

MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2020 7:00 P.M.
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
MINUTES

MAYOR MIKE WILCOX

ALDERMAN PAUL ROETTGER

ALDERMAN AARON NAUMAN

ALDERMAN TOM SCHOEMEHL

ALDERMAN BERRY LANE

ALDERMAN MIKE BAUGUS

ALDERMAN JOHN SCHUSTER

CITY ATTORNEY, JIM HETLAGE
CITY ADMINISTRATOR, BEN DECLUE
DEPUTY CITY CLERK, JOANNE CARR

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Wilcox

ROLL CALL

Present: Alderman Roettger, Alderman Lane, Alderman Schoemehl
Alderman Nauman, Alderman Schuster, Alderman Baugus

Absent:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Alderman Baugus motioned to approve the amended agenda. Alderman Schoemehl seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM MARCH 2, 2020 MEETING

Mayor Wilcox asked if there were any changes or corrections to the Board minutes from February 3, 2020 and February 18, 2020. Alderman Lane moved approval of the minutes from February 3, 2020 as submitted. Alderman Roettger seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. Alderman Schuster moved approval of the minutes from February 18, 2020 as submitted. Alderman Lane seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Sherry Knickel, 741 Bismark

Linda Cook, 884 Brookside

Ms. Knickel and Ms. Cook addressed the Board concerning cell towers in Glendale. An article was read to the Board concerning Planetary electromagnetic pollution and its impact, and an International Association of Firefighters Votes to study health effects of cell towers on fire stations, in a condensed form and is attached.

ORDINANCES REQUIRING FIRST READING

B04-20 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE FIRE PROTECTION AND LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITIES OF GLENDALE AND WARSON WOODS, MISSOURI

Alderman Lane moved approval of the first reading of Ordinance B04-2020.
Alderman Baugus seconded the motion.

Mayor Wilcox asked for a report.

Mr. DeClue reported that the Warson Woods Mayor indicated that he was interested in renewing the Fire Service contract for another year which expires March 31, 2020 and would extend until March 31, 2021 again covering fire protection, dispatching services and prisoner holding. Mr. DeClue stated that he hoped that a longer-term contract could be negotiated adding that this would be the second year for an annual contract.

Mayor Wilcox asked if the contract was always year to year.

Alderman Roettger stated that it was initially a 5-year contract started in 2014.

Mr. DeClue added that it had been a 20-year contract prior to the 5-year contract.

Alderman Roettger stated that he would like to know Warson Woods' long-term plan adding the City generally received a favorable rate with longer term agreements.

Mr. DeClue stated that per the agreement, the fee would be \$250,095 which was associated with the CPI, and the City will receive \$21,000 per month. Mr. DeClue noted that the previous year fee was approximately \$248,000.

Mayor Wilcox asked if there were any additional questions or discussions and there were none.

Mr. DeClue read the ordinance by caption only

There being no additional discussion or questions, Mayor Wilcox called for a vote which was unanimously approved.

The ordinance was tabled for the next meeting.

REPORTS

Ben DeClue

Mr. DeClue stated that he was handing out a memo defining the hiring process for a Part-time Fire Chief adding that the posting is active until the 13th of March, and an evaluation on the 16th. Mr. DeClue noted that the evaluation process included a Fire Chief panel review, an interview

with the Board possibly at the April 6th meeting. It was noted that other cities had hired a chief without a panel adding that their city administrators were authorized to make the decision.

Mayor Wilcox asked if feedback was sought regarding the process.

Mr. DeClue noted that Richmond Heights advised that their search had just concluded, and they were happy with the results, adding that Glendale was modeling something similar.

Alderman Roettger noted that a part-time Fire Chief was slightly unique and wasn't sure a full panel was necessary.

Mayor Wilcox asked if there were any part-time chiefs in the County.

Mr. DeClue stated that there were not, adding that there would be some value in assembling a group but maybe giving only 30% value to the opinions, adding that chiefs understand the situation.

Mr. DeClue noted that this would be a new hire compared with the hiring of Chief Briesacher and Chief VanGaasbeek who were familiar with the City.

Alderman Lane noted that a panel would be vetting the qualifications from a professional standpoint.

Alderman Roettger noted that the success would be due to the candidate, adding that more input was better.

Mayor Wilcox asked if it was worth to look outside of St Louis to glean an understanding of the position adding that it would be interesting to get the perspective.

Mr. DeClue stated that he would investigate it.

Captain Helle stated that St. Louis County required applicants to have completed work at the Fire Academy.

