

THE CITY OF ST. MARY, MISSOURI
Board of Aldermen Meeting
Thursday, January 14th, 2021
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 Carl Wyatt on Thursday, January 14th, 2021 beginning at 6:00 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 Ron Barnett, Alderman Karl Schultz, Alderman Zen Duda and Alderman Annette Hacker.

4. Agenda: A motion was made by Alderman Annette Hacker to approve the agenda. Alderman Karl Schultz seconded the motion. Alderman Ron Barnett, Alderman Karl Schultz, Alderman Zen Duda and Alderman Annette Hacker voted yea on a voice vote. Motion carried.

5. Consent Agenda: A motion was made by Alderman Annette Hacker 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 Ron Barnett seconded the motion. Alderman Ron Barnett, Alderman Karl Schultz, Alderman Zen Duda and Alderman Annette Hacker voted yea on a voice vote. Motion carried.

6. Public Forum: Mayor Carl Wyatt recognized Alderman Zen Duda who spoke about how he had a tree project already approved several administrations ago and that he will proceed with this project on “my own nickel”. Duda passed out pictures of tree lined streets in Paris and London. He said this is important because we are in the French Colonial Creole District. Duda then mentioned that in the 1800s Napoleon didn’t want his troops to get burned by the sun so he planted trees on both sides of the roads. Duda said he will plant the trees 35’ to 50’ apart and will pay for the weed eating around them. He mentioned that employees have free time and are still getting paid. Mayor Carl Wyatt explained that they may have free time in the winter they do not in the summer when tree maintenance would be required. Duda said his trees are flood tolerant and won’t die from the chemicals in the soil and they would help beautify the city. He said there is a car lot with cars with exposed grills and a railyard that is not good to look at. Alderman Barnett discussed that when the area floods it turns into a debris field. Duda responded that is an imaginary construct.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

7. Audit: The board reviewed the audit for fiscal year 10/1/2019 – 9/30/2020. City Manager David Woods explained that the findings were the same as past years as in the auditors want us to have two clerks and two collectors to oversee each other. They understand that we cannot afford that and they write the response to reflect that. Alderman Duda said he is not comfortable voting to approve something he has not read. Mayor Carl Wyatt explained that the audit was part of the meeting packet and aldermen do not pick up their packets before the meeting to read the material before the meeting. He offered to give the aldermen keys to city hall so they can pick up their packets in the evening hours for those who are not in town during business hours. Alderman Ron Barnett made a motion to approve the audit. Alderman Annette Hacker seconded the motion. Roll Call

Vote: Alderman Ron Barnett (aye), Alderman Karl Schultz (aye), Alderman Zen Duda (abstain) and Alderman Annette Hacker (aye). Audit is approved.

8. Department Reports:

a. Emergency Management - Emergency Management Director David Woods had nothing to report.

b. Police Department – The Honorable Mayor Carl Wyatt gave the floor to Police Chief Adam Bequette who said his year-end report had 203 total calls. There is an active narcotics investigation. The transmission from the new car will be replaced with the transmission from the old car. The transmission from the old car has been completely rebuilt and in excellent condition. The change should take no longer than a day and a half. The date will not be made public. Chief Bequette then stated that the tires on the patrol car are down to the tread indicators. He expressed this is a safety issue and winter is coming. The board came to a consensus that the patrol car should have new tires. Chief Bequette then discussed that the stickers for the UTVs is on a calendar year basis like car tags. Just because you bought a tag last year in May does not mean you have until May of this year to renew. All UTVs must have a 2021 sticker on the front windshield on the passenger side on the low portion. UTV tags are only \$25 and include the inspection. Mayor Wyatt then brought up the fact that the USDA Rural Development has grants available at 75% them / 25% us available. He mentioned that the Chamber of Commerce may be able to help with the addition to the fire house. He also discussed a patrol car and the fact that this may be the last year of this health and safety grant that can help with almost anything except guns and ammo.

c. Fire Department – Alderman Annette Hacker gave the floor to Fire Chief Frankie Ullman. Ullman reported they had three calls; one motor vehicle accident, one medical and one illegal burn. Ullman said people need to be aware of the ordinances on burning. Mayor Wyatt explained that only yard waste can be burned and only during daylight hours. Only Burn Pits can burn in the evening and they have regulations. Ullman reported he has two new firefighters and one more is supposed to join. He also has a Junior Firefighter candidate who will begin to get training. Chief Ullman then discussed that they want a metering device that can display how much water is in the tank of the pumper truck. It costs \$496 and he wanted to know how much funds are in the city fire account. Their personal account has become depleted because COVID has put a stop to their BBQs and fund raisers. Alderman Zen Duda made a motion for the purchase of the water level probe. Alderman Ron Barnett seconded the motion. Alderman Ron Barnett, Alderman Karl Schultz, Alderman Zen Duda and Alderman Annette Hacker voted yea on a voice vote. Motion carried. Alderman Zen Duda then declared he would contribute \$150 of his personal money for the purchase and then pulled out his check book and fulfilled that check. The Mayor and Aldermen thanked him for his personal contribution to the city. Chief Ullman then explained he took out a wall in the firehouse to fit in the new truck from Goose Creek. The stickers have been removed but it has to be tested before any more improvements are made to it.

d. Street Department – Alderman Ron Barnett explained that Employee Cody Myers has been patching pot holes on the streets and has gotten the truck ready for winter. Mayor Wyatt has looked at the city white truck and discovered that the frame is good and that the bed should be taken off and replaced with a flat bed.

e. Water / Wastewater Department – Alderman Karl Schultz reported that he had purchased a battery for the gas detector. This is required for the safety of our employees entering a confined space. Frankie Ullman then discussed the need for a Megaohm / Voltage meter that can measure insulation and resistance. He found one for \$720 from Grainger. He explained that it can tell the difference between a bad motor and a bad wire harness. This can save us money because currently we have to call outside companies to make this measurement. Mayor Carl Wyatt said sometimes you have to spend money to save money. Alderman Karl Schultz made a motion to purchase the diagnostic equipment. Annette Hacker seconded the motion. Alderman Ron Barnett, Alderman Karl Schultz, Alderman Zen Duda and Alderman Annette Hacker voted yea on a voice vote. Motion carried.

f. Park / Cemetery / Animal Control – Alderman Zen Duda asked Chief Bequette if there were any animal calls and Bequette replied there was one cat call. Alderman Duda asked Chief Bequette about the cemetery and Bequette replied that three to four times in the last two weeks people in cars are going in at night to party. Mayor Carl Wyatt explained that so far, they have not damaged any tombstones but are leaving trash and empty liquor containers. Wyatt will discuss locking the car gate with Ray Schwent who is the sexton for the catholic side.

g. Citizens Participation – Nobody raised their hand to speak.

9. Regular Session Adjournment: There being no further business before the board, a motion was made by Alderman Ron Barnett to adjourn at 6:54 p.m. Alderman Zen Duda seconded the motion. All the aldermen voted yea on a voice vote. Meeting adjourned.

MAYOR – CARL WYATT

CITY MANAGER - DAVID B. WOODS