

**CITY OF WILLARD
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING**

January 23, 2017

7:00 p.m.

Staff present: City Clerk, Jennifer Rowe; Director of Finance, Carolyn Halverson; Director of Development, Randy Brown; Director of Parks; J.C. Loveland; Assistant Director of Parks, Jason Knight; and Student Representative Tara Wallis.

The City Attorney Ken Reynolds was not present.

Citizens in attendance: Maddy Bouse and Terry Kathcart.

Pledge of Allegiance.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Hendrickson.

Call to Order.

Mayor Hendrickson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call.

The City Clerk conducted the roll call. Alderman Buckley--- (arrived at 7:02 p.m.), Alderman Snider-present, Alderman Stewart-present, Alderman Whitman-present, Alderman Baird-present, Alderman Roggensees--- , Mayor Hendrickson-present and Student Representative Tara Wallis-present.

Mayor Hendrickson introduced the Board and citizens in attendance to the Student Representative Tara Wallis.

Citizen Input.

None.

Agenda Amendments/Agenda Approval.

Motion was made by Alderman Snider and seconded by Alderman Stewart to accept the Agenda. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Buckley, Snider, Stewart, Whitman and Baird. Tara Wallis also voted aye.

Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting January 9, 2017.

Motion was made by Alderman Baird and seconded by Alderman Snider to approve the Minutes from the regular meeting January 9, 2017. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Buckley, Snider, Stewart, Whitman and Baird. Tara Wallis also voted aye.

Discussion/Vote to accept bid for Concession Building for Parks Department.

Parks Director JC Loveland discussed the bids that were received. He informed the Board that the Parks Department had budgeted one hundred and ten thousand dollars (\$110,000) for this project. The lowest bid, by Bales Construction, was the bid that was accepted by the Park Board during a special meeting directly after the bid opening. Staff requests that the Board accept Bales Construction for the project so they can enter into negotiations on the price. Mr. Loveland also informed the Board that this bid was for the flat blocks and the Park Board would like to look at possibly doing split face block halfway up for more design. This would add five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to the final cost. Alderman Buckley asked how many square feet the building would be and where it was going. Mr. Loveland explained the specifics to the Board. Mayor Hendrickson asked what Staff could do to lower the cost. Mr. Loveland stated that the fixtures, painting, and Demo could potentially all be done in house which would lower the cost. Alderman Whitman asked what the life expectancy of this building would be and Mr. Loveland stated twenty to thirty (20-30) years. Alderman Snider asked if there was any way around the prevailing wage, and Mr. Loveland said no. Alderman Baird asked if the surface could be updated at a later date. Mr. Brown, Director of Development, stated that the

City could come back with brick or even artificial rock at a later date and update the exterior. Motion was made by Alderman Stewart and seconded by Alderman Baird to accept the bid by Bales Construction and allow the City to enter into negotiations for the Contract. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Buckley, Snider, Stewart, Whitman and Baird. Tara Wallis also voted aye.

Discussion/Vote to approve Empire Electric Streetlight Replacements at 707 S. Watson, and the intersection of Highway "O" and Miller Road.

Mr. Brown informed the Board that these are requests from Empire to replace certain lights with more cost efficient lighting for the City. Alderman Stewart asked if this was a gradual process to replace all the lights in the City with better ones. Mr. Brown stated it was, and Empire replaces them as they move forward when the lights start going out. Motion was made by Alderman Snider and seconded by Alderman Buckley to approve the Empire Electric Streetlight Replacements at 707 S. Watson, and the intersection of Highway "O" and Miller Road. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Buckley, Snider, Stewart, Whitman and Baird. Tara Wallis also voted aye.

Ordinance to approve a stipend for Board of Aldermen Members. (1st Read) Discussion/Vote.