Mr. DeClue stated that there could be a written test, and an in/out basket exercise, noting that Mr. Pounds had chosen the top 5 candidates when the last full-time Chief was hired.

Mr. DeClue stated that it could be an interview process with just the City Administrator, adding that he did not know the process used to hire Chief Briesacher.

Captain Helle stated that the process was a challenge if the candidate was hired from out-of-town.

Mayor Wilcox stated that he wanted to know if there were any part-time chiefs outside of the St. Louis area.

Alderman Nauman stated that the Board needed to look at the City's needs, and then determined how a candidate's strengths fit into that need, adding that the results could be weighted accordingly.

Alderman Schuster stated that there should be a panel to evaluate a chief, adding that the Board should not get hung up on the part-time or full time issue adding that if the candidate was qualified and capable, the Board could decide if the Board wanted a person with those qualifications to be chief. Alderman Schuster stated that an external board had merits and following their conclusions, the Board could decide, adding that the panel should not be encumbered with the status of part-time employment. Alderman Schuster noted that the Board of Aldermen would decide on the candidate.

Alderman Nauman agreed with Alderman Schuster adding that most applicants would be advanced in their rolls and would meet the qualifications. Once the process moved forward, the Board could then see how they would meet the needs of the City. Alderman Nauman added that the top two or three could be advanced which should be impressed to the chief's panel in advance of their meeting.

Alderman Lane stated that between now and the 30th of March, a decision could be made.

Mr. DeClue would be gathering questions and would respond to the Board on the 16th, including information the top three needs for the City for a part-time fire chief candidate.

A question was asked about what the most important things would be for the fire department in relation to the duties of a part-time fire chief.

Captain Helle noted that a fire chief should plan to attend chief meetings throughout the county, adding that the Glendale Fire Department needed to be represented at outside organization meetings where voting takes place and where many issues pertaining to the fire service would be discussed.

Mr. DeClue stated that they would follow up with the fire leadership for the top 5 most important needs for this role and accordingly, assemble questions which would fit those needs.

Mayor Wilcox asked Mr. DeClue to email the Board with information before the next Board meeting on the 16th.

Joanne Carr

None.

Alderman Roettger

Alderman Roettger stated that the Prop E Citizen Committee's would be going out this weekend along with door hangers and updated Facebook posts adding that within the next 30 days, more things would be coming. Alderman Roettger reported that letters had been published in the Webster-Kirkwood Times adding that where the City was concerned, only factual information could be offered along with a tax calculation table.

Mr. Hetlage stated that Prop E was citizen driven and not city driven.

It was noted that Captain Catlett forwarded Coronus virus material to residents via social media, noting that Covid-19 could be more real sooner than we know, and asked if the City should be thinking about how to address it.

Chief Beaton stated that there was an emergency response team headed up by Captain Catlett, adding that he would speak with Captain Catlett about details.

Firefighter Kozlowski stated that he would be attending a meeting with SSM Medical regarding the directions to follow including the discussions about plan of action, and what precautions should be taken adding that the department had masks, all should wash hands, etc. Firefighter Kozlowski noted that the sickness was not necessarily the issue as much as spreading the virus. Firefight Kozlowski stated that he would talk to Mr. DeClue regarding details and would add such to the CA report.

Alderman Baugus

None

Alderman Lane

None

Alderman Schoemehl

None

Alderman Nauman

None

Alderman Schuster

None

Jim Hetlage

None

Mayor Wilcox

Mayor Wilcox reported the City hosted the Metro Municipal League meeting last Thursday, adding that it was well attended, food and refreshments were good and overall, the meeting was a success. Mayor Wilcox also reported that the City had a resident on Queen Anne who had some concerns about the Queen Anne project, specifically about things that were completed but not to his specifications. Mayor Wilcox stated that the City would be going back with Weiss Design and MSD with an objective of going point by point with the plans to assess what was completed and what might be ongoing issues. Mayor Wilcox added that the City would let Weiss Design tackle the issues.

Mayor Wilcox reported that a performance review would be held for the City Administrator which would include an executive session without the City Administrator for compilation of information followed by a review with Mr. DeClue and added that the review should be an annual event.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Alderman Schuster moved to adjourn to Executive Session. Alderman Schoemehl seconded the motion. There being no further questions or discussion, Mayor Wilcox called for a vote:

Ayes: Alderman Roettger, Alderman Nauman, Alderman Baugus
Alderman Lane, Alderman Schuster, Alderman Schoemehl

Nays: None

Not Present:

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Schuster moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alderman Schoemehl. The motion was unanimously approved.

These minutes are approved as submitted this 16th day of March 2020.

Joanne Carr
Deputy City Clerk