MINUTES FOR THE APRIL 21, 2022, REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING FOR THE CITY OF BILLINGS, MISSOURI

HELD IN PERSON

AT

7:00 P.M.

**ROLL CALL VOTE.**

Cloud Present

Fender Present

Brown Present

Gold Present arrived at 8:30 p.m.

Kucera Present

Huffman-Bailey Present

Present in City Hall were Chief of Police, Jody Hays, City Attorney, Darlene Parrigon, Deputy City Clerk/Water Clerk, Cindy L. Hogshooter, and City Clerk/City Treasurer, Chris M. Hopkins.

Guests in attendance via the sign in sheet were Ed Parkell, Christine Geary, Missy Monroe, Keith Monroe, Michelle Harter, Steve Sipes, Carolyn Sipes, Stacie Cornelison, Stacy Bart and David Johnson.

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

Mayor Rauch said it had been a pleasure being Mayor for the last four years. It is a privilege to be a part of the city.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was a full house of visitors, but no one wished to speak.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Alderman Huffman-Bailey made a motion, seconded by Alderman Fender to table to the next meeting Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer, Terry Danley’s update of the structure repairs and letters previously sent out.
2. Missy Monroe resident at 620 E. Mt. Vernon asked from the last meeting she attended on February 28, 2022, if the grant had been filled out and submitted in mid-April 2022? There is standing water from the recent 2-inch rain we just had. Continual erosion is occurring.

Ms. Monroe had several questions for the Board of Aldermen.

1. Is the grant getting filled out and when will it be turned in? When is the anticipated

date that you will hear from the grant. In the meantime, our land continues to be washed away.

1. What happens if you don’t get the grant?

Should Phase 3 of Whispering Heights ever have been approved since this flooding was already a known problem?

We keep being told there is no money-this doesn’t work for us.

We have an issue-we can’t cut hay off the land that is getting flooded. Hay that we sell for money. At the same time, we are having erosion of our land which makes it less valuable—these impacts us financially—so when I get our water bill and come to city hall and tell you I don’t have the money to pay it does that mean you don’t shut my water off and say that’s ok?

We have been told that is a known issue and we won’t be forgotten. I can assure you, we won’t be forgotten—you will continue to see us on your agenda until this is resolved. In the interim we need a temporary fix something to help slow the water runoff and we need a plan in writing from council with how you plan to proceed to fix this permanently. We are going to have to work together otherwise Keith and I will be forced to do something ourselves so that our property will not continue to be washed away.

Mayor Rauch said there are problems within Whispering Heights and within the Monroe’s property and the Trailer Park along Mt. Vernon Street. There are many issues. A Stormwater Grant is being applied for and due for submittal in July 2022.

Mayor Rauch said the Grant for Stormwater Runoff is due in July 2022 and the city is planning on applying. The solution is not a fast process, and he is going call USDA Rural Development for some help. He also mentioned waterway path on the Steinman property. The Detention Pond in Whispering Heights when emptied the water runs on down Mt. Vernon Street to the Trailer Park which could cause health issues in that Trailer Park.

Alderman Brown is going to check with the Conservation Department to see if there is something they can help with.

City Attorney Parrigon asked if the Engineering Firm is Bonded and is the plan being followed? Internal problems may be tied to the Developer as it may be a Developer/Engineer issue.

No vote was taken on this issue as further study is needed. The Monroe’s requested to be

placed on the May Agenda.

1. Alderman Fender made a motion, seconded by Alderman Kucera to accept the City of Billings job descriptions that were presented going forward. Voting “Aye” Cloud, Fender, Brown, Kucera and Huffman-Bailey. No “Nay” None. No Abstentions.
2. A prototype of the Personal Manual and Policy & Procedures Manuel was provided for review. Several items need to be worked on for completion. No vote taken at this time.
3. Alderman Brown made a motion, seconded by Alderman Cloud to accept the Consent Agenda. Voting “Aye” Cloud, Fender, Brown, Kucera and Huffman-Bailey. Voting “Nay” None. No Abstentions.
4. Alderman Kucera made a motion, seconded by Alderman Huffman-Bailey to approve the wages expenses, bills, statements, and other expenditure for the month of March 17, 2022. Voting “Aye” Cloud, Fender, Brown, Kucera and Huffman-Bailey. Voting “Nay” None. No Abstentions.
5. Marshall Decker of Decker and DeGood Accounting Firm presented the 2021 City of Billings Audit. Each Board member was given a bound copy of the audit. Mr. Decker said the Independent Auditors Report is on page 1 which is based on Basis for Opinions (GAAS). He said the Budget looks good; cash is in good shape with the 4 months reserve in place. There is a small balance left for renovation and repairs to the City Hall building in the Capital Improvement account that sunsetted in September 2019. Motion to accept the audit as presented was made by Alderman Huffman-Bailey, seconded by Alderman Cloud. Voting “Aye” Cloud, Fender, Brown, Kucera and Huffman-Bailey. Voting “Nay” None. No Abstentions.

Twenty-five Minute recess to seat newly elected Mayor and Board Members. Motion made by Alderman Cloud, seconded by Alderman Kucera. Voting “Aye” Cloud, Fender, Brown, Kucera and Huffman-Bailey. Voting “Nay” None. No Abstentions.

