

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER. Mayor Luke Davis called the regular semi-monthly meeting of the Board of Aldermen to order at 6:02 PM on Thursday, October 15, 2020—this meeting was held in a virtual format via Zoom—access instructions were noted on the meeting agenda.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL. Jeanette Curtiss, City Clerk/Finance Officer called the roll—a quorum was present.

Luke Davis, Mayor	Present		
Damon Mills, Alderman Ward 1	Present	Sean O’Connell, Alderman Ward 1	Present
Talyia Leeper, Alderwoman Ward 2	Present	Kerry Nelson, Alderman Ward 2	Present
Alisa Lowry, Alderwoman Ward 3	Present	Randy West, Alderman Ward 3	Present

Guests: None.

City Officials: Jordan Needham/Communications, Dale Batson/Project Manager and Jeanette Curtiss/City Clerk/Finance Officer.

OPEN FLOOR TO VISITORS*

There were no comments to come before the board.

AGENDA

Approval of September 17, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes (Davis)

A motion to approve the September 17, 2020 regular meeting minutes was made by Kerry Nelson, with Talyia Leeper seconding the motion. The motion was approved with the aye votes being Leeper, Lowry, Mills, Nelson, and O’Connell—there were no nay votes.

Approval of September 17, 2020 Closed Session Meeting Minutes (Davis)

A motion to approve the September 17, closed session meeting minutes was made by Sean O’Connell, with Kerry Nelson seconding the motion. The motion was approved with the aye votes being Leeper, Lowry, Mills, Nelson, and O’Connell—there were no nay votes.

Approval of October 1, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes (Davis)

A motion to approve the October 1, 2020 regular meeting minutes was made by Kerry Nelson, with Talyia Leeper seconding the motion. The motion was approved with the aye votes being Leeper, Lowry, Mills, Nelson, and O’Connell—there were no nay votes.

Approval of October 1, 2020 Closed Session Meeting Minutes (Davis)

A motion to approve the October 1, 2020 closed session meeting minutes was made by Kerry Nelson, with Sean O’Connell seconding the motion. The motion was approved with the aye votes being Leeper, Lowry, Mills, Nelson, and O’Connell—there were no nay votes.

Approval of October 8, 2020 Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes (Davis)

A motion to approve the October 8, 2020 budget workshop meeting minutes was made by Kerry Nelson, with Sean O’Connell seconding the motion. The motion was approved with the aye votes being Leeper, Lowry, Mills, Nelson, and O’Connell—there were no nay votes.

Approval of Treasurer’s Report and Expenses To Be Paid (Curtiss)

An added expense, not noted in the reports, is a \$1,000 expense item to Show Me Christian County (our 4th annual payment of 5). Randy West joined the meeting at this time. A motion to approve the treasurer’s report and general expenses of \$17,046.83 and sewer fund expenses of \$18,057.96 was made by Kerry Nelson, with Talyia Leeper seconding the motion. The motion was approved with the aye votes being Leeper, Lowry, Mills, Nelson, O’Connell and West—there were no nay votes.

OLD BUSINESS

COVID-19 Update (Davis)

The Christian County Health Department update was made a part of the board packet—currently monitoring 927 active cases—there have been 5 deaths. The recent testing site stats from emergency management were sent to the aldermen. In the City of Ozark meeting discussing masks, a doctor stated that if we are seeing less than a 10% positive rate, we are not testing enough people.

City Survey Results (Nelson)

Nelson highlighted points of the survey results and will email the entire packet to the board for review. There were 217 responses out of 474 emailed—8 duplications from the same IP address. In general, people love the street signs, doing good job in human resources area and people feel safe living here.

Cassidy Property—Troxel (West)

Batson reported that it could be 2 weeks before the legal is done. West is still updating Mrs. Troxel every week on the status.

Cassidy Ponds (Batson)

Batson and Curtiss have discussed the components of the project to develop specs for bid, which should go out soon. We will need a DNR permit before the process is started and will need a design in place—could take up to 3 months to get a permit. Batson has met with Ozark Electric to understand power requirements to a well head.

SCEAP Grant Update (Curtiss)

Latest communication from DNR was made a part of the board packet. This grant is now funded by some federal dollars and we are in a transition phase, which requires a couple extra forms to be completed.

