

REGULAR MEETING
June 1, 2020

The Independence City Council met for a Regular Meeting, June 1, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., for a Virtual Meeting via GoToMeeting.

Mayor Weir stated that she has a couple remarks given the events of the past week, the violence and the civil unrest that we have seen in our area and across the nation. The Mayor stated that four years ago the Council adopted a Strategic Plan and named it "Independence for All." She stated that this is a commitment to work every day to make our city acceptable to everyone regardless of race, gender, ethnicity or sexual orientation. The Mayor stated that events in the last week, the murder of George Floyd, demand that we broaden and deepen our commitment to Independence for All. The Mayor showed support for Black Lives Matter. Mayor Weir stated she is proud of the actions that have been taken to engage our community in discussions on race, including the creation of the Diversity and Inclusion Task Force and including law enforcement on our Human Relations Commission, but stated that we must do better. Mayor Weir thanked our community for their peaceful protests. She stated that their lawful actions speak volumes and you are being heard. The Mayor thanked the Independence Police Department for protecting and serving our community.

Mayor Weir provided the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Eileen Weir, Presiding Officer of the City Council, called the meeting to order. Upon roll call, the following members of the City Council were present: Mike Huff, John Perkins, Curt Dougherty, Karen DeLuccie, Scott Roberson, Tom Van Camp and Mayor Eileen Weir. The following members of the City Council were absent: None.

CITIZENS REQUESTS:

Jason White spoke to Council regarding the budget and buses.

Doug Cowan spoke to Council regarding bus transportation.

PROCLAMATIONS:

City Clerk, Becky Behrens, read a proclamation for National Gun Violence Awareness Day.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER:

Councilmembers Van Camp and Huff moved to approve the CONSENT AGENDA.

1. Approval of minutes for the Regular Meetings on May 4, 2020 and May 18, 2020.
2. Council action is requested to issue a purchase order to ConvergeOne Inc, in the amount of \$212,318.80 for Microsoft Office 365 Licensing.
3. Council action is requested to authorize the City Manager to approve a construction contract with Blue Nile Contractors for an amount not to exceed \$490,022.89 (Base Bid amount plus Bid Options No. 1 and 2), authorizing future minor change orders for an amount not to exceed \$49,000 and/or time extensions, for the 2015-16 Neighborhood Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project (Project No. 70300801).
4. Council action is requested to authorize the City Manager to approve a construction contract with MegaKC Corporation for an amount not to exceed \$4,108,243.00, authorizing future minor change orders for an amount not to exceed \$410,000.00 and/or time extensions, for the Biosolids Handling Modifications project at the Rock Creek Treatment Plant (Project No. 302005).

Bill No. 20-726, entitled, [Res. #6549]

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“A RESOLUTION APPOINTING JUSTIN KAUFMANN AND ADAM LYNAR TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ARROWHEAD COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT”. *[Individual Appointment-Mayor Eileen Weir]*

Upon roll call, the vote to approve the CONSENT AGENDA was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Dougherty, DeLuccie, Roberson, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the motion carried and the CONSENT AGENDA was approved.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Mayor Weir opened a new information only public hearing for the application by Chelsea Gentry requesting a Special Use Permit to operate a body art shop at 16920 E. US 24 Highway. Community Development Director, Tom Scannell, provided background information and stated that the Planning Commission recommends approval of this item. There being no new information the Mayor declared the public hearing closed. *New Information Only.*

Councilmember Dougherty stated that this would be in his district and he is in support of this business.

Bill No. 20-039, entitled, [Ord. #19122]
 “AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO OPERATE A BODY ART SERVICE AT 16920 E. US 24 HIGHWAY, SUITE D, IN INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.”
 was given its second reading by title and placed on final passage. Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Dougherty, DeLuccie, Roberson, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

NON-ORDINANCE ACTION ITEMS:

Mayor Weir gave a brief explanation on the proposed Budget Amendment No. 1.

Mayor Weir and Councilmember Roberson moved to approve Non-Ordinance Action Item No. 1.

1. Budget Amendment Request No. 1 for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.-*Requested by Mayor Eileen Weir*

Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Dougherty, DeLuccie, Roberson, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the item approved.

Councilmember DeLuccie gave a brief explanation on the proposed Budget Amendment No. 2. In response to Councilmember Huff, Councilmember DeLuccie confirmed that this amendment would reduce the amount spent as well as only take a bid from a single lobbyist. Councilmember Roberson stated that he is in support of this item.

Councilmembers DeLuccie and Roberson moved to approve Non-Ordinance Action Item No. 2.

