

**MINUTES
BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2009 – 7:00 P.M.**

MAYOR PAUL MARTI
ALDERWOMAN MAUREEN GRAVES
ALDERMAN CHRIS GRAVILLE
ALDERMAN ANDREW STEWART
CITY ATTORNEY HELMUT STARR
CITY TREASURER CHARLES FUNK
CITY ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK DEBORAH LEMOINE

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER- by Mayor Marti at 7:00 p.m. at the Webster Groves Christian Church.

ROLL CALL- showed that all Board members were present.

APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 9 AND DECEMBER 2, 2009 BOARD OF ALDERMEN MINUTES- Mayor Marti asked if there were any comments regarding the November 9 and December 2, 2009 Board of Aldermen minutes as submitted. There being none, Mayor Marti requested a motion for the approval of the minutes as submitted. Alderwoman Graves so moved, seconded by Alderman Bach. The Board voted 4-0 in favor of the approval.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 2009 VOUCHER Treasurer Funk reported on the current interest rates, income and expenses for the City and County Sales Taxes this year. The December voucher was reviewed. Alderwoman Graves moved to approve the voucher and Alderman Graville seconded the motion. The Board voted 4-0 in favor of approving the voucher.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: an e-mail comment regarding trees on Holmes was received by the Board

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS- Mayor Marti noted that there were no appointments at this time. Appointments were tabled until the January meeting by a vote of 4-0.

SPECIAL DISCUSSION

1. Holmes Avenue Update: Conversations with Baxter Farm and Garden reveal that it is more expensive to move the street trees than to replace them, the Board determined that owners on Holmes may be allowed to move the trees into their own yards should they choose to do so when construction begins. An update was given regarding reimbursements for expenses and electricity for street lights which will be provided through Kirkwood.

2. Review Potential Acorn Sculpture for Backstoppers Park, the Board agrees that they like the sculptures for the park provided they are durable enough and that they will review possible funding in next year's budget.
3. A bid from Ford Asphalt to repair additional potholes was reviewed and approved by a vote of 4-0.
4. A bid from Sullivan Publications to update the Code book was reviewed and approved by a vote of 4-0.
5. A request for fireworks at Westborough on 12/31 was reviewed and approved subject to fire department approval by a vote of 4-0.
6. A report was made on potential tax on cell towers in the city and election requirements by Alderman Graville after his consultation with Dan Vogel. Alderman Stewart moved and Alderman Bach seconded a motion to authorize Alderman Graville to work with Dan Vogel's office (up to \$5,000 in legal fees) to work on getting the potential tax ready for the April ballot.
7. Alderman Bach reports on a potential engineering package for Park Avenue improvements suggesting that the City contact Dan Wind to see if he could help put together a proposal for Argonne and Park engineering requirements. Alderman Bach will contact Dan Wind and report back to the Board.
8. Mayor Marti and the City Administrator updated the Board on Backstoppers Park Irrigation progress, the Mayor having reviewed the retaining wall issues on site and approved the full repair of the wall. SWT will continue to monitor progress.
9. City Administrator's Report. The City Administrator's Report was reviewed and discussed. The Board advised that if Outdoor Solutions is willing to continue the existing contract at the same price to leave the contract in place. The Board asked that Outdoor Solutions prepare a list of all pricing for work routinely done in addition to the contract. The Board determined to keep Unidev as the website host at a price of \$100 per month with up to \$1000 in fees to update the site to the new format required to continue their service. The Board advised the City Administrator to replace the city owned laptop which was experiencing problems rather than attempt repair due to its age. The Board asked the City Administrator to review a potential ordinance to regulate chickens in the City.

REPORTS FROM MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

Alderman Stewart reported that he had talked with Suzanne Bolten regarding publishing of a book on Oakland history which was likely to cost \$8-9,000 for 500-700 copies. The Board likes the idea of a history book about Oakland, and will look at options for encouraging the project next year.

Alderwoman Graves had nothing further.

Alderman Bach reported that the lights are out at Argonne and Holmes.

Alderman Graville reported on citizen complaints about weeds not being cut on the sidewalk between Park and Holmes (north side of Argonne) and Greg Hanser agreed to notify residents about maintenance requirements.

Mayor Marti updated the Board about the heavy truck signs in the City and Greg Hanser agreed to look at signs regarding trucks throughout the City and make recommendations about any changes needed.

MISCELLANEOUS- none

Alderman Graville moved to adjourn and Alderman Stewart seconded the motion which carried 4-0.

These minutes accepted as submitted this 11th day of January, 2010.

Deborah LeMoine
City Administrator/Clerk