

CITY OF WILLARD
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING

April 24, 2023

7:00 p.m.

Staff present: Interim City Administrator, Steve Bodenhamer; Director of Finance, Carolyn Halverson; City Planner, Scott Hayes; Director of Parks and Recreation, Jason Knight; Police Officer, J.D. Landon; Public Works Operations Manager, Trevor Hoffman, Assistant Public Works Director, Shane Fox; Public Works Director, Justin Sorgen; Economic Development Director, Greg Williams; Chief of Police, Tom McClain; Deputy City Clerk, Cheryl Richardson; and City Clerk, Dona Slater.

City Attorney Ken Reynolds was present.

Citizens in attendance: Bradley Mowell, Aaron Clinton, Jacob Spindle, Steve Cobb, Karen Hayes, Larry Whitman, and Donna Stewart.

Call to Order.

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

Roll Call.

The City Clerk conducted the Roll Call. Alderman Swatosh-present, Alderman Keene-present, Alderman Baird-present, Alderman Hall-present, Alderman Smith-present, Mayor Snider-present, Alderman Hendrickson-not present.

Agenda Amendments/Agenda Approval.

The Agenda was amended to add item 9-2, discussion/vote on current Outstanding Invoices, Draft and Check Paid Invoices for March/April 2023.

Motion was made by Alderman Smith and seconded by Alderman Hall to approve the amended Agenda.

Motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Swatosh, Hall, Keene, Smith, and Baird.

Selection of President (Mayor Pro-Tem) of the Board of Aldermen.

Mr. Bodenhamer explained the job duties of the President of the Board and they will act in the absence of the Mayor.

Motion was made by Alderman Swatosh and seconded by Alderman Smith to appoint Alderman Baird as the President (Mayor Pro-Tem) of the Board of Aldermen.

Motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Smith, Keene, Swatosh, Hall, and Baird.

Confirmation of Mayor's intent to sit on the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Mayor Snider stated he will continue to sit on the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Selection of Alderman to sit on the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Alderman Baird said he is willing give up his seat on the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Alderman Keene said he is willing to sit on the Commission.

Motion was made by Alderman Baird and seconded by Alderman Swatosh to appoint Alderman Keene to sit on the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Swatosh, Keene, Smith, Hall, and Baird.

Appointment of two Aldermen to sit on the Economic Development Task Force.

Alderman Baird said the original intent of the Task Force was to allow businesses and citizens to be involved with the development plans for the City. Mr. Bodenhamer said with the addition of Economic Development Director Greg Williams to City staff the Task Force may be at the end of its life. Mr. Bodenhamer stated the Task Force is to meet monthly per City Code but have been meeting quarterly. He recommended appointing two Aldermen to the Task Force.

Aldermen Smith and Hall volunteered to sit on the Task Force.

Motion was made by Alderman Baird and seconded by Alderman Keene to appoint Aldermen Smith and Hall to the Economic Development Task Force.

Motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Swatosh, Smith, Keene, Hall, and Baird.

Set date for Special Meeting to tour City facilities.

Mr. Bodenhamer said the intent is to familiarize elected officials with City facilities such as the water system, public works facilities, parks and recreation facilities, police department, lift stations, and lagoons so they are aware where these are and what is being talked about at meetings. After discussion the Aldermen and Mayor agreed on Wednesday May 10th at 6:00 p.m. to conduct the tour.

Confirm date for Special Meeting for Economic Development statutory tools for May 15, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Williams feels it is time to go over economic development related tools. Randall Wallace will speak on 5 or 6 key tools. He stated the meeting should last an hour to an hour and a half. The Mayor and Aldermen agreed to meet Monday May 15 at 6:00 p.m.

Consent Agenda.

Motion was made by Alderman Smith and seconded by Alderman Hall to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion carried with a vote of 4-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Swatosh, Keene, Smith, and Hall. Alderman Baird abstained.

Discussion/Vote on current Outstanding Invoices, Draft and Check Paid Invoices for March/April 2023.