2. Budget Amendment Request No. 2 for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.-*Requested by Councilmember Karen DeLuccie*

Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, DeLuccie and Roberson. Noes – Councilmembers: Perkins, Dougherty, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the item failed.

Councilmember DeLuccie gave a brief explanation on the proposed Budget Amendment No. 3. In response to Councilmember Roberson, Councilmember DeLuccie stated that she does not wish to change the levy to include Animal Services.

Councilmembers DeLuccie and Roberson moved to approve Non-Ordinance Action Item No. 3.

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3. Budget Amendment Request No. 3 for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.-*Requested by Councilmember Karen DeLuccie*
Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: DeLuccie and Roberson. Noes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Dougherty, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the item failed.

Councilmember DeLuccie gave a brief explanation on the proposed Budget Amendment No. 4. Councilmember Huff stated that he does not feel this Council should change the vehicle allowance with at least two new individuals joining the Council and this decision affecting them. Councilmember Roberson stated that passing this amendment shows leadership by the Council and a willingness to cut their expenses while the city cuts expenses.

Councilmembers DeLuccie and Roberson moved to approve Non-Ordinance Action Item No. 4.

4. Budget Amendment Request No. 4 for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.-*Requested by Councilmember Karen DeLuccie*
Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: DeLuccie and Roberson. Noes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Dougherty, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the item failed.

Councilmember DeLuccie gave a brief explanation on the proposed Budget Amendment No. 5. In response to Councilmember Huff, City Manager, Zach Walker, stated that when the law library changed from being physical to an online platform the budget item was overlooked and not updated. He stated that this item would maintain the online subscription and capture the savings above what is needed to satisfy the contract. Mayor Weir stated that she is reluctant to reduce or increase funding in any category that she doesn't fully understand. The Mayor stated that budget allocations can always be done down the road and she's inclined to keep the funding in place until she can obtain more understanding about what the funds are used for.

Councilmembers DeLuccie and Roberson moved to approve Non-Ordinance Action Item No. 5.

5. Budget Amendment Request No. 5 for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.-*Requested by Councilmember Karen DeLuccie*
Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Perkins, DeLuccie and Roberson. Noes – Councilmembers: Huff, Dougherty, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the item failed.

Councilmember DeLuccie gave a brief explanation on the proposed Budget Amendment No. 6.

Councilmembers DeLuccie and Roberson moved to approve Non-Ordinance Action Item No. 6.

6. Budget Amendment Request No. 6 for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.-*Requested by Councilmember Karen DeLuccie*
Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: DeLuccie and Roberson. Noes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Dougherty, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the item failed.

Councilmember DeLuccie gave a brief explanation on the proposed Budget Amendment No. 7.

Councilmembers DeLuccie and Roberson moved to approve Non-Ordinance Action Item No. 7. In response to Councilmember Huff, Mr. Walker stated this amendment would be to eliminate overnight travel for departments that are for training and conferences. Mayor Weir stated that many conferences have been cancelled this year or will be virtual so there will be some savings in travel and events. The Mayor stated that she is reluctant to take these items out of the budget because it is usually difficult to have it added back into the budget and she is hopeful that the current situation due to COVID-19 is temporary. Mayor Weir stated that this is something that our Audit and Finance Committee can address

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on a monthly or quarterly bases to see which of these items are necessary and which of them are not going to take place because of the current circumstances. The Mayor stated she is not in support of this item, but believes it should be monitored.

Councilmember Roberson stated many trainings and conferences have been cancelled already and he does not feel as though these will resume on a large scale until there is a vaccine for the virus. He stated there is no way to know when something like that would be available but his best guess would be next year. Councilmember Roberson stated that he feels it is irresponsible of the Council to continue to plan travel when the budget is such a concern this year and operating on borrowed money.

7. Budget Amendment Request No. 7 for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.-*Requested by Councilmember Karen DeLuccie*
Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: DeLuccie and Roberson. Noes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Dougherty, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the item failed.

Councilmember Perkins gave a brief explanation on the proposed Budget Amendment No. 8.

Councilmembers Perkins and DeLuccie moved to approve Non-Ordinance Action Item No. 8.

8. Budget Amendment Request No. 8 for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.-*Requested by Councilmember John Perkins.*
Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Dougherty, DeLuccie, Roberson, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the item approved.

Mr. Walker gave a brief explanation on the proposed Budget Amendment No. 9.

9. Budget Amendment Request No. 9 for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.
Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Dougherty, DeLuccie, Roberson, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the item approved.

