

REGULAR MEETING March 15, 2021

The Independence City Council met for a Regular Meeting, March 15, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, 111 E. Maple.

Shirley Murdock, member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints provided the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Pro Tem, Mike Huff, 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, Brice Stewart and Mike Steinmeyer. Councilmembers Karen DeLuccie and Daniel Hobart attended virtually. The following members of the City Council were absent: Mayor Eileen Weir.

CITIZENS REQUESTS:

Laura Dominik spoke to Council regarding employee recognition.

PRESENTATION RESOLUTION:

Councilmembers Steinmeyer and Perkins moved to approve Bill No. 21-726.

Bill No. 21-726, entitled, [Res. #6655]
 “A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JORDAN ELLENA, DEVELOPMENT MANAGER, WITH THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, AS THE EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH FOR MARCH, 2021.”
 Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Stewart, DeLuccie, Steinmeyer, and Hobart. Noes – None. Absent – Mayor Weir. The Mayor Pro Tem declared the bill approved.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER:

Councilmember Stewart requested that Item No. 8 be pulled for separate consideration.

Councilmembers Steinmeyer and Perkins moved to approve the AMENDED CONSENT AGENDA minus Item No. 8 to be considered separately.

1. Approval and acceptance of revised Obligation Documents from the US Marshals Service, in connection with Police Department overtime worked for the Joint Law Enforcement Operations Task Force.
2. Council action is requested to authorize the City Manager to approve a construction contract with Superior Bowen for an amount not to exceed \$664,330.00, for the 2021 Full and Partial depth Asphalt Patching (Project No. 112010).
3. Council action to issue a purchase order to Mark One Electric, in the amount of \$1,520,244.22, for Substation K South Feeder Construction for the Power & Light Department.
4. Council action is requested for acceptance of a Warning Siren Project Grant agreement.
5. Council action is requested to issue a one (1) year contract, with two (2), one-year renewal periods for Rotary Kiln Lime with Mississippi Lime for the Water Department.
6. Council action is requested in accepting a grant from the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency for the Emergency Management Performance Grant Program and estimating revenue and increasing appropriations in the amount of \$369,340.58 in the Grants Fund.
7. Council action is requested to issue a five-year contract with the United States Geological Survey Department of the Interior for Water Quality Monitoring of Urban Streams within the City for Municipal Services.

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Bill No. 21-727, entitled, [Res. #6656]

“A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A STATEMENT OF COMMON PURPOSE TO RENEW AND EXPAND THE EASTERN JACKSON COUNTY SHARED SERVICE COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP.”

Bill No. 21-728, entitled, [Res. #6657]

“A RESOLUTION APPOINTING SARAH SCHOFIELD-WIMBERLEY AS A MEMBER TO THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT OF THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.” – *Council Interview Committee Recommendation*

Bill No. 21-729, entitled, [Res. #6658]

“A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING MARY HOUSE AND BRYCE YOUNG AND APPOINTING JAMES LLOYD AND LISA FRANK AS A MEMBERS OF THE BRAND INDEPENDENCE COMMITTEE.” – *Individual Appointments-Councilmembers: Mike Steinmeyer, John Perkins, Karen DeLuccie and Dan Hobart*

Bill No. 21-730, entitled, [Res. #6659]

“A RESOLUTION APPOINTING ROBERT PRUENTE JR. AND DEBORAH TWYMAN AS MEMBERS OF THE HERITAGE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.” – *Council Interview Committee Recommendation*

Bill No. 21-731, entitled, [Res. #6660]

“A RESOLUTION APPOINTING DARRYL FIELDS AND ANTHONY HAMMOND AS MEMBERS OF THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.” – *Council Interview Committee Recommendation*

Bill No. 21-732, entitled, [Res. #6661]

“A RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI, AND THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS, LOCAL 781 FOR THE TERM OF MARCH 31ST, 2021, THROUGH APRIL 30TH, 2021.”

Upon roll call, the vote to approve the AMENDED CONSENT AGENDA was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Stewart, DeLuccie, Steinmeyer, and Hobart. Noes – None. Absent – Mayor Weir. The Mayor Pro Tem declared the motion carried and the AMENDED CONSENT AGENDA was approved.

In response to Councilmember Stewart, Major Ed Turner with the Police Department provided additional information regarding the MOU between the city and the Hawthorne Associates for police coverage at Hawthorne Place Apartments.

Councilmembers Stewart and Steinmeyer moved to approve Item No. 8.

8. Council Action is requested to accept a one (1) year Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Independence, Hawthorne Associates L. P. and POAH Communities related to police coverage at Hawthorne Place Apartments in the amount of \$109,023.00.

Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmember Huff, Perkins, Stewart, DeLuccie, Steinmeyer, and Hobart. Noes – None. Absent – Mayor Weir. The Mayor Pro Tem declared the item approved.

NON-ORDINANCE ACTION ITEMS:

1. Council action is requested for approval of 2021-2022 Casualty Insurance (Liability) Renewal.

Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmember Huff, Perkins, Stewart, DeLuccie, Steinmeyer, and Hobart. Noes – None. Absent – Mayor Weir. The Mayor Pro Tem declared the item approved.

