

MINUTES FOR THE AUGUST 20, 2020 REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD OF
ALDERMEN MEETING FOR THE CITY OF BILLINGS, MISSOURI
HELD IN CITY BOARDROOM AT 6:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Roll Call

Cloud	Present
Fender	Absent
Brown	Present
Gold	Present
Kucera	Present
Huffman-Bailey	Tele a conference left meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Present were: Mayor David Rauch, City Attorney Bill Petrus, Acting Chief of Police Bruce Belin and City Clerk/City Treasurer Chris M. Hopkins.

Citizens and guests present were Ashley Dean, Linda Salsman, Cameron Kags and Rich Bartow from Raymond James Company.

The 2020 Public Hearing for the 2020 Tax Levy was opened by Mayor Rauch.

No one from the public spoke in regards to the 2020 Tax Levy. Mayor Rauch mentioned he had spoke to the Christian County Assessor about some minor increases and reductions in Residential, Agricultural and Commercial Real Estate Categories. Overall the Proposed Tax Levy is the same as 2019 except for 100th of a percent due to rounding.

Public Hearing was closed at 7:03 p.m.

Mayor Rauch asked everyone to stand and repeat the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor's Comments.

Mayor Rauch acknowledged Governor Parson's Declaration of August 16-22, 2020 as Water and Wastewater Treatment Workers Week in Missouri. He said Randy, Tyler and Braden are all doing a good job.

Mayor Rauch declared September 17, 2020 through September 23, 2020 as Constitution Week.

2. CITIZEN INPUT

There was no one wishing to speak at this time.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Mayor Rauch told those assembled that the 2019 Comprehensive Plan Public Hearing will be presented at the next Planning and Zoning meeting on Thursday, September 3, 2020 at

7:00 p.m. in the Boardroom. The Planning and Zoning will then make their recommendation to the Board of Aldermen for their meeting on September 17, 2020.

Mayor Rauch said the Billings Community Fair set for the Labor Day weekend has been cancelled.

President of the Board Mickey Brown said the 911 Appreciation Dinner put on by his Church for City Employees, the Police Department, Fire Department and First Responders has been cancelled but will be rescheduled for 2021.

Mayor Rauch made the announcement that Lewis Rauch a relative has contacted him about establishing a Trust Fund or Endowment of \$ 50,000.00 for the Billings City Park. He also is interested in offering up to a \$50,000.00 match of monies from the Park Fundraisers for Capital Improvement in the Park to assist with a Tennis Court and/or a Basketball Court.

4. NEW BUSINESS, MEMORIALS, PROCLAMATIONS AND ORDINANCES

1. Aldermen Gold wished to move up the opportunity of discussing refinancing the 2016 Bonds at a lower interest rate. Rich Bartow from Raymond James Company did some preliminary figuring about a Refinancing Analysis, Refunding Results, Bond Pricing, CalCagent Summary, Historical MMD Rates and the Bond Market Environment since January 2020. A Motion by Aldermen Kucera seconded by Aldermen Gold to authorize the Mayor to sign a Engagement Letter to sell Phase I Bonds at a lower %. Should save the City about \$ 47,000.00 in total of future payments. Voting “Aye” Cloud, Brown, Gold, Kucera and Huffman-Bailey by telephone. Voting “Nay” None. No abstentions.
 - A. A motion by Alderman Brown seconded by Aldermen Gold to Amend the Closed minutes of June 15, 2020 to include the letter prepared by Lt. Belin about his proposal of specific requests for accepting the Chief of Police position for the City of Billings upon Chief David Taylor’s retirement. Voting “Aye” Cloud, Brown, Gold, Kucera, and Huffman-Bailey by telephone. Voting “Nay” None. No abstentions.

A motion by Aldermen Kucera seconded by Aldermen Cloud to adopt the Consent Agenda as amended. Voting “Aye” Cloud, Brown, Gold, Kucera and Huffman-Bailey by telephone. Voting “Nay” None. No abstentions.

