are protected from disclosure by law. Alderman Lawrence seconded and the motion passed on roll call vote as follows:

AYES: 6- Herndon, Rapp, Freeman, Lawrence, Goodman, Bettinger

The board went into closed session at 8:14 p.m.

The board returned to open session at 8:27 p.m.

*Votes in closed session:* Mayor Blankenship stated the only motion made in closed session was to come back into open session by Alderman Goodman and seconded by Alderman Lawrence with all voting aye.

*Possible sewer adjustment for commercial customer:* Alderman Freeman made the motion to adjust a commercial property owner's account with a credit of three hundred ninety dollars and sixty-six cents (\$390.66). Alderman Goodman seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:

AYES: 6- Lawrence, Freeman, Herndon, Rapp, Bettinger, Goodman

### **ALDERMEN COMMENTS**

*Melissa Freeman:* Asked if the attorney has given the mayor the applications for administrative search warrants. Mayor Blankenship stated he would follow up on this.

*Doris Rapp:* She and Bud have platted four (4) new lots and have been seeding grass. She asked about the vacant house ordinance. It was mentioned if there is a house in question, let the mayor or city hall know. Mathew Goodman indicated he would be willing to help anyone cleanup, just let him know.

*Joanne Lawrence:* Asked about a city wide clean-up day. Mayor Blankenship indicated yes, but no date has been set yet.

**MAYOR COMMENTS**

(none)

**ADJOURNMENT**

Alderman Freeman made the motion to adjourn; seconded by Alderman Goodman. All voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

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Dale Blankenship, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Debbie Bateman, City Clerk