

**CITY OF WILLARD  
BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
REGULAR MEETING  
January 23, 2023  
7:00 p.m.**

Staff present: Interim City Administrator, Steve Bodenhamer; Acting City Clerk, Dona Slater; Police Officer, JD Landon; Director of Finance, Carolyn Halverson; and Director of Parks and Recreation, Jason Knight.

City Attorney Ken Reynolds was present.

Citizens in attendance: Jen Rowe, Bradley Mowell, Kathy Stewart, Michael Lockhart, Bianna Lockhart, Mike McElverter, and Ashley Gilligan.

**Call to Order.**

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

**Roll Call.**

The Acting City Clerk conducted the Roll Call. Alderman Hendrickson-present, Alderman Whitman-present, Alderman Baird-present, Alderman Hall-present, Alderman Simmons-present, Mayor Snider-present.

**Agenda Amendments/Agenda Approval.**

Motion was made by Alderman Simmons and seconded by Alderman Whitman to approve the Agenda. Motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Hendrickson, Hall, Whitman, Simmons and Baird.

**Consent Agenda.**

Motion was made by Alderman Whitman and seconded by Alderman Hall to approve the Consent Agenda with a revision to the Minutes from the January 9, 2023.

Motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Hendrickson, Hall, Whitman, Simmons and Baird.

**Minutes from the regular meeting on January 9, 2023.**

Motion was made by Alderman Hendrickson and seconded by Alderman Hall to approve the Minutes from the regular meeting January 9, 2023 once revised.

Motion carried with a vote of 4-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Hendrickson, Hall, Whitman and Baird. Alderman Simmons abstained.

**Discussion/Vote on current Outstanding Invoices, Draft and Check Paid Invoices for December 2022/January 2023.**

Motion was made by Alderman Hall and seconded by Alderman Simmons to approve the current Outstanding Invoices, Draft and Check Paid Invoices for December 2022/January 2023.

Motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Hendrickson, Hall, Whitman, Simmons and Baird.

**Administrator's Report.**

The Interim City Administrator presented his report.

**Citizen Input.**

Michael Lockhart stated he is having issues on his street with minors. They drive too fast, use alcohol and drugs, and have threatened his life. He lives close to Ridgeview and Main. He said he calls the police department but the officers just send the minors home. Mr. Bodenhamer stated that there is an active investigation and the individuals are minors so the issue cannot be discussed in a public forum.

**Ordinance Approving Notice of Non-Renewal of Building Lease with Ozarks Greenways.**

Mr. Bodenhamer stated the City has received a letter from Ozarks Greenways stating they have chosen not to renew the lease of the building at 115 E. Jackson with the City and pursue a lease with a third party. Alderman Simmons asked if the City will still be able to lease the building if the deal falls through with the new vendor. Mr. Bodenhamer said he does not know. Alderman Whitman said the City needs to proceed with a plan for storage for the equipment the City has in the building. Mr. Bodenhamer said the City needs to get serious on a building design for a new Public Works building.

**Approval of Allgeier Martin work authorization regarding bidding and inspection of liquid chlorination of the water system. Discussion/Vote.**

Mr. Bodenhamer said he recommends approval of authorization. Alderman Simmons asked if the cost would exceed \$18,000. Mr. Bodenhamer responded that it would not but that that is a fair and reasonable estimate. Alderman Hendrickson asked if there were any concerns with the Department of Natural Resources and Mr. Bodenhamer said no. Alderman Baird stated he would like Mr. Reynolds to look over the authorization.

Motion was made by Alderman Baird and seconded by Alderman Simmons to approve Allgeier Martin work authorization regarding bidding and inspection of liquid chlorination of the water system.

Motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Simmons, Hedrickson, Whitman, Baird, and Hall.

**Appointment of City Clerk. Discussion/Vote.**

Mr. Bodenhamer stated that four resumes were received for City Clerk. He held three interviews, but most did not have the qualifications the City is seeking. He said based on the resumes received and interviews he recommended the Acting City Clerk be appointed to the position of City Clerk.

Motion was made by Alderman Simmons and seconded by Alderman Baird to appoint the Acting City Clerk, Dona Slater to the position of City Clerk.

Motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Hall, Baird, Whitman, Hendrickson, and Simmons.

Dona Slater took the Oath of Office and was sworn in by Mayor Snider.

**Approval of Job Description and advertising for the position of City Administrator. Discussion/Vote.**

Motion was made by Alderman Hall and seconded by Alderman Whitman to approve the job description and advertising for the position of City Administrator.

Motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Whitman, Hall, Simmons, Baird, and Hendrickson.

**New Business.**

Mr. Reynolds stated that at the last Board of Aldermen meeting there was a Motion made to change the City's policy on terminating City employees for talking about eminent domain. Motion was made and approved by the Aldermen to make this policy change. After the vote the Mayor vetoed the Motion. Mr. Reynolds stated the Mayor cannot veto a Motion, he can only veto an Ordinance once it has been approved by the Board of Aldermen.

**Unfinished Business.**

Alderman Simmons asked if Mr. Bodenhamer and Mr. Reynolds had reviewed the City's policy on Confidentiality and if enforcement of employees not talking about eminent domain is possible. Mr. Bodenhamer read the Confidentiality statement that all employees sign to the Aldermen. He stated that if the City has identified a need or route once in negotiation it is confidential however prohibiting City employees to talk about eminent domain is not possible as it is in the Missouri State Constitution and statutes. He has cautioned public works employees to not talk about issues. Alderman Baird said he thinks the City is being misrepresented to citizens.

Alderman Hendrickson asked about renting versus buying storage containers for Public Works and Parks equipment. If purchased can the containers be sold. Mr. Reynolds said there is nothing that prohibits selling.

**Open Executive Session.**

The Executive Session was not opened as there were no items to discuss.

**Adjourn Meeting.**

Motion was made by Alderman Whitman and seconded by Alderman Simmons to Adjourn.

Motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Hall, Hendrickson, Whitman, Simmons and Baird.

The meeting was Adjourned at 7:55 p.m.



Dona Slater, City Clerk



Samuel Snider, Mayor