Mayor Hendrickson informed the Board that when this stipend was first discussed, the desire was for there to be requirements that newly elected officials attend training shortly after their election, plus attend all meetings barring any emergencies. Alderman Buckley asked if that included Work Study's as well or just Meetings. Mayor Hendrickson stated that it should involve both. Alderman Stewart said that she agreed that participation stipulation would be needed. Alderman Buckley stated that he felt it should just pertain to Meetings and not Work Study's. Mayor Hendrickson mentioned that they could do a three (3) or six (6) month average for attendance. Alderman Snider stated that it could be based on Meetings attended, if they do not attend they do not get paid for it. Alderman Baird stated that he lost the argument before. He is not for the stipend as he feels it sends the wrong message to the Citizens. Each Board member was elected into office and made a personal sacrifice to benefit the community. He feels that using that power to elect to pay themselves was wrong reversed that and makes the community sacrifice to benefit the Board. He stated that with the Students being involved now, it would be beneficial to lead by example and not use the power to benefit themselves. Tara Wallis asked if other Cities paid their Board members. Mayor Hendrickson stated that some do and some do not, but Willard seems to be the minority in not paying. Ms. Wallis then asked if the Board feared any backlash over this vote. Mayor Hendrickson stated that it would probably be split, there would be those ok with it and also those completely against it. Alderman Snider stated that the reason he is for this is that it would create retention on the Board. He said there is no competition during Elections and this may fill that gap. Alderman Whitman agreed with Baird and said he was not for the stipend. Alderman Buckley also stated he agreed with Baird and Whitman. He stated that the Board agreed to do this as public servants, not financial gains. He felt that putting a dollar figure on the position could potentially attract the wrong mentality and people may run for money instead of helping the Community. Alderman Snider again stated that many Cities compensate these positions and people will not get wealthy off this stipend. Motion was made by Alderman Snider and seconded by Alderman Stewart to table this discussion until more information could be obtained and brought back at a future date. Voting aye: Aldermen Snider and Stewart. Voting nay: Aldermen Buckley, Whitman and Baird. Motion did not pass.

Discussion was made again regarding the stipend. Alderman Stewart stated that she agreed with Baird that the concern may be they are using their position to benefit themselves, but that is not the case. The Board would be voting for the next elected officials to start their stipend, not themselves. She stated that they are wanting to create interest in running for office. Alderman Baird said he did not disagree and those were good arguments, but he does not feel it would change the climate by offering pay. He stated that everyone on this Board is honest, honorable and a pleasure to serve with. Other Cities have not had the discipline to decline paying themselves, but Willard can. We should say this is a service, not a job, and we are going to make this sacrifice. If the stipend is three hundred dollars (\$300) a month per Alderman, that is over twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) a year that could be spent better. The Board needs to teach the students that just because we are in the position to serve ourselves, does not mean we can't have the discipline to say no and do better. Alderman Snider pointed out again that only half of the Aldermen would be paid this year when elections were over, and the money that was set aside for Economic Development could be used. He stated that we are trying to send a message that we need to continue to grow and move the City forward. He wants to see

competition going for the seats during the Elections. He also stated that if you look at the history of the Elections, there always seems to be competition for the Mayors seat, which is currently the only paid position. Motion was made by Alderman Snider and seconded by Alderman Stewart to table this discussion until a later date. Voting aye: Aldermen Snider and Stewart. Voting nay: Aldermen Buckley, Whitman and Baird. Tara Wallis voted aye. Motion did not pass.

Motion was then made by Alderman Baird and seconded by Alderman Whitman to stop all discussions and dismiss the idea of a stipend. Motion carried with a vote of 3-2. Voting aye: Aldermen Buckley, Whitman and Baird. Voting nay: Aldermen Snider and Stewart. Tara Wallis voted aye.

Discussion/Vote to allow the Parks Department to go out for bid for grading of the lower Recreational Center Baseball Field.

JC Loveland informed the Board that the City put out a bid last year to grade the upper field and it worked well. He stated that the Parks Department has budgeted seven thousand dollars (\$7,000) for this job and would like permission to go out for bid. Motion was made by Alderman Stewart and seconded by Alderman Buckley to allow the Parks Department to go out for bid for grading of the lower Recreational Center Baseball Field. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Buckley, Snider, Stewart, Whitman and Baird. Tara Wallis also voted aye.

Ordinance accepting the contract agreement with the Mark Chapman Band for entertainment at the 2017 Freedom Fest. (1st Read) Discussion/Vote.