President of the Board, Brown presented a plaque of Appreciation for 4 years of service as Mayor of the City of Billings to David L. Rauch. April 19,2018 – April 21, 2022. President Brown also presented to Holly J. Fender a plaque of Appreciation for 7 years of service as Alderman Ward I from August 13, 2015 – April 21, 2022. Refreshments were available at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS, MEMORIALS, PROCLAMATIONS AND ORDINANCES**

1. Certification of Election Results by Christian County Clerk, Kay Brown.

Mickey J. Brown Mayor for Two Year Term 87 Votes

Vincent R. Cornelison Ward I Alderman for Two Year Term 18 Votes

David L. Rauch Ward II Alderman for Two Year Term 27 Votes

Kenneth B. Cloud Ward III Alderman for Two Year Term 40 Votes

1. Certification of Election Results by Christian County Clerk, Kay Brown.

PROPOSITION 1

Shall the City of Billings impose a local use tax at the same rate as the total local

Sales tax rate, provided that if the local sales tax rate is reduced or raised by voter approval, the local use tax rate shall also be reduced or raised by the same action?

YES 72 Vote NO 36 Vote

c. Alderman Rauch made a motion, seconded by Alderman Kucera to approve Mayor

Brown, Alderman Cloud, Alderman Huffman-Bailey, Deputy Clerk Hogshooter and

City Clerk, Chris Hopkins to attend the MML (Missouri Municipal League Regional

meeting at the Republic Community Center on Friday, May 6, 2022, at a cost of $ 20.00

each. Voting “Aye” Cornelison, Rauch and Kucera. Voting “Nay” None. Abstention

Vote. Cloud and Huffman-Bailey.

d. Alderman Gold made a motion seconded by Alderman Cornelison to accept Mayor

Brown’s recommendation of Liaison appointments effective from

April 21, 2022 to December 31, 2022

Billings City Library Liaison - Tricia Huffman-Bailey

Billings City Park Liaison - David L. Rauch

Planning & Zoning Liaison - Mayor Mickey J. Brown

David W. Kucera

Billings Fair Board - Vincent R. Cornelison

Voting “Aye” Cloud, Cornelison, Rauch, Gold, Kucera and Huffman-Bailey. Voting

“Nay” None. No Abstentions.

Alderman Kucera made a motion, seconded by Alderman Cloud to accept the

Budget/Committee Assignments for General Fund, Scott W. Gold; Police Department, David W. Kucera; Animal Control, Trisha Huffman-Bailey; Street Fund, Kenneth B. Cloud; Public Works, Vince Cornelison; and Wastewater Fund, Vince Cornelison. Voting “Aye” Cloud, Cornelison, Rauch, Gold, Kucera and Huffman-Bailey. Voting “Nay” None. No Abstentions.

e. Alderman Kucera made a motion, seconded by Alderman Rauch to accept the

recommendation made by Mayor Brown of Kenneth Cloud as President of the Board.

Voting “Aye” Cloud Cornelison, Rauch Gold, Kucera and Huffman-Bailey. Voting

“Nay” None No Abstentions.

Alderman Huffman-Bailey made a motion, seconded by Alderman Gold to update the Bank of Billings signature cards to reflect Mickey J. Brown, Mayor, Kenneth B. Cloud, President of the Board, David L. Rauch, Board member and Chris M. Hopkins, City Clerk as authorized signers on the city’s accounts.

f. Mayor Brown mentioned the present water-sewer system is almost to capacity and

expansion and upgrades may be in the future to accommodate any prospective

developers with the City of Billings.

g.Motion made by Huffman-Bailey, seconded by Alderman Cloud to approve the

Farmers Market activity from May to October from the Billings City Park Board to be

held in the City Park. Voting “aye” Cloud, Cornelison, Rauch, Gold, Kucera and

Huffman-Bailey. Voting “Nay” None. No Abstentions.

1. Alderman Huffman-Bailey made a motion, seconded by Alderman Cloud to place on May 2022 Board of Alderman Agenda discussion of an amendment to Ordinance 16-17 Landlord License to include proof of Property Insurance to be included on application renewal. Voting “Aye” Cloud, Cornelison, Rauch, Gold, Kucera and Huffman-Bailey. Voting “Nay” None. No Abstentions.
2. Alderman Gold made a motion, seconded by Alderman Rauch due to completion of 90- day probation to increase Ronnie Keithley, General Maintenance hourly rate by $ 1.00 effective May 1, 2022, and now is eligible for city benefits of Health Insurance, Sick Pay, Vacation accrual and Personal Day and $40.00 cell phone reimbursement. Voting “Aye” Cloud, Cornelison, Rauch, Gold, Kucera and Huffman- Bailey. Voting “Nay” None. No Abstentions.
3. Alderman Huffman-Bailey made a motion, seconded by Alderman Kucera to change Clarice E. Bartoy from Contract Labor Cleaning employee of city hall of $ 60.00 per week to $20.00 per hour for 3.0 hours cleaning as a W-2 city employee with no benefits.

Voting “Aye” Cloud, Cornelison, Rauch, Gold, Kucera and Huffman-Bailey. Voting “Nay” None. No Abstentions.

1. Alderman Rauch made a motion, seconded by Alderman Huffman-Bailey to approve City Clerk Chris M. Hopkins to attend the GFOA (Government Finance Officers Association) Annual Conference May 11th-13th, 2022, at Lake of the Ozarks. Registration Fee, lodging for two nights and mileage to be paid by the city. Voting “Aye” Cloud, Cornelison, Rauch, Gold, Kucera and Huffman-Bailey. Voting “Nay” None. No Abstentions.

**CLOSED SESSION**

No Closed Session requested.

**ADJOURNMENT**

No further business.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 9:15 p.m. made by Alderman Cloud, seconded by Alderman Cornelison. Voting “Aye” Cloud, Cornelison, Rauch, Gold, Kucera and Huffman-Bailey. Voting “Nay” None. No Abstentions.

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Mickey J. Brown, Mayor

**ATTEST**

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Chris M. Hopkins, City Clerk