Motion was made by Alderman Baird and seconded by Alderman Smith to approve the current Outstanding Invoices, Draft and Check Paid Invoices for March/April 2023.

Motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Smith, Swatosh, Keene, Baird, and Hall.

Presentation and Discussion of ARPA Grant for Inclusive Playground – Jason Knight, Director of Parks and Recreation.

Mr. Knight introduced himself to the Board of Aldermen and gave a brief history of the steps taken to research the need for an all-inclusive playground.

Better Together Playground was incorporated as a non-profit with the support of the local community and the Willard Parks and Rec department. The Greene County Commission funded \$500,000 toward the project. Abilities First has funded an additional \$100,000. We now have \$600,000 of the \$750,000 needed. Fund raisers and donations will be taken to raise the additional funds along with other supplementary grants. He stated he is getting ready to bid the project and hopes to start the building process next spring.

Alderman Smith asked if there are any renderings of the proposed playground. Mr. Knight said there are early renderings on the Better Together Playground website.

Presentation of Economic Development Status – Greg Williams, Director of Economic Development.

Mr. Williams gave an update on the Mural Building project. He has been informed that the new tenants will sign the lease Wednesday April 26, 2023. The owner of the business would like to host a reception and media event. Mr. Williams also stated he is excited that the sale of 52 acres at AB and Highway 160 has closed. This area can be supplied with water and sewer service. He stated this is an excellent site for mixed use such as general retail, food businesses or maybe high-end loft housing. Mr. Williams said about 11,500 vehicles travel Highway 123 to Hunt Road per day. He said Willard has been recognized as the 9th safest city in Missouri.

Presentation of Land Use Planning and legal constraints – Scott Hayes, City Planner.

Mr. Hayes gave a presentation and brief history of zoning law. He said Comprehensive Plans update in 20-year cycles. The City's current Comprehensive Plan is from 2019. The City needs to decide what goals we have, what goals have been met and what goals have not been met. He is in the process of updating a proposed Future Land Map.

Presentation of Infrastructure Challenges – Justin Sorgen, Director of Public Works.

Mr. Sorgen gave a brief overview of the water and sewer facilities. He stated we have 9 lift stations to maintain. We are currently switching to liquid chlorine. The Meadows lagoons are at capacity and there is a ban on any new customers in that area.

Presentation of Law Enforcement Challenges – Tom McClain, Chief of Police.

Chief McClain gave a history of the Willard PAL program and that it has grown tremendously. In 2015 we began Camp Character. Both programs are used to build trust and relationships for Willard youth.

Administrator's Report.

The Interim City Administrator presented his report.

Report of ARPA Wastewater and Capital Improvement program.

Mr. Bodenhamer presented a report detailing the current state of the wastewater system and costs to maintain and upgrade lift stations.

Citizen Input.

None

Ordinance appointing David Doran as Municipal Judge (1st Read) Discussion/Vote.

The first (1st) read was conducted by the City Clerk.

Motion was made by Alderman Smith and seconded by Alderman Baird to appoint David Doran as Municipal Judge.

Motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Swatosh, Keene, Baird, Hall, and Smith.

New Business.

None.

Unfinished Business

None.

Close Open Session

Motion was made by Alderman Baird and seconded by Alderman Keene to recess the Open Session.

Motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Swatosh, Keene, Smith, Hall, and Baird.

The Open Session was closed at 8:45 p.m.

Open Executive Session

Motion was made by Alderman Baird and seconded by Alderman Hall to Open the Executive session.

Motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Swatosh, Keene, Smith, Baird, and Hall.

The Mayor opened the Executive Session at 9:00 p.m.

Close Executive Session

Motion was made by Alderman Smith and seconded by Alderman Hall to close the Executive Session.


Motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Swatosh, Keene, Smith, Baird, and Hall.

The Executive Session closed at 9:45 p.m.


Adjourn Meeting

Motion was made by Alderman Hall and seconded by Alderman Baird to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Swatosh, Keene, Smith, Baird, and Hall.

The meeting was Adjourned at 9:46 p.m.



Dona Slater, City Clerk



Samuel Snider, Mayor