 - a. Mayor Rauch proceeded with opening the two sealed bids for the 2008 Chevrolet Impala. Bid number one was for \$1,567.23 and Bid number 2 was for \$ 2,001.00. Motion by Aldermen Kucera seconded by Aldermen Cloud to accept the bid from Linda Salsman for \$ 2001.00. Voting “Aye” Cloud, Brown, Gold, Kucera, and Huffman-Bailey by telephone. Voting “Nay” None. No abstentions.
 - b. A motion by Alderman Kucera seconded by Aldermen Huffman-Bailey to establish Lt. Bruce Belin as Acting Chief of Police effective today, August 20, 2020 which encompasses the Chief of Police pay, cell phone reimbursement, take home car and additional vacation days as requested upon Chief Taylors retirement. Chief of Police Taylor has postponed his retirement until the end of September 2020. Voting “Aye” Cloud, Brown, Gold, Kucera and Huffman-Bailey by telephone. Voting “Nay” None. No abstentions.

- c. Acting Chief Belin read his letter of endorsement for Police Officer candidate Ashley Dean. Proposed start date is Friday, August 21, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. Starting pay was not discussed nor was the 180 Day probation statement and the Police Contract of employment to be drawn up by City Attorney Petrus. Motion by Aldermen Gold seconded by Aldermen Brown to hire Ashley Dean. Voting “Aye” Cloud, Brown, Gold, Kucera and Huffman-Bailey by telephone. Voting “Nay” None. No abstentions.
- d. A motion by Aldermen Gold seconded by Aldermen Brown to increase Street, Water and Sewer employee Braden Ray from 30.0 hours to 32.0 hours to be eligible for city benefits of Sick Pay, Holiday, Vacation and Health Insurance since completing his 90 day probation as a city employee. Discussion for 40.00 hours plus overtime will be revisited in January 2021 and the new 2021 Budget year for Street, Water and Sewer Departments. Voting “Aye” Cloud, Brown, Gold, Kucera and Huffman-Bailey by telephone. Voting “Nay” None. No abstentions.
- e. A motion made by Aldermen Huffman-Bailey seconded by Aldermen Brown to give the Mayor approval to engage Lagers Retirement for a Rate Study of the city employees for a cost of \$ 600.00. Voting “Aye” Cloud Brown, Gold, Kucera and Huffman-Bailey by telephone. Voting “Nay” None. No abstentions.
- f. A Motion by Aldermen Gold seconded by Aldermen Huffman-Bailey to have the City Attorney to draft by Ordinance 135.020 Park Directors and Terms of Office and 135.050 Annual Report revise the appointment language where mention terms end in June of the year to January. This will follow the calendar appointments done in January for each calendar year. Voting “Aye” Cloud, Brown, Gold, Kucera and Huffman-Bailey by telephone. Voting “Nay” None. No abstentions.
- g. Alderman Brown wished to express his opinion of removing Phase II projects as alternates that addressed the EPA mandate the citizens of Billings voted on and the costs of water/sewer connections to new developments by developers. We may need to sacrifice obtaining new meters to stay with the projects already identified. No motion or vote taken on this matter.
- h. The Billings School has requested a 2” water meter for the Boys Baseball field. This has been purchased and installed and reimbursement from the school is expected. No motion or vote taken.
- i. Mayor Rauch discussed the purchase of the Culvert Cleaner Tool but would like a list of city culverts left to be done. No motion or vote taken.
- j. Mayor Rauch then discussed City employees work on city culverts and ditches and private culverts and ditches. Conversation prompted to clean out the ditches we can, and clear culverts we can. Alderman Kucera would like to see the Street Department Start a Plan, Do a Plan and then have a report for the next meeting.
- k. Mayor Rauch discussed Court Costs remitted for July’s Circuit Court. City Attorney Petrus will research the Municipal Ordinances and see what costs might be amended by Ordinance but no immediate changes are indicated at this point in time. No motion or vote taken.

Aldersperson Tricia Huffman-Bailey left the via teleconference meeting at 9:30 p.m.

- m. City Clerk/Treasurer Hopkins told the Board that the Debt Service Billing Invoice # 3 for \$ 62,206.25 was scheduled for Wire Transfer payment on August 25, 2020 to Security Bank of Kansas City Corporate Trust Division. FYI

- n. Motion made by Cloud, seconded by Brown to approve wages, expenses, bill statements and other expenditures for the month of July 2020. Voting "Aye" Cloud, Brown, Gold and Kucera. Voting "Nay" None. No abstentions.

5. CLOSED SESSION

No Closed Session was requested.

6. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 9:32 p.m. made by Cloud, seconded by Kucera. Voting "Aye" Cloud, Brown, Gold and Kucera. Voting "Nay" None. No abstentions.

David L. Rauch, Mayor

ATTEST

Chris M. Hopkins, City Clerk