

CITY OF LEBANON
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
February 06, 2020

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Council of the City of Lebanon, Missouri, met in Work Session on February 6, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall located at 401 South Jefferson.

ROLL CALL AND DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

Upon roll call, the following Officers were present: Gib Adkins, Ken Eldridge, Sheila Mitchell, Jonathan Reagan, LeAnn Mather, Randy Wall, Chuck Jordan, Bob Garner and Mayor Carr. Absent: None.

A quorum was declared.

Staff members and others in attendance: City Administrator Mike Schumacher, Public Works Director Richard Shockley, Electric Superintendent Travis Long, Code Administrator Joe Berkich, Police Chief Bryan Arnold, Fire Chief Sam Schneider, Finance Director Kat Gill, Parks Director John Shelton, Communications Manager Derek Gean, Public Works Analyst Kelly Roberts, and Assistant City Administrator/City Clerk Laina Starnes.

MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL PRESENTATION-JUSTIN HOUGH

Justin Hough shared that he had been looking at a 34.4-acre tract of land owned by the City that he felt would be a good location for a mountain bike trail. He stated the land was located on Gateway Road and had unique attributes. Through a visual presentation, Hough spoke about the advantages of having a bike trail in the community as well as its challenges. He gave examples of bike trails on city owned property in other communities such as St. James and Springfield and shared that he really liked the model of the trail being built in Neosho which was opening in 2020. During his presentation, Hough touched on the successfulness of bike trails in Northwest Arkansas and their economic impact. Grant opportunities and liability was touched on as well. City Administrator Mike Schumacher stated he felt a bike trail was a good fit for the proposed property as its future use was very limited. Parks Director John Shelton shared that Hough's proposed trail would fit in the Park's trail plan and he wouldn't be opposed to further exploration. Schumacher recommended engaging City Counselor Chris Allen to look into memorializing the relationship while Hough shared that he would gather additional information.

GROUP 1 GOALS UPDATE- PUBLIC SAFETY

An update on the public safety goal of delivering high-quality emergency and public safety services was presented by Fire Chief Sam Schneider, Police Chief Bryan Arnold, and Code Administrator Joe Berkich. Some of the things they touched on included media event plans, locating crime target areas through the use of Data Driven Approaches to Crime and Traffic Safety (DDACTS), encouraging police officers to perform six hours of community outreach each year, establishing relationships with local and regional organizations to assist with drug addiction and mental health issues, additional installation of smoke detectors, and the development of an ordinance addressing mobile

homes and dangerous buildings. Following the presentation, a discussion was held related to staff's desire to adopt the 2018 building code, inspections of mobile homes, and homelessness in our community.

ELECTRIC INFRASTRUCTURE PRESENTATION

Electric Superintendent Travis Long spoke about the 2019 Electric Study conducted by Toth and Associates. He stated he was bringing the Mayor and Council the results of that study in a condensed version and noted that the Electric Department was taking steps to make further changes not mentioned in the study, such as hardware and software upgrades. During his presentation, Long reported that transformers at substations #3, #5 and #7 needed to be replaced and instrument improvements needed to be made at substations #1, #3, and #8. He also mentioned that some of the system's wiring was 60+ years old. Additional improvement needs Travis reported on were the replacement of transformer protection equipment and reclosure replacements. At the conclusion of Long's presentation, he was questioned about what the electric reserves would look like after the year 2023. City Administrator Mike Schumacher spoke up and reported that the Finance Department was currently working on reserve projections.

DEBT AND GENERAL FUND BALANCE POLICIES

Finance Director Kat Gill walked the Mayor and Council through two new proposed policies pertaining to debt and general fund balance. She stated these policies were in line with best practices and should help the City increase its A- credit rating. Gill reported that the City was already following the debt policy, she was just proposing to put it into writing. During her presentation, Gill went through the different types of permitted debt and stated that the City's debt would be limited to certain circumstances. She then moved on to the fund balance policy where she talked about how the general fund balance would be maintained at 20%-30% of annual expenditures of the subsequent year's operating budget and explained how excess reserves would be handled. As for the reserve levels of the enterprise funds, Gill explained she wanted to look at the City's long-term capital needs before making any changes. She concluded by saying the proposed policies would help keep the City fiscally responsible.

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

Councilman Jordan- said he thought Fire Chief Sam Schneider did a great job expressing his appreciation to the voters for the approved public safety tax when he was interviewed for the newspaper article written about the new fire truck.

Councilwoman Mather- suggested that when the Civic Center's covered entry is constructed that a designated area for smokers be considered outside the covered area so the smoke will not be so concentrated.

City Administrator Mike Schumacher- reported that Mercy's attorney couldn't get the EMS lease done in time for Monday night's Council meeting; therefore, he expected it to be presented at the following meeting together with the construction contract for the EMS facility.

Councilman Jordan- expressed there was still an issue with gravel being washed out onto Harrison Street after a rain event. City Administrator Mike Schumacher said he would look into it.


ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Carr declared the meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.

ATTEST:



City Clerk Laina Starnes



Mayor Jared Carr

Minutes Approved February 24, 2020