

CITY OF LEBANON
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
August 6, 2020

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Council of the City of Lebanon, Missouri, met in Work Session on August 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: Ken Eldridge, Sheila Mitchell, Josh Ray, Randy Wall, Chuck Jordan, Bob Garner and Mayor Carr. Absent: Gib Adkins, Ken Eldridge and Jonathan Reagan.

Councilman Adkins listened to the meeting via speaker phone.

A quorum was declared.

Staff members and others in attendance: City Administrator Mike Schumacher, Public Works Director Richard Shockley, Police Chief Bryan Arnold, Fire Chief Sam Schneider, Electric Superintendent Travis Long, Environmental Services Superintendent Eric Mork, Code Administrator Joe Berkich, IT Director/Airport Jarrad Schomaker, Communications Manager Derek Gean, Public Works Analyst Kelly Roberts, and Assistant City Administrator/City Clerk Laina Starnes.

UPDATE ON PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING

Fire Chief Sam Schneider reported that he and some of his staff had held multiple meetings with Paragon Architecture to discuss the design, color scheme, landscaping, etc. of the new Public Safety Building. He provided visuals so the Mayor and Council could see how the building was coming along. Schneider communicated that the proposed building size would be 10,000 square feet and 9,200 square feet if the dispatch center was eliminated. During his report he said the certainty of the dispatch center was unknown as conversations were still ongoing with the County.

City Administrator Mike Schumacher also communicated the desire to extend Beck Lane for access to the building and would be bringing a contract forward to Council to swap 366 ft. of property for infrastructure.

POLICE DEPARTMENT BODY CAMERAS

Jarrad Schomaker, IT Director/Airport, reported he was proposing the purchase of body cameras for 33 officers and expressed they were a crucial layer of security. He stated he was looking to buy Watchguard cameras so they would integrate with their Watchguard dash cameras. During his presentation, Schomaker said the cost to purchase these cameras would be around \$47,000-\$48,000, which was more than the \$32,000 budgeted because more cameras would be needed than originally thought. The reason given was that each one would need to be specifically programmed for the officer wearing it. Councilman Ray asked Chief Arnold if his department had a body camera policy. Chief

Arnold replied that there was not one in place because they didn't have body cameras, but one would be created following Council's approval of the purchase.

TEMPORARY SIGNAGE

After briefing the Council on the City's current sign code adopted in 1994, Code Administrator Joe Berkich spoke to the Council about how his department was dealing with citizens placing signs on poles and in City rights-of-way; especially following the May 4th windstorm event when out of town contractors came to town to solicit their services. Berkich said he and his staff had been removing the signs and their goal was to keep the City looking clean. He expressed he was open to guidance for updating City Code. A brief discussion commenced.

GROUP 1- PUBLIC SAFETY

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, Fire Chief Sam Schneider spoke on behalf of the Public Safety Group with Police Chief Bryan Arnold and Code Administrator Joe Berkich available to answer questions. Schneider spoke about their goals and how COVID-19 had prevented staff from moving forward with many of them. Some that were touched on were smoke detector installation, training, engagement with the public through foot patrol and utility vehicle patrol in the parks, and community outreach programs. Regarding safety as it relates to Code Administration, Schneider reported that staff was researching and developing a mobile home ordinance and was reviewing the rental property inspection program.

GROUP 2- INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES

Public Works Analyst Kelly Roberts presented the progress that the Infrastructure and Utilities Group had made on their goals. Roberts reported on a Traffic Engineering Assistance Program (TEAP) grant that was obtained to perform a traffic study on the proposed West Loop (Beck Lane to Fourth Street), the quarterly meeting held with MoDOT to discuss traffic issues, various other street related items such as sidewalks and street adoptions. Roberts also spoke about their work on various utility inspection programs, performance standards reporting, and status of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements Phase II. In closing, she spoke briefly about the new utility customer portal that was deployed in March and their expectation to go live with the Utility Call Center in the fall.

Councilwoman Mitchell asked about the roadside piles of storm debris that had accumulated after the City completed their collection activity. City Administrator Mike Schumacher said those would be addressed as a nuisance.

WORK ZONE UPDATE

Jarrad Schomaker, IT Director/Airport, provided an update on Work Zone. He said there were 2,053 closed orders and 39 open orders. He shared that data collected through Work Zone was used set goals and benchmarks and it was used internally as well as by the public.

Councilman Ray asked if the City had pushed out information to the public regarding Work Zone, including step by step instructions. City Administrator Mike Schumacher said

information has been pushed out through social media, newspaper, radio, etc. However, step by step instructions had not been disseminated as he felt it was very user friendly and self-explanatory, but the City was open to the suggestion.

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

Councilwoman Mitchell- shared that she had again received a letter related to utility insurance with the City's logo on it, and this time the logo was used on the envelope as well. She stated her concerns about citizens thinking the City was selling insurance. City Administrator Mike Schumacher said it was a piece of business that was approved by the Council and that maybe an update on the program was warranted. He also shared he thought the benefit of the program outweighed the number of phone calls received because of confusion.

Councilman Jordan- asked if the City had a long-term plan to address flooding. City Administrator Mike Schumacher said the City had a few challenges it was trying to work through and explained that some people were simply in a floodplain.

Councilman Ray- expressed he thought the Sunrise Street flooding issue needed to be looked at. City Administrator Mike Schumacher said, in the past, some property owners had been reluctant to give up property to fix the issue. He further stated the area was in a floodplain and had been for a very long time, but staff was looking at what options could be taken.

Councilman Garner- stated that he hated to lose Tourism Director Nicole McGinnis and asked what the process was for replacing her. City Administrator Mike Schumacher said it would be a joint effort between the City and the Lebanon Tourism and Marketing Committee. Garner also shared there was a safety issue with the batting cages at Boswell Park and the art class was doing a nice job on the mural being painted on the side of Hogan Land Title.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Carr declared the meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

ATTEST:



City Clerk Laina Starnes



Mayor Jared Carr

Minutes Approved August 24, 2020