10. Council action to issue a purchase order to Altec Industries, in the amount of \$210,000.00 for a hydraulic aerial device for the Power and Light Department.

Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Dougherty, DeLuccie, Roberson, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the item approved.

11. Council action to issue a purchase order to Altec Industries, in the amount of \$210,000.00 for a hydraulic aerial device for the Power and Light Department.

Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Dougherty, DeLuccie, Roberson, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the item approved.

12. Council action to issue a purchase order to Altec Industries, in the amount of \$169,965.00, for a 41 ft. Aerial Truck for the Radio/Communications division of Power and Light.

Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Dougherty, DeLuccie, Roberson, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the item approved.

In response to Councilmember DeLuccie, Mr. Walker provided background information on this item and stated that this item would continue the current contract instead of increasing funds to the FOP.

13. Council Action to approve and authorize the City Manager to enter into a Letter of Agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #1 (FOP) extending the contract with the City of Independence, Missouri, through June 30, 2021.

Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Dougherty, DeLuccie, Roberson, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the item approved.

Mayor Weir stated that a request has been received by the Chamber of Commerce to postpone this item while they obtain more information.

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Councilmembers Roberson and DeLuccie moved to postpone Non-Ordinance Action Item No.

14.

Upon roll call on the motion to postpone, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Dougherty, DeLuccie, Roberson, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the motion approved.

14. Council action is requested to approve a contract with the Independence Chamber of Commerce for the license of the Independence Square public area for the Santa-Cali-Gon Festival from Sept 4, 2020 through September 7, 2020.

In response to Councilmember DeLuccie, Mr. Walker provided background information and stated that the new property owner will be required to make the improvements which will include a parking lot and walking path to the park.

In response to Councilmember Huff, Mr. Walker stated that this was put out for a bid to see if anyone would want to buy the property outright from the city and received no interest.

Councilmember Dougherty stated that this location in the past has only received interest from parties interested in low-income, high density housing which the city rejected. This project will allow the business owner to expand to do repairs on larger trucks as well as create additional parking and park access. Councilmember Dougherty stated that this property has had trash and vagrants removed in the past and this project will allow tax revenue and improve this area by appearance as well.

15. Consideration of a purchase and sale agreement for the property at 15621 E. US 24 Highway to Ramos Properties, LLC in substantially the same form as presented.

Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Dougherty, DeLuccie, Roberson, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the item approved.

Mayor Weir and Mr. Walker provided further explanation about Non-Ordinance Action Item No. 16.

16. Consideration of a License Agreement with the Englewood Business Association for the use of public areas on the Englewood Business District.

Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Dougherty, DeLuccie, Roberson, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the item approved.

In response to Councilmember Roberson, Mr. Walker confirmed that this is allowed for any restaurant in the city that asks for it and obtains the correct permits.

17. Consideration of a License Agreement with the Independence Square Association for the use of public areas on the Independence Square.

Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Dougherty, DeLuccie, Roberson, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the item approved.

ORDINANCES:

Mayor Weir provided additional information regarding this item. Councilmember Roberson stated that he would like to add an amendment to this ordinance to remove funds from small business loans and move them to utility assistance. Councilmember Roberson stated that there are a number of other avenues to provide for small business loans. He also stated that small business loans are not listed in the CDBG documentation. In response to Mayor Weir, Mr. Walker stated that some municipalities have used some of these funds for small business relief loan programs. Mr. Scannell stated that if the CDBG

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funds were to be used for small business relief it would be for Independence businesses to maintain full time jobs within the city. Mr. Scannell stated that these loans would be estimated between \$5000-\$10,000.

In response to Councilmember Roberson, Mr. Scannell stated this plan would differ from the federal SPA because these funds could be used for the operations of the business, not just payroll costs. Mr. Scannell stated that this ordinance would allow the creation of a plan to assist small businesses, but stated that there was no additional information provided to Council because the qualifications have not been defined at this time. This ordinance will allow staff to make suggestions to Council about how to use the funds to assist small businesses.

In response to Councilmember Roberson, Mayor Weir stated this has been a concern of hers. The Mayor stated that the SPA and the PPP are both very robust programs but there are entrepreneurs that would not fall under the ability to get assistance from those programs. The Mayor stated that small businesses with very few or no employees may need other funding options to assist them with other capital expenses and things that would not be covered by those plans. The Mayor stated that utility assistance is very important, and have requested funds from the county and a number of other program options to obtain that assistance.

Councilmember Huff stated that he disagrees with Councilmember Roberson on this issue. He stated that the federal relief loans are not that easy to obtain. Councilmember Huff stated that he gets a lot of calls from small business owners asking how the city will help them because of this crisis. He believes the city should assist small businesses.