The Parks Director JC Loveland informed the Board that this was the same band that was used for Freedom Fest in 2016. This allows the City to book them for Freedom Fest before their schedule fills up for the year. He stated that the band has been winning awards and is more popular now. Mayor Hendrickson asked if there was any negative feedback after last year, and Mr. Loveland stated there was no. Everyone seemed very happy with the band. Alderman Baird asked if this had to be an Ordinance or if it could be a Resolution. The City Clerk stated that she spoke with the Attorney and by Missouri State Statute, all contracts have to be done by Ordinance. Motion was made by Alderman Buckley and seconded by Alderman Baird to accept the contract agreement with the Mark Chapman Band for entertainment at the 2017 Freedom Fest. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Buckley, Snider, Stewart, Whitman and Baird. Tara Wallis also voted aye.

Ordinance accepting the contract agreement with Monkey Business for the Parks Department Bounce House Rentals. (1st Read) Discussion/Vote.

The Parks Director JC Loveland informed the Board that this was the same company the City has used for the past few years. He stated that they do a great job and are the best priced in the area. Mr. Loveland also informed the Board that from now on, he will get all of the Monkey Business Contracts done under one Ordinance to save the Board time. Alderman Whitman asked if the price was the same, and Mr. Loveland said there was a small raise in price but they were still the cheapest. He also stated that Patriot Disposal had given a verbal agreement to sponsor the Easter event this year as well. Motion was made by Alderman Whitman and seconded by Alderman Buckley to accept the contract agreement with Monkey Business for the Parks Department Bounce House Rentals. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Buckley, Snider, Stewart, Whitman and Baird. Tara Wallis also voted aye.

Ronald McDonald House Week Proclamation.

Mayor Hendrickson read the Proclamation.

New Business.

Mr. Loveland informed the Board that he and Mr. Knight had met with the High School Band regarding the parade route for Freedom Fest. He discussed the option of starting and ending the parade at the High School instead of using the Willard North Parking Lot which has created problems in that intersection for police. He asked the Board to think about possible options for the route and call him with any questions. He will be bringing it back to the Board at the next Board of Alderman Meeting in February 2017.

Unfinished Business.

Randy Brown stated that he spoke with the Interim City Administrator Jim Bentley regarding the Equivalent Dwelling Unit number for sewer. He outlined the formula to the Board and stated that more information will be brought to the Board in February 2017. Alderman Baird asked if hard numbers will be included, and Mr. Brown said yes. Alderman Snider stated that this is regarding the nine hundred dollar (\$900) sewer connection fee and will calculate a cost to cover the use in the future.

Alderman Snider then asked what direction we are going with the sewer as we move forward. Alderman Stewart stated that we were waiting on the contract with Springfield to be complete before we moved forward. Mayor Hendrickson stated that we had a meeting scheduled for Friday January 27, 2017 and Mr. Brown stated that as of now, that meeting has been postponed.

Alderman Stewart informed the Board that she had received some citizen feedback after the water rates for rural customers had gone up five percent (%5). She stated that they are wanting to know if there are ever any meetings or committees set up for those customers that are not City Residents. Mayor Hendrickson stated that they are always welcome to come speak at the Board meetings as they are customers for our services. Alderman Baird stated that he remembered back when the City purchased the Meadows, there was a large group from that area that spoke during citizen input.

Recess Open Session.

Motion was made by Alderman Buckley and seconded by Alderman Snider to recess at 8:30 p.m. before the Closed Session. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Buckley, Snider, Stewart, Whitman and Baird. Tara Wallis also voted aye.

Open Executive Session

Motion was made by Alderman Whitman and seconded by Alderman Stewart to open the Executive Session at 8:30 p.m. Motion carried with a vote of 4-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Buckley, Stewart, Whitman and Roggenses.

Close Executive Session.

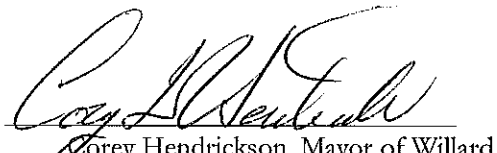
Motion was made by Alderman Whitman and seconded by Alderman Stewart to Close the Executive Session at 8:40 p.m. Motion carried with a vote of 4-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Buckley, Stewart, Whitman and Roggenses.

Adjourn.

Motion was made by Alderman Stewart and seconded by Alderman Whitman to adjourn. Motion carried with a vote of 4-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Buckley, Stewart, Whitman and Roggenses.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.


Jennifer Rowe, City Clerk


Corey Hendrickson, Mayor of Willard