

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE OZARK CITY COUNCIL**

May 11, 2020

Ozark City Council Meeting Room

A Regular Meeting of the Ozark City Council was held on May 11, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. at the Ozark City Council Meeting Room in City Hall. Present were Mayor Roxie Hall, City Attorney Kevin Barham, Deputy City Clerk/Treasurer Marla Ward, City Clerk Susan Stevens, and Alderpersons, Rex Anderson, Brandy Flanary, Susan Holman, Charlie Meeker, Randy Melton, and Aerial Nicely. After Call to Order by Mayor Hall, Aerial Nicely gave the Invocation, followed by a Welcome and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Hall.

Upon a roll call, a quorum was declared to exist for the meeting. Susan Holman moved for approval of the Minutes from the March meeting. There was no meeting of the City Council in April due to Covid-19 restrictions. This motion was seconded by Brandy Flanary, and upon a roll call vote all alderpersons voted aye and the minutes were approved.

Marla Ward gave report that city truck was sold for \$7143.00 on govdeals.com. All agreed that this was an excellent price to have received. Susan Holman questioned whether the purchase of the Christmas lights was completed, and was answered yes by Mayor Hall. Charles Meeker asked about getting a financial report from the Water Department. We have not had one since Cecil Zollicoffer retired. This matter is being looked into. Rex Anderson moved to approve the financial report and was seconded by Susan Holman. On a roll call vote, all alderpersons voted aye and the financial report was approved.

Under Old Business the lighting project was discussed. The lights are to start at 29th Street and extend around Hillbilly Loop to 18th Street. Mayor Hall asked if we want OG&E to proceed with the installation with a cost of \$3300.00 to the city. Motion was made to proceed by Randy Melton and seconded by Rex Anderson. Upon a roll call vote, all alderpersons voted aye and the project was approved.

Next, David Mahon spoke for the Planning Commission. A Variance has been requested at 501 River Street. The owner wants to move a shed closer to fence to provide access to his back yard. Brandy Flanary questioned as to whether his neighbor had been consulted. David answered that the neighbor did not mind and had agreed via a written note to the Commission. Susan Holman questioned that approval of this variance might open up the city for all citizens to want to use this for variance approval. All agreed that all variances should continue to be handled on a case by case basis. Motion made to approve by Brandy Flanary and seconded by Randy Melton. Upon a roll call vote, all alderpersons voted aye and the Variance was approved.

A request has been made to Rezone 801 School Street from R-1 to R-2 (the corner of School St. & Alston). The property would be used for a new construction of a 4-plex of one bedroom apartments. These are to be equipped for the handicapped in baths, walks, etc. No opposition has been voiced in the neighborhood.

City Attorney Kevin Barham then spoke on the matter. It is the responsibility of the Requestor to draw up and bring the Rezoning Ordinance request to the City Council to discuss before a vote can proceed. Mr. Mahon agreed to get the paperwork to Mr. Barham as soon as possible so we can get this approved. A possible Council Meeting by conference call was discussed.

Under new business, Andy Dibble, Senior Project Manager for McClelland Consulting Engineers, then spoke regarding the Sidewalk Project. Four bids have been received since April 21. These are good for 60 days. The lowest bid was from Western Millwright Services for \$419,534.75. A recent site development project was completed by them at the Fish City Grill in Ft. Smith, and they come highly recommended. Cost to the City is \$40,000.00 more than estimated in 2016. Jody Sampley stated that the only way to lower this cost is to reduce the sidewalk and if we do that, then the grant will have to be resubmitted. The grant was submitted to be in three phases and the State approved all 3 to be done at once. Rex Anderson stated being in favor of going ahead while we have the money, as costs will only continue to go up. Susan Holman asked why the sidewalk is changing sides of the road when it reached the bridge. Jody Sampley answered that it is to follow the lighting being installed. There will be a crosswalk put down where it changes sides. She then asked if it would be marked for biking and answered by Sampley not at this time. A motion to approve was made by Rex Anderson with a second by Randy Melton. Upon a roll call vote, all alderpersons voted aye and the project was approved. Mr. Dibble is to announce the award of the bid and notify the contractor to begin process of building, hopefully in June. 120 days have been allotted for the contractor to finish the project.

Jody Sampley then spoke regarding the Parks project. Rusty Peoples from Heartland Parks & Recreation had been out and laid out the space for pavilion to be constructed at the Westside Park by the girls softball fields. Improvements to both Westside and Eastside parks are to include handicapped swings, new pea gravel, new playground equipment, lighting, and volleyball courts. A pad has been poured for the installation of the Memorial Bench at Westside Park.

A motion was made by Brandy Flanary and seconded by Susan Holman to add Alderman Randy Melton to signature accounts at Bank OZK, Today's Bank, and the city accounts. Upon a roll call vote, all alderpersons voted aye and the motion was approved.

There was no public input presented at this meeting.

A motion was made by Brandy Flanary to add Alderman Randy Melton as a signatory on all City bank accounts. The motion was seconded by Susan Holman and upon a roll call vote, all alderpersons voted aye and Mr. Melton was approved.

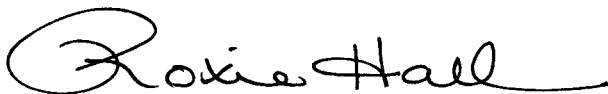
Aldersperson Aerial Nicely asked about the time frame for furloughed city employees to be brought back. Mayoral response is that it will be done on a needs based system and will be a slow process. Community Center employees (Director, lifeguards) will be meeting soon. City lawn mowing frequency will also be increasing. Of our 13 furloughed employees, 5 are from the City and 8 are lifeguards.

Aldersperson Charlie Meeker had a question regarding repairs to the downtown building. The temporary fix done in March of 2019 is starting to look bad. Jody Sampley replied that the spokesman for the owner had been contacted, but there had been no response so far. Mayor Hall stated that she had received 2 of the 3 cost estimates for fair market value on the old city building, and that we had received 3 applications for the position of Water Department Director. Two of them lived out of state and one interview has not been conducted yet. Leroy is doing very well filling in at the present time.

Mayor Hall gave her announcements

There being no further business to come before the council, a motion to adjourn was made by Susan Holman with a second by Rex Anderson. Upon a roll call vote, all Alderspersons voted aye and the meeting was adjourned.

Passed and Approved this June 8, 2020.



Mayor Roxie Hall



City Clerk Susan Stevens