In response to Councilmember DeLuccie, The Mayor stated that there are agencies that are actively working in the community to provide these loans. The Mayor stated that the city would not become a lending institution, but provide funds to a working program to distribute these funds for us. Mr. Walker stated that if Council deems it appropriate to go through with the small business loans, staff would advocate that this be managed by an outside entity. Mr. Walker stated that the administration fees would likely range between 10-15% of the total amount allocated.

Councilmember Dougherty stated that he agrees with Councilmember Huff on this issue. He stated that we can put funds into utility assistance at any time and supporting small businesses is very important right now. Councilmember Dougherty stated that he will not support either amendment.

Councilmember Perkins stated that he is also is in support of funding small business loans and called the question.

Councilmember Roberson and DeLuccie moved to amend the amendment to Bill No. 20-036 to move any remaining funds not utilized by small business loans by December 31, 2020 into utility assistance.

Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: DeLuccie and Roberson. Noes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Dougherty, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the motion failed.

Councilmember Roberson and DeLuccie moved to amend Bill No. 20-036 to remove funds from small business loans and move them to utility assistance.

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Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: DeLuccie and Roberson. Noes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Dougherty, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the motion failed.

Bill No. 20-036, entitled, [Ord. #19123]

“AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE AMENDED 2019-2020 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN FOR PROGRAM YEAR 45, AND THE 2020-21 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN FOR PROGRAM YEAR 46 FOR THE CDBG AND HOME PROGRAMS, AUTHORIZING APPLICATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD) FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM YEAR 46 AND THE HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS ACT (HOME) PROGRAM YEAR 26; AMENDMENT OF THE CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN AND 2017-21 CONSOLIDATED PLAN TO ALLOW REGULATORY WAIVERS BY CARES ACT 2020; AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A WRITTEN AGREEMENT AND ACCEPTANCE OF CDBG AND HOME PROGRAM FUNDS UNDER THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1974; AND MAKING THE NECESSARY APPROPRIATIONS.” *[Postponed from 5/18]*

was given its second reading by title and placed on final passage. Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Dougherty, DeLuccie, Roberson, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

Bill No. 20-037, entitled, [Ord. #19124]

“AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM FUNDS AGREEMENT WITH THE MISSOURI HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION FOR THE US 40 HIGHWAY COMPLETE STREETS PROJECT (NO. 111802) AND INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS.”

was given its second reading by title and placed on final passage. Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Dougherty, DeLuccie, Roberson, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

Bill No. 20-038, entitled, [Ord. #19125]

“AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE VACANT LOT ON PERRY ROAD, PARCEL 22-500-03-07-00-0-00-000, AS SURPLUS PROPERTY; AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO DISPOSE OF SAID PROPERTY IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 20 OF THE CITY CODE.”

was given its second reading by title and placed on final passage. Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Dougherty, DeLuccie, Roberson, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

Bill No. 20-040, entitled, [Ord. #19126]

“AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2.10.021 OF THE INDEPENDENCE CITY CODE TO ALLOW ALCOHOL TO BE CONSUMED ON CERTAIN PUBLIC PROPERTY IN ENGLEWOOD BUSINESS DISTRICT PURSUANT TO AN AGREEMENT.”

was given its second reading by title and placed on final passage. Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Dougherty, DeLuccie, Roberson, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

FIRST READINGS:

Bill No. 20-041, entitled

“AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 19084, FINDING, DETERMINING AND DECLARING THE NECESSITY OF ACQUIRING ADDITIONAL GENERAL UTILITY EASEMENTS, AND TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION AND GRADING EASEMENTS FOR THE WALNUT GARDENS STORMWATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT IN THE CRACKERNECK WATERSHED (NO. 70131809); AUTHORIZING THE NEGOTIATION AND EMINENT DOMAIN PROCEEDINGS IF NECESSARY; APPROVING THE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE PROJECT; AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EXPERTS AS NEEDED; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS AND THE PAYMENT OF FUNDS TO PROPERTY OWNERS OR OTHERS HOLDING PROPERTY RIGHTS, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PROJECT.”

was given its first reading by title.

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Bill No. 20-042, entitled

“AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF THE 2020 MIDWEST HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREA (HIDTA) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) FOR THE INVESTIGATIVE SUPPORT CENTER INITIATIVE, AND RELATED DOCUMENTS, WITH THE KANSAS BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, FOR A GRANT AWARD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$143,579.54; MAKING THE NECESSARY APPROPRIATIONS; AUTHORIZING FUTURE CHANGE ORDERS FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING AND/OR TIME EXTENSIONS; AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN FUTURE APPROPRIATIONS.”

was given its first reading by title.

