

REGULAR MEETING

August 15, 2022

The Independence City Council met for a Regular Meeting, August 15, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, 111 E. Maple.

Jim Parcel, Pastor, East 39th Community of Christ Church provided the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Rory Rowland, Presiding Officer of the City Council, called the meeting to order. Upon roll call, the following members of the City Council were present: Jared Fears, John Perkins, Brice Stewart, Mike Steinmeyer, Daniel Hobart and Mayor Rory Rowland. Absent – None. *At the time of this meeting, one At-Large seat on the Council is currently vacant.*

Councilmembers Hobart and Perkins moved to suspend the Rules of Procedure to take items out of order.

Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Fears, Perkins, Stewart, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Rowland. Noes – None. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the motion approved.

Councilmembers Hobart and Perkins moved to postpone Bill No. 22-799 until the September 6, 2022, Council Meeting. Councilmember Hobart spoke about this item and will move for a small committee working together to come up with a better option. Councilmember Steinmeyer ask for clarification that the option for a small committee is acceptable for the parties being represented. Upon roll call to postpone Bill No. 22-799, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Fears, Perkins, Stewart, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Rowland. Noes – None. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the motion approved.

Councilmembers Hobart and Perkins moved to create a committee to review health insurance options, with the following members appointed: Zach Walker (City Manager), Jared Fears (Councilmember), Bob Sorensen (President of the LAGERS retiree group) and Mike Veit (Chair of the Stay Well Committee). Councilmember Hobart is hopeful that this small group can make a united helpful solution that all parties can support.

Upon roll call to, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Fears, Perkins, Stewart, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Rowland. Noes – None. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the motion approved.

Councilmembers Perkins and Hobart moved to postpone Bill No. 22-075 and the public hearing indefinitely.

Upon roll call to, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Fears, Perkins, Stewart, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Rowland. Noes – None. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the motion approved.

Councilmembers Hobart and Fears moved to suspend the Rules of Procedure to allow non-residents to speak during Citizen Requests.

Upon roll call to, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Fears, Perkins, Stewart, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Rowland. Noes – None. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the motion approved.

CITIZENS REQUEST TO SPEAK:

Mayor Rowland provided some guidelines for speakers to follow when speaking to Council.

George Kapke spoke to Council regarding Proposed rezoning and PUD Plan approval at 2610-2612 S. Lee's Summit Rd. Councilmember Perkins clarified that because this item has been postponed, the item will not be considered by the Council this evening.

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Bruce Gibbs spoke to Council regarding Proposed rezoning and PUD Plan approval at 2610-2612 S. Lee's Summit Rd.

City Counselor, Jeremy Cover, clarified that Bill No. 22-075 has been postponed and stated that this item will not come before Council again unless or until a member of Council brings this back up, but does not prevent the applicant from submitting a new application at a later time.

Chuck Foudree spoke to Council regarding Proposed rezoning and PUD Plan approval at 2610-2612 S. Lee's Summit Rd.

Michael Veit spoke to Council on behalf of the Stay Well Committee regarding insurance benefits.

Chris Fairbank spoke to Council on behalf of the Independence Fire Fighters IAFF Local 781.

Bob Sorensen spoke to Council on behalf of the retirees regarding Bill No. 22-789 regarding Stay Well health insurance.

Marla Kimsey spoke to Council regarding Stay Well and healthcare.

Cheryl Colter spoke to Council regarding the Summit Living Townhomes.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER:

Councilmember Stewart requested that Bill No. 22-798 be pulled for separate consideration.

Councilmembers Hobart and Fears moved to approve the AMENDED CONSENT AGENDA minus Item No. 9.

1. Council action is requested to issue a purchase order to Garver LLC in the amount of \$299,810 for a Water and Municipal Services Operations Complex facilities needs & site assessment.
2. Council action is requested to issue a purchase order to Altec Industries, Inc. (Altec), in the amount of \$212,546.00, for a bucket truck for the Power and Light Department.
3. Council action is requested to issue a purchase order to Altec Industries, Inc. (Altec), in the amount of \$212,546.00, for a bucket truck for the Power and Light Department.
4. Council approval to issue a purchase order to Crawford Murphy & Tilly (CMT), in the amount of \$98,000.00 for a Water Treatment Residual Disposal Best Professional Judgement (BPJ) Study for the Water Department.

Bill No. 22-795, entitled, [Res. #6847]

“A RESOLUTION APPOINTING BUD PERRIN TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY COMMISSIONERS.” – *Individual Appointment-Mayor Rory Rowland*

Bill No. 22-796, entitled, [Res. #6848]

“A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF MIRIAM KEITH TO THE JACKSON COUNTY ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE FOR THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.” – *Individual Appointment-Mayor Rory Rowland*

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Bill No. 22-797, entitled, [Res. #6849]

“A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF BRUCE FRAKES TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY TAX OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE FOR THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.” – *Individual Appointment-Councilmember Dan Hobart*

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

Councilmember Stewart shared his feelings regarding the appointments to the Mayor’s Advisory Commission on Ethics Reform and stated he will be voting no on this item.

Councilmembers Stewart and Steinmeyer moved to approve Bill No. 22-798.