ORDINANCES:

Bill No. 21-009, entitled, [Ord. #19198]

“AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH COMMUNITY CAPITAL FUND FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF A SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR SMALL BUSINESSES RECOVERY UTILIZING COMMUNITY

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DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG-CV) FUNDS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$125,000.00.” was given its second reading by title and placed on final passage. Councilmember DeLuccie stated that Item B-3 of this bill it states that client data information can be made public if requested, and she would like this data made public. Councilmember DeLuccie stated that Item C-4 states that progress reports can be provided if requested and she would like those provided as well.

In response to Councilmember Steinmeyer, Acting City Manager, Adam Norris, stated we can change the contract to include whatever reporting increment that the Council would like.

Councilmember DeLuccie suggested a report be given monthly or quarterly without the need to amend the contract.

In response to Councilmember Hobart, Mr. Alonzo with Community Capital stated that there should be no problem providing an interim report and a final report. He does not believe it will take long to deploy the funds. Mr. Alonzo stated that he will also work on the requests to disclose information requested by Councilmember DeLuccie as well.

Upon roll call of Bill No. 21-009, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmember Huff, Perkins, Stewart, DeLuccie, Steinmeyer, and Hobart. Noes – None. Absent – Mayor Weir. The Mayor Pro Tem declared the bill approved.

FIRST READINGS:

Bill No. 21-010, entitled
“AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE REMOVAL AND DESTRUCTION OF MUNICIPAL COURT RECORDS THAT HAVE MET ALL REQUIREMENTS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR SUCH DESTRUCTION AND ARE THE SUBJECT OF CIRCUIT COURT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2021-214.”
was given its first reading by title.

Bill No. 21-011, entitled
“AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A REZONING FROM DISTRICT C-2 (GENERAL COMMERCIAL) TO DISTRICT R-6 (SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) FOR THE PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 1327 & 1329 S. MAIN STREET, IN INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.”
was given its first reading by title.

Bill No. 21-012, entitled
“AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A REZONING FROM DISTRICT C-2 (GENERAL COMMERCIAL) TO R-6 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) FOR THE PROPERTY AT 2301 S. GLENWOOD AVENUE, IN INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.”
was given its first reading by title.

Bill No. 21-013, entitled
“AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A REZONING FROM DISTRICT C-2 (GENERAL COMMERCIAL) TO DISTRICT R-30/PUD (HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL/PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT) AND A PRELIMINARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 9401 E. 23RD STREET IN INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.”
was given its first reading by title.

Bill No. 21-014, entitled
“AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A CONTRACT WITH JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI, WHICH CALLS FOR JACKSON COUNTY TO PROVIDE FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$300,000.00 TO THE CITY FOR INDEPENDENCE POLICE DEPARTMENT’S LAW ENFORCEMENT SCHOOL BASED INITIATIVE CALLED S.T.E.P.”
was given its first reading by title.

Bill No. 21-015, entitled
“AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 8 ARTICLE 6 “PURCHASES AND SALES” SECTION 2, SECTION 3, SECTION

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4. AND SECTION 6. AND DIRECTING CITY STAFF TO AMEND THE PROCUREMENT POLICY ACCORDINGLY.” –
Requested by Councilmember Brice Stewart
was given its first reading by title.

INFORMATION ONLY:

1. The City Council has requested that the State of Emergency Proclamation be reviewed every 30 days for wording and compliance as directed at the August 3, 2020 Regular Meeting of the City Council.
2. COVID-19 Semi-Monthly Update.
3. Report on purchase agreements between \$50,000 and \$100,000 per Procurement Policy.
4. The City Clerk's Office is in receipt of the Independence Events Center Community Improvement District Proposed Budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.
5. Police Department Recruiting Memo.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS:

In response to Councilmember DeLuccie, Mr. Norris stated Parks and Recreation funds were not, and will not be, used for City Hall signs. Mr. Norris stated that the funds used were from revenue received from negotiating a billboard lease at the Independence Events Center. Mr. Norris stated that the Parks and Recreation Department are managing the project.

Councilmember DeLuccie stated that on Saturday she was in the 1st District and she saw a beautiful garden of flowers on Lexington done by a local artist and she thanked Councilmember Perkins for bringing that to our city.

Councilmember Perkins thanked the Council for rezoning the area Councilmember DeLuccie spoke about so the individuals could have a live-work space at that location. Councilmember Perkins stated that Amy and Tim, the owners, are great artists and created a lot of beautiful art to help Independence.

Councilmember Steinmeyer stated that he appreciates the efforts by Mr. Norris and his team to get trash picked up along 40 Highway and it looks much better. Councilmember Steinmeyer mentioned the Information Only Item No. 5. He stated that we have had a lot of applicants roll through, but it doesn't look like we are getting as many that are able to pass all the testing. Councilmember Steinmeyer stated that he knows we have had some recent retirements and we have more open positions. Councilmember Steinmeyer stated we really need to put recruiting into high gear and we need to get positions filled. He stated he would like to hear more about the recruiting process from staff as well.

In response to Councilmember Steinmeyer, Police Chief, Brad Halsey, stated that recruitment is one of their top priorities. Chief Halsey stated that he believes with the current testing processes going on now, all the General Fund positions will be able to be filled. He stated that does not mean they will be ready to go, but they will be going to the Academy to become certified officers or they are certified officers we can prepare for patrol. Chief Halsey stated that this will continue to be a priority for the Police Department.

At 6:27 p.m., there being no further business, the Mayor Pro Tem declared the meeting adjourned to a Regular Meeting at 6:00 p.m., April 5, 2021, in the Council Chambers.

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

ATTEST:

City Clerk