NEW BUSINESS

Christian County Sales Tax Cost Share Program (Davis)

The Commissioners met this morning on the restructuring of this program. Davis attended via audio but had difficulty hearing all the discussion. Every 2 years MODOT does bridge inspections—the next one is due in January and there are 3 bridges that are not in Nixa or Ozark that the county is concerned will not pass inspection. Green Bridge can no longer be repaired—will have to be closed if scored as such and county will need to replace—estimated cost is \$3-\$4 million. Most cities in the county were represented in person or via phone—Miranda Beadles, county’s road engineer, presented 5 options for the commission to take into consideration on the distribution of these funds, which ranged from keeping it the same to ending it completely. There typically is \$1,000,000 available for distribution—option #2 was chosen today. Fremont Hills, for now, will no longer be getting this county money for road improvements. They were making some modifications even after the meeting, and Phillips will send the data on changes and minutes of the meeting to us. We did not put this money in our 2021 budget. This program will be re-evaluated annually by the county. Funds will not go to any municipalities, but were discussing they may at some level rather than taking it all away. Childers/Ozark tossed out some good ideas that would trickle down to other municipalities. Davis invited Commissioner Phillips to our meeting on November 5. The tax passed in the mid-90’s and the language does not say the county has to share with the municipalities or the special road district’s. In 2012 there was an order on the books that defines how funds are distributed per state auditor and it was agreed upon that the commission would distribute based on need.

Security Patrols (Davis)

West left the meeting at this time. We need to look at security patrol options as the hours patrolled are not being met by our contract. O’Connell feels he is seeing an increase in speeding—residents, vendors, contractors, bus drivers, etc. He will sit down with Sheriff Cole and see what it would take to honor the contract. O’Connell, Nelson and West are on the security committee. Davis will make sure things are lined out with the court system if ticketed offenses are taken to court.

Traffic Signs (Batson)

Batson’s report on traffic signs that are on street light poles was made a part of the board packet—report shows current signs and proposed signs (he’s recommending eliminating a few of the signs). \$10,060 is the cost estimate for signs only/leaving as is (golf cart crossing signs not included). Proposed plan brings expense estimate down to \$8,500+ (replacing 2 speed limit signs in commercial area). Signs might be more noticed/more visible on the new poles. Since the new signs will be put in peoples’ yards, we want to be careful where we are placing them.

O'Connell would like to drive the City and make notes—Lake Ridge Estates has done a great job with speed cushions, digital signs, etc. Installed cost estimate would be \$250 apiece (from Springfield Sign's pricing when installed)—Batson could install one sign an hour and feels we should keep in house. West returned to the meeting at this time. A motion to purchase signs according to Batson's recommendation plan for signs and installation as he sees fit was made by Nelson, with O'Connell seconding the motion. The motion was approved with the aye votes being: Leeper, Mills, Nelson, O'Connell and West—there were no nay votes and Lowry abstained.

Electrical Addition To Fremont Hills Drive (Batson)

Three written bids were received on this project (A-1 Electric, Complete Electrical Solutions and Scapes). Batson felt boring to be the best option and others were not interested in bidding due to the boring (A-1 Electric owns their own boring machine). The plan is to have 5 outlets down the median in the rock areas—they will stand 12-18 inches out of the ground. There will be some sod replacement if bore, and mulch to freshen up. Wire is already pulled to the west median for landscape lighting. A motion to accept Batson's recommendation of A-1 Electric was made by Alisa Lowry, with Damon Mills seconding the motion. The motion was approved with the aye votes being: Leeper, Lowry, Mills, O'Connell and West—there were no nay votes and Nelson abstained.

Holiday Lighting (Mills)

The holiday tree bid was made a part of the board packet. Eleven, 10' tall trees would be \$478 each/\$5,258 and to modify existing trees to no ground contact lighting would be \$1,800--\$7,058 total if we get the new power supply. We will have to readjust for chords if no power extended down the double barrel. There should be room in the shed to store the additional trees. Nelson motioned to accept the bid submitted, with Leeper seconding. The motion was approved with the aye votes being: Leeper Lowry, Mill, Nelson, O'Connell and West—there were no nay votes.

Tour of Lights Community Event (Davis)

After discussion, the Board decided to cancel this event for this year. Curtiss had to log back into the meeting via conference call at this point.

Golf Carts Currently Accessing City From Pasatiempo/14th Addition Area (Nelson)

Nelson only wanted to make the Board aware there is a golf cart path from this farmland into the City. O'Connell commented that his son lives on this land and it is typically just the two families who go back and forth. This area is marked as private property.

Closed Session

A motion to go into closed session pursuant to RSMo 610.021(1) legal action was made by Sean O'Connell, with Talyia Leeper seconding the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote with the ayes being: Leeper, Lowry, Mills, Nelson, O'Connell and West—there were no nay votes.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by _____ with _____ seconding the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

CITY OF FREMONT HILLS

By: _____

Luke Davis, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jeanette Curtiss, City Clerk/Finance Officer