Bill No. 22-798, entitled, [Res. #6850]

“A RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE MAYOR’S ADVISORY COMMISSION ON ETHICS REFORM.” – *Individual Appointment-Mayor Rory Rowland*

Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Fears, Perkins, Hobart and Mayor Rowland. Noes – Councilmembers: Stewart and Steinmeyer. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

ORDINANCES:

Bill No. 22-059, entitled, [Ord. #19363]

“AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE PETITION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE EASTGATE COMMERCE CENTER COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT, ESTABLISHING THE DISTRICT, MAKING FINDINGS AND AUTHORIZING ACTIONS RELATED TO ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DISTRICT.”

was given its second reading by title and placed on final passage. Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Fears, Perkins, Stewart, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Rowland. Noes – None. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

Bill No. 22-072, entitled, [Ord. #19364]

“AN ORDINANCE VACATING AND CHANGING AN EXISTING RIGHT-OF-WAY TO A GENERAL UTILITY EASEMENT, ALL THAT PART OF OLD LEXINGTON ROAD FROM THE EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF N BAY AVENUE TO THE WESTERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF U. S. 24 HIGHWAY, IN THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER, SECTION 20, TOWNSHIP 50, RANGE 31, CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI.”

was given its second reading by title and placed on final passage. Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Fears, Perkins, Stewart, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Rowland. Noes – None. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

Bill No. 22-073, entitled, [Ord. #19365]

“AN ORDINANCE REDISTRICTING THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE FOR THE CITY COUNCIL DISTRICTS; REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 15219 AND ALL OTHER ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.”

was given its second reading by title and placed on final passage. Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Fears, Perkins, Stewart, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Rowland. Noes – None. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

Bill No. 22-074, entitled, [Postponed to 9/6]

“AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO THE ELECTRIC SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS.” was given its second reading by title and placed on final passage.

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Councilmembers Stewart and Steinmeyer moved to postpone Bill No. 22-074 to the September 6, 2022, Council Meeting to allow a Study Session presentation about what rules and regulations are being changed. Councilmember Steinmeyer shared his feelings that he would also like a presentation on this item and wants to be sure the standards are not lowered. In response to Councilmember Fears, Mr. Walker advised that postponing this does not cause any issues.

Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Fears, Perkins, Stewart, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Rowland. Noes – None. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the motion approved.

FIRST READINGS:

Bill No. 22-076, entitled

“AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF A PURCHASE ORDER TO GULF STATES DISTRIBUTORS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT’S ANNUAL AMMUNITION ORDER FOR \$122,835.00; AUTHORIZING FUTURE CHANGE ORDERS NOT TO EXCEED \$2,000.00; AND APPROPRIATING \$66,450.00 FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT’S USE TAX FUND BALANCE TO PARTIALLY FUND THIS PURCHASE.”

was given its first reading by title.

Bill No. 22-077, entitled

“AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2 OF THE CITY CODE, “ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.”

was given its first reading by title.

Bill No. 22-506, entitled, [Ord. #19366]

“AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 5 ARTICLE 16 “CARNIVAL AND CIRCUS AMUSEMENT RIDES AND DEVICES” OF THE INDEPENDENCE CITY CODE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.”

was given its first and second reading by title and placed on final passage. In response to Mayor Rowland, Mr. Walker confirmed that this update will need to be made during this meeting, as our next Council Meeting falls after the SantiCaliGon Festival and the Chamber has asked that this be updated prior to the event. In response to Mayor Rowland, Councilmember Stewart stated that he is in support of this item. Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Fears, Perkins, Stewart, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Rowland. Noes – None. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

INFORMATION ONLY:

1. Municipal Division monthly case report July 2022
2. Purchase orders 23000044, 23000106, 23000150, 23000158, 23000159 and 23000174, in the amounts of \$132,156.60, \$120,309.35, \$119,782.08, \$116,052.59, \$127,257.21 and \$137,087.19 were issued to Frazier Oil Company for Substation Fuel Oil for the Power & Light Department.
3. Purchase order 23000068 for \$152,884.00 was issued to Cogent Inc (DBA Cogent) for the replacement of High Services Pump #4 at the Courtney Bend Water Treatment Plant for the Water Department.
4. Please Note: In accordance with RSMo 610.021, the City Council may convene in an Executive Session at 5:15 pm, in the Council Chambers and move to Conference Room D for the closed meeting, on matters of litigation, legal action, and/or attorney client communications, as permitted by Sec. 610.021(1), on matters of personnel, as permitted by Sec. 610.021(3) and personnel records, as permitted by 610.021(13), on matters of contracts, as permitted by 610.021(12), on matters of real estate, as permitted by 610.021(2) and/or matters of labor negotiations, as permitted by 610.021(9).

Councilmembers Hobart and Perkins moved to amend his earlier motion and to add Cindy Culp (member of LAGERS and Stay Well Committee) as a member to the health insurance review committee created this evening.

Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Fears, Perkins, Stewart, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Rowland. Noes – None. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

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COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS:

Councilmember Perkins thanked Municipal Services for working on a recently awarded grant. Councilmember Perkins thanked the Independence Alive and Well group for working on picking up trash on the Square. Councilmember Perkins discussed the Jones Road closure.

Councilmember Fears shared his experience viewing a number of city parks with the Parks Department staff. Councilmember Fears thanked staff for helping him learn about things going on in the city. Councilmember Fears stated that he appreciates the confidence placed in him to serve on the health insurance review committee and will give his best effort.

Councilmember Hobart addressed staff stating that they are heard and seen. Councilmember Hobart stated that he is hopeful that this small committee can come up with a plan that will work for everyone. Councilmember Hobart stated that Council intends to try to help solve this insurance issue and asked that good energy and good faith is put into this moving forward.

Mayor Rowland thanked everyone for coming to speak tonight and understands where they are coming from and appreciates their passion.

At 7:15 p.m. the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned to a Regular Meeting at 6:00 p.m., September 6, 2022, in the Council Chambers.

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

ATTEST:

City Clerk