

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING  
THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER.** Mayor Luke Davis called the regular semi-monthly meeting of the Board of Aldermen to order at 6:05 PM on Thursday, March 18, 2021—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	Absent	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

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

Guests in Attendance: Jarett Metheny/Ozark Fire Chief and resident, Carolyn Cope.

**OPEN FLOOR TO VISITORS \***

Ozark Fire Chief, Jarett Metheny, spoke on the April 6 Proposition Fire ballot issue. Funding will be used for facilities, equipment and staffing—10 year capital improvement plan to allocate resources efficiently and hopefully lower ISO rating to a 2 (ISO is currently a 4). Serving Fremont Hills is station 2 and is staffed with 3 people at all times. They hope to refinance the debt for this facility with \$12.5 million in GO bonds over 20 years, build 2 new fire stations, buy an aerial truck and implement an equipment replacement program. This would be a \$.17 tax levy increase. They currently have 2 fire stations that cover 110 miles—need 5 stations. Station 3 closed due to mold and the old #2 has been torn down—mold issues. They are having town hall meetings on the ballot issue, and they will be streamed on Facebook. Currently have a staff of 34 and 4 staff are not operational—average daily staffing is 8 per day 24/7. 2014 was the last tax levy increase. They have a budget of \$3.5 million.

**ITEMS FOR APPROVAL**

**Approval Of February 18, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes (West)**

A motion to approve the February 18, 2021 regular meeting minutes as presented was made by Kerry Nelson, with Talyia Leeper seconding the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote with the ayes being: Leeper, Lowry, Nelson, O’Connell and West—there were no nay votes.

**Approval Of March 4, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes (West)**

A motion to approve the March 4, 2021 regular meeting minutes with corrections was made by Talyia Leeper, with Randy West seconding the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote with the ayes being: Leeper, Lowry, Nelson and West—O’Connell abstained as he was absent—there were no nay votes.

### **Approval Of Treasurer’s Report And Expenses To Be Paid (Curtiss)**

The treasurer’s report and expenses to be paid of \$17,658.01 for the general fund and \$33,096.28 for the sewer fund were presented. A motion to approve the treasurer’s report and expenses was made by O’Connell, with Nelson seconding the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote with the ayes being: Leeper, Lowry, Nelson, O’Connell and West—there were no nay votes.

### **Resolution #236-2021 Destruction of Records**

The records proposed to be destroyed were attached with the resolution--the state statute citing the records retention for that particular record was noted as well. A motion to approve Resolution #236-2021 was made by Alisa Lowry, with Talyia Leeper seconding the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote with the ayes being: Leeper, Lowry, Nelson, O’Connell and West—there were no nay votes.

### **Bid Opening/Selection For Cassidy Pond Well (Batson)**

Davis and Curtiss opened bids yesterday (the bid tabulation sheet was made a part of the board packet). We estimate \$8,000 to encase the sewer line in concrete and \$4,000 to run electric for the well (do not anticipate any other costs). Batson recommended Hewitt Messenger of the three bids received (1 bidder did not include the pump quote so an incomplete bid). If we plan to continue with this project, we would probably need to raise the budget \$5,000. A motion to move forward with the Hewitt Messenger bid was made by Sean O’Connell, with Randy West seconding the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote with the ayes being: Leeper, Lowry, Nelson, O’Connell and West—there were no nay votes. Batson reported it may be 8 months before beginning this project with DNR permitting and finding a contractor to encase the sewer line. The bid will be good for that long/8 months. The drilling rig currently in Cassidy is taking soil sampling for compaction testing (4 By 4 project).

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Cassidy Property Deed—Troxel (Batson)**

The quit claim deed was done incorrectly—the Troxel property is in a trust so we have to get a corrected deed prepared and signed. Jon is ready to start around the electrical boxes.

#### **CWERG (SCEAP) Grant Update (Batson)**

Tomorrow GRE will change the location of the flow meters--got good data after last night’s rain event. GRE will probably move locations one more time.

#### **Citywide Fiber (Mills)**

West reported the mayor’s announcement has been sent out to residents, and we already have people signed up through the website and received comments back from residents. The NetVision site is now secure. There is a meeting scheduled for Tuesday with NetVision, and a town hall meeting would be good to hold. Needham commented that the FTTH page is also on our city website. We may start a daily update in the evenings, or 2-3 update posts a week. If NetVision plans to go door to door, we need to send a notice out via email (use website first and then door to door later to register interested residents). As of Tuesday, 30 residents have signed up. Received one comment concerned about the “nodes”--they would not be copper—it’s fiber into the house. Apartment complexes control or throttle speed on internet and doesn’t really have anything to do with NetVision’s service—several of their reviews are unfounded because they are from those living in apartments. We need a communication path--FAQ’s/ need to be put

answers to their questions on website. Regarding comment as to a private investor—for disclosure purposes the board was asked if anyone had any financial or managerial ties to NetVision—no board members or employees have such an interest. West reached out to Suddenlink and AT&T regarding their interest in doing the same project, and they did not respond to our inquiry. We are facilitating the NetVision project—may include Fair Haven after our responses come in.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Neighborhood Garage Sale (Curtiss)**

After general discussion it was decided to go ahead with the annual neighborhood garage sale--encourage social distancing, wearing masks, etc. The sale would be April 23 & 24.

**Bid Solicitation For Cassidy Entrance Guardhouse (Batson)**

The ad was published in the newspaper yesterday and Batson has reached out to some of the builders who are currently working in the City—bids are due April 14. We will send a note from the mayor with the check to Mr. Thomas for drawing the buildable plans for this structure.

**Closed Session**

A motion to go into closed session pursuant to RSMo 610.021 (3) was made by Sean O’Connell, with Talyia Leeper seconding the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote with the ayes being: Leeper, Lowry, Nelson, O’Connell and West—there were no nay votes.

**ADJOURN**

A motion to adjourn was made by Sean O’Connell, with Randy West seconding the motion. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

CITY OF FREMONT HILLS

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Luke Davis, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeanette Curtiss, City Clerk/Finance Officer