

CITY OF LEBANON
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
August 01, 2019

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Council of the City of Lebanon, Missouri, met in Work Session on August 1, 2019 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, Randy Wall, Bob Garner and Mayor Carr. Absent: LeAnn Mather and Chuck Jordan.

A quorum was declared.

Staff members and others in attendance: City Administrator Mike Schumacher, Public Works Director Richard Shockley, Fire Chief Sam Schneider, Street Superintendent Mike Moore, Electric Superintendent Travis Long, Environmental Services Superintendent Eric Mork, Public Works Analyst Kelly Roberts, Tourism Director Nicole McGinnis, HR Director Kathy Milliken, IT Director/Airport Jarrad Schomaker, Communications Manager Derek Gean, REDI President Brian Thompson, and Assistant City Administrator/City Clerk Laina Starnes.

VEHICLE FUEL

City Administrator Mike Schumacher stated that the pilot program for the Wex Fuel Cards went well and as a result the card use had been rolled out across the organization. He said employees would be able to purchase gas at area stations with the card rather than having to drive the distance to Public Works. Schumacher reported this program would save the City money because it would eliminate the need to update and/or replace the current fuel system that was very costly to keep repaired and running.

COUNCIL GOALS- GROUP 2, INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES

Street Superintendent Mike Moore began the group's presentation by talking about how the Street Department was working to meet its goals. He spoke about how they were addressing traffic flow by conducting traffic counts and provided a status of the Van Buren and Springfield Road Alignment Project. Moore reported that the engineering has been completed for the project and demolition of the City building was underway. During his portion of the presentation, Moore also talked about the recent signal synchronization making significant improvements to traffic flow, crack sealing and overlay projects, street striping and sweeping, signage, and the Adopt a Street Program.

Environmental Superintendent Eric Mork then took the floor and presented goal updates for the Water and Wastewater Departments. He spoke of developing a life cycle plan for presentation in January 2020 and talked about addressing employee retention with the PayPoint Compensation Philosophy and Study. During his presentation, Mork stated the Water Department had exceeded its goal for the average length of outage but was over for the number of outages.

Electric Superintendent Travis Long closed the presentation by providing information regarding the status of the distribution projects such as pole replacement and installation of single-phase breakers. Long stated, to date, 13 of 49 distribution poles and been replaced with an estimated completion date of November, and 5 out of 8 breakers had been replaced with an estimated completion date of August. He also provided updates on the substations and electric reliability. Long shared they were doing well with the average length of outage; however, the number of outages was well past industry standard and the departments set goal.

MARKETING FOR TOURISM

Tourism Director Nicole McGinnis spoke to the Council about the Tourism Department's need of a graphic design artist as well as an individual to manage the media buys and ad schedules for the various forms of marketing used to promote the area. She stated the need required someone with a specific skill set and it would be difficult to find a person who would fit within budget constraints; therefore, it would be more cost effective to contract with a firm. McGinnis reported an RFP had been put out, five proposals were received and scored, and Council would be asked to approve a marketing agreement at the next City Council meeting. In conclusion, McGinnis provided a wayfinding sign update and said the banner designs for the Downtown Business District and Route 66 had been finalized and an RFP had been put out.

PUBLIC SAFETY TAX

City Administrator Mike Schumacher distributed an information sheet with current sales tax rates of surrounding cities. He then spoke of the public safety facility that was included in the capital improvements sales tax renewal ballot language and how it would take six firefighters to man the new facility with new equipment, etc. He then spoke about the possibility of placing a ½ cent public safety sales tax on the ballot in November which, if passed, would bring in approximately \$1.7 a year million in sales tax revenue. A discussion commenced where the Council stated they didn't think they had any choice but to seek a public safety tax. The discussion concluded with staff saying an ordinance would be brought forward for Council to call an election and set the ballot language.

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

Prior to engaging in a round table discussion, Mayor Carr stated that Sharon Hagan had asked to speak to Council regarding the 130 West Fremont rezoning issue. He then gave her the floor.

Hagan addressed the Council and shared she had been a pharmacist for 20 years and had done research on marijuana as safe and effective medicine and stated she felt medicine should be based on science and not politics. While Hagan had the floor, she stated she had entered into a contract with Steve Knight for the building at 130 West Fremont with the intent to use it for marijuana cultivating facility. She said the facility would have carbon controlling filters to prevent odor, would meet all state requirements, and would be run by a high-tech team. She also spoke of job creation, increased sales tax revenue, and how veterans would benefit from a 4% sales tax. She

closed by asking Council to place Council Bill No. 4821 on the next agenda for a motion and vote.

Following Hagan's comments, Mayor Carr asked if there were any matters the Council wished to discuss during round table discussion; there were none.

CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO RSMO 610.021 (3), PERSONNEL


Mitchell moved and Garner seconded that the Council move into Closed Session Pursuant to RSMo 610.021 (3), to discuss Personnel matters. Motion carried as follows: Yea: (6) Adkins, Eldridge, Mitchell, Reagan, Wall, and Garner; Nay: (0) None; Abstain: (0) None; Absent: (2) Mather and Jordan.

Council moved into Closed Session at 7:05 pm and returned to Regular Session at 7:32 pm.

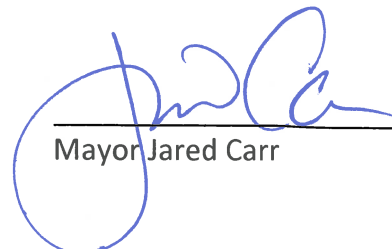
ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Carr declared the meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm.

ATTEST:



City Clerk Laina Starnes



Mayor Jared Carr
Minutes Approved August 12, 2019