

THE CITY OF ST. MARY, MISSOURI
Board of Aldermen Meeting
Thursday, March 12th, 2020
6:00 PM

1. Be it Remembered: A regular meeting of the St. Mary Board of Aldermen was called to order by the Honorable Mayor Gloria Bader on Thursday, March 12th, 2020 beginning at 6:30 PM at City Hall located at 782 3rd Street, St. Mary, Missouri 63673.

2. Pledge of Allegiance: The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

3. Roll Call: Aldermen answering the roll call were Alderman Jennifer Schwartz, Alderman Clyde Cassoutt and Alderman Carl Otte. Alderman Brian Helms (absent).

4. Agenda: A motion was made by Alderman Clyde Cassoutt to approve the agenda. Alderman Jennifer Schwartz seconded the motion. Alderman Jennifer Schwartz, Alderman Carl Otte and Alderman Clyde Cassoutt voted yea on a voice vote. Motion carried.

5. Consent Agenda: A motion was made by Alderman Clyde Cassoutt to approve the Consent Agenda which consists of the following: Minutes from Previous Meeting, Treasurers Report, Collectors Report and Bills Paid and City Manager to pay previously appropriated expenses as they come due as allowed by the budget. Alderman Carl Otte seconded the motion. Alderman Jennifer Schwartz, Alderman Carl Otte and Alderman Clyde Cassoutt voted yea on a voice vote. Motion carried.

6. Public Forum: The Honorable Mayor Gloria Bader asked if anyone would like to speak. Doug Loudonback addressed the board about his water bill. He got a bill for 16,000 gallons of usage. He had his meter tested and it came back 99.7% accurate. The collector mailed him a list of previous months usage that he requested. He then discussed the distance is too long from the water meter to his house. Then he began discussing his driveway. He put a cable across it and was told by a previous Police Chief that his driveway was a city street. A motion was made by Alderman Jennifer Schwartz to adjust the sewer portion of his bill above what his average usage would be. Alderman Carl Otte seconded the motion. Alderman Jennifer Schwartz, Alderman Brian Helms and Alderman Clyde Cassoutt voted yea on a voice vote. Motion carried

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7. Collector Office Hours: City Manager David Woods asked to speak on the issue. He said a new software program might influence the hours required of the collector. He said a new utility billing software would allow customers to go online and view their bills and pay their bills with a credit card. It would also allow the collector to go into the system while out of the office. She could do call forwarding from her office and deal with a lot of issues remotely. The program would cost about \$200 more the first year but then save about \$500 each year after. Since we have already paid for our current system through the end of the year the board came to a consensus to table this issue until October. City Collector Stacia Placke addressed the board and asked what they would like to propose as the Office Hours. Alderman Clyde Cassoutt addressed Placke and said he gets a lot of complaints. He said there are times when you are supposed to be here and you are not. Placke responded she had a sick kid in January for nine days and does not have daycare. The aldermen reviewed her hours and Alderman Jennifer Schwartz said these hours don't work for me. Alderman Clyde Cassoutt said the 10th (when bills are due) falls on a Monday a lot of times (the Collectors Office is closed on Mondays). Mayor Gloria Bader said we are not going to make everybody happy. Mayor Bader said it would be nice to

have somebody here stay late on the Friday before the water bill due date. She will talk to Annette (the previous City Collector) to see if she is willing to work some hours. She made a point to say her pay will come out of the collectors pay. A motion was made by Alderman Jennifer Schwartz to table the issue. Alderman Carl Otte seconded the motion. Alderman Jennifer Schwartz, Alderman Carl Otte and Alderman Clyde Cassoutt voted yea on a voice vote. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

8. Contract with Chamber for City Treasurer: The Chamber has committed to pay for a City Treasurer one year at a time. A motion was made by Alderman Carl Otte to approve the one-year contract. Alderman Clyde Cassoutt seconded the motion. Alderman Jennifer Schwartz, Alderman Carl Otte and Alderman Clyde Cassoutt voted yea on a voice vote. Motion carried

9. Departmental Reports:

a. Emergency Management Report - EMD (Emergency Management Director) David Woods reported that County Emergency Manager Felix Meyer has been informed that in late April and early May to expect another 500-year flood. Woods attended a meeting on March 2nd at the commissioners meeting regarding the coronavirus. It was attended by the Health Department, Hospital, School, Sheriff's Office, Emergency Management Director, City of Ste Genevieve and Coroner. Health Department Director Sandra Bell gave updates and got everybody's email address and is passing information directly from the state as soon as it is released.

b. Fire Department Report – Alderman Brian Helms gave the floor to Fire Chief Frankie Ullman who reported there were 12 calls; six medical, two mutual aid commercial fires (one in Ste Genevieve and one in Ozora), two brush fires, one residential fire and one LZ (Landing Zone). The throttle cable on 7841 was replaced. Airvac will be teaching the department CPR / AED and First Aid on March 23rd and 30th.

c. Water & Sewer Report – Alderman Carl Otte gave the floor to Operator Michael Rosenzweig who said all the water samples are good. Frankie Ullman then discussed the sewer issues. The city worked on many sewage grinder pumps. They had an issue with the sludge volume at the treatment plant. It went from 2 ½' up to 12'. Ullman said it was fluffed and had settled back down to 4' to 6'. We have not hauled off sludge for 16 months and Ram Power has the best price at \$0.25 / gallon. It would cost the city \$7,000.00 to have all our sludge hauled off. Ullman wants to decant the system to make sure we are not paying to haul off water and wants to order enzymes to fix the issue of our wastewater bugs disappearing. They are preparing the UV room to test E. coli samples. TG Rankin is coming down to work on bulbs and ballast. Marion Cliff had its second grinder installed but the heat sensor was bad. The wires were jumped and it is working for now. The clarifier at the sewage treatment plant may need bearings because it is making a grinding noise.

e. Street Department – Alderman Jennifer Schwartz discussed that 4th & Walnut will be addressed but the county is too busy with other stuff. Frankie Ullman suggested getting a load of gravel put at the sewer plant that can be use for patching. He said that it is unwise to asphalt 4th & Walnut at this time because it would not be cured before the flood that is coming in May and would crack. Ullman then discussed putting gravel on the brush pile road. The aldermen pointed out that it is partially paved and the asphalt would have to be removed before it could be turned into a gravel road.

f. Park & Cemetery – Nothing to report.

g. Citizens Participation - The Honorable Mayor Gloria Bader asked if anyone would like to speak. Maria Scherer raised her hand and was recognized. She claimed that she never received that last letter

that the city wrote to the county about her issues. City Manager David Woods provided her with another copy of the letter.

10. Regular Session Adjournment: There being no further business before the board, a motion was made by Alderman Clyde Cassoutt to adjourn at 7:27 PM. Alderman Jennifer Schwartz seconded the motion. All the aldermen voted yea on a voice vote. Meeting adjourned.

MAYOR - GLORIA BADER

CITY MANAGER - DAVID B. WOODS