Bill No. 20-043, entitled

“AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF THE 2020 MIDWEST HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREA (HIDTA) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) FOR THE KANSAS CITY / OVERLAND PARK DEA TASK FORCE INITIATIVE, AND RELATED DOCUMENTS, WITH THE KANSAS BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, FOR A GRANT AWARD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$153,166.00; MAKING THE NECESSARY APPROPRIATIONS; AUTHORIZING FUTURE CHANGE ORDERS FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING AND/OR TIME EXTENSIONS; AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN FUTURE APPROPRIATIONS.”

was given its first reading by title.

Bill No. 20-044, entitled

“AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE ANNUAL OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGETS OF THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2020 - JUNE 30, 2021, ESTIMATING THE REVENUES FOR SAID FISCAL YEAR; APPROPRIATING SUMS FOR THE PURPOSES STATED IN SAID BUDGET, ESTABLISHING OPERATING TRANSFERS, DESIGNATING FUND BALANCE ALLOCATIONS, ESTABLISHING THE AUTHORIZED TABLE OF ORGANIZATION, AND DESIGNATING THOSE WHO MAY MAKE A REQUISITION FOR ENCUMBRANCES AGAINST APPROPRIATIONS.”

was given its first reading by title.

Bill No. 20-505, entitled, [Ord. #19127]

“AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2019- 2020 BUDGET, WHICH WAS APPROVED BY ORDINANCE NO. 19017.” *Appropriation ordinances may receive two readings and be voted on at the same meeting.*

was given its first and second reading by title and placed on final passage. Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Dougherty, DeLuccie, Roberson, Van Camp and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

Councilmember Roberson stated that he believes this should be turned down and renegotiated next year. Councilmember Roberson stated that he does not believe any increases should be approved when they could potentially be paid using borrowed funds.

Councilmember DeLuccie stated that the city cannot afford the 1% increase. Councilmember DeLuccie stated that she does not want to single out any group of city employees, that all employees do a great job. She stated that because everyone in the city is not eligible for wage increases, she is not in favor of this bill.

Bill No. 20-506, entitled

“AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, LOCAL UNION 53, FOR THE TERM OF NOVEMBER 1, 2019 THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2021; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.”

was given its first and second reading by title and placed on final passage. Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Dougherty and Mayor Weir. Noes – Councilmembers: DeLuccie, Roberson and Van Camp. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the bill failed.

In response to Mayor Weir, City Clerk, Becky Behrens stated that this required a two-thirds majority vote, so the bill fails.

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INFORMATION ONLY:

1. Legislative Report Update

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS:

Councilmember DeLuccie stated she wanted to thank Sugar Creek because for the first time in a long time the area of 24 Highway and Northern did not flood.

Councilmember Roberson reminded everyone to vote and reassured that the polls will be sanitized and safe. He thanked the KCATA for funding for the bus service over the next year and looks forward to improving the bus system in the future.

Councilmember Van Camp urged the public to vote in the election tomorrow. Councilmember Van Camp also urged that people where masks when they leave their homes and stated that it is important to step up safety measures and not back off.

Councilmember Huff asked if there is a way to have a group of citizens that could evaluate police complaints that were received in an effort to have more transparency. Councilmember Huff stated he has been working hard on bringing fireworks back to the city for the children and he will be able to provide more information tomorrow.

Mayor Weir stated that she would be willing to help in Councilmember Huff's firework efforts if she can. The Mayor stated many city buildings and businesses were able to open their doors today with the start of Phase 1. The Mayor stated that things seemed to be going pretty smoothly with temperature checks and other protective measures. Mayor Weir stated that she agrees with Councilmember Van Camp and hopes that people continue to practice safe social distancing and mask wearing. The Mayor thanked the community and stated that she knows it has been difficult to live under these restrictions. The Mayor stated that some of our boards and commissions will begin meeting more regularly, such as the Diversity and Inclusion Task Force. The Mayor stated that she believes it is essential to continue that conversation as well as the diversity training that has been considered. Mayor Weir stated that some of the decisions made today regarding the budget need to be monitored and we need to continue to find savings and be frugal with our spending.

At 7:45 p.m., there being no further business, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned to a Regular Meeting at 6:00 p.m., June 15, 2020, in the Council Chambers.

Presiding Officer of the City Council
of the City of Independence, Missouri

ATTEST:

City Clerk