



City Council Meeting Minutes

February 10, 2020

7:00 p.m.

Mayor: John McTaggart
Councilmember Chuck Adams Carolyn Caiharr Garrett Mellott
Margaret Shriver

1. **Approve minutes of January 27, 2020**
 - **Motion:** Councilmember Adams made the motion to approve the minutes from January 27, 2020 as presented
 - **Second:** Councilmember Mellott seconded the motion
 - **Vote:** Passes 4-0
2. **Statement of Bills paid \$340,501.06**
 - **Motion:** Councilmember Mellott made the motion to approve the statement of bills paid in the amount of \$340,501.06
 - **Second:** Councilmember Caiharr seconded the motion
 - **Vote:** Passes 4-0
3. **Requests or Comments from the public**
 - Jeff Boddy, 1205 S. 103rd St., took the podium to question the City Council on their intention to lower City taxes. Mr. Boddy then recited statistics related to increases in his taxes going back a number of years.
4. **Consider recommendation of approval from the Planning Commission regarding Replat/Final Plat for 10900/10820/10750 Village South Parkway and acceptance of dedicated public rights-of-way and easements**
 - City Planner Dave Knopick reviewed this item and provided background related to the requested action
 - Mr. Knopick presented a map of the area and emphasized the two parcels that would be affected. In short, the action would replat this area into two lots with three tracts. No other changes to the zoning special taxing districts would occur due to this action.
 - Mr. Knopick reviewed the Planning Commission public hearing, noting that there were no comments protesting this change. He also noted the modification to condition #2 included in the City Council agenda memo.
 - Councilmember Adams asked what the advantages/disadvantages were to both the property owner and the City with this request. Mr. Knopick responded that there are no real advantages either way and that this action may be related to the marketing of the plots for commercial purposes.
 - **Motion:** Councilmember Adams made the motion to approve the Replat/Final Plat as presented with the conditions noted in the agenda memo, including the amended condition noted in the City Council agenda memo
 - **Second:** Councilmember Mellott seconded the motion
 - **Vote:** Passes 4-0
5. **Hear presentation regarding the 4th Quarter Budget Review for the Fiscal Year 2019**

- Assistant City Manager Zack Daniel presented this item, noting that this will serve as an unaudited budget report for the fiscal year 2019
- Mr. Daniel reviewed the large revenue items in the General Fund (sources exceeding \$100,000) as well as the overall expenditure levels of the General Fund. In short, the General Fund currently shows that it exceeded initial revenue projects by approximately 1.2% but also exceeded budgeted expenditures by 0.8%. Both of these overages could be attributed to costs associated with the Village South project building permit as well as increased court revenue/expenditures.
- Mr. Daniel then reviewed the other funds of the City.
- Councilmember Adams had additional questions about projected increases from gaming revenue, which Mr. Daniel noted are based on historical performance data.
- There was also additional discussion on the appropriate cash balance levels for the Solid Waste fund.
- There was no action required as part of this presentation

6. Advisory Reports

City Manager: City Manager Michael Webb made some remarks clarifying some of the data Mr. Boddy presented during public comments. He asserted that staff and the City Council have both made efforts to maintain or lower the mill levy for a number of years. He also reminded the group about the Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting, taking place at the end of February. Mr. Webb closed by stating that there would be presentations from WYEDC and the UG Commission at the next meeting.

Assistant City Manager Zack Daniel noted that the Council would likely be hearing staff proposals related to the Cemetery and Parks Boards at the next meeting.

Police: Chief Mathies noted that there is a graduation from the police academy coming up and that the department is reviewing updated crime rate data.

Fire: Chief Whitham noted that the Department has begun the process to go after various grants. Deputy Chief Morrow also noted that the department is reviewing collection process for EMS billing.

Public Works: Mr. Webb updated the group on the search for the new Director.

7. Council and Mayor Comments

Adams: Councilmember Adams voiced his support for the new concept for the Cemetery/Parks board. In response to Mr. Boddy's comments, he is very cognizant of property taxes but is also concerned with providing the highest level of service and public safety to Edwardsville residents.

Caiharr: Councilmember asked for an update on the new Parks position, which Mr. Webb responded that this position won't be filled until a new Director is hired. That said, the maintenance crew is currently staffed with its regular employees as well as a part-time employee. Councilmember Caiharr also noted she has seen litter along the roads that may need to get addressed by City staff. She also volunteered her service to help.

Shriver: Councilmember Shriver thanked staff for the quarterly budget reports. She also asked follow-up questions of Police Chief Mathies regarding the data he

referenced in his earlier comments. This information will be explored more fully during the 2019 departmental review.

City Councilmembers Caiharr, Mellott and Adams added additional comments that they do all care about transparency, and for that reason they do not support discussing items brought up during public comment. This would take away the ability for residents to know what items will be discussed by the City Council prior to the meeting. Items that warrant additional discussion can always be forwarded to City staff for follow-up or included on a future agenda. Specifically, Mr. Mellott also stated he wanted to see increased communication efforts outside of the electronic and social media avenues.

Mayor McTaggart: Mayor McTaggart congratulated Chief Whitham and Police Sergeant Johnson for their recent recognition by Kansas State Senator Kevin Braun. He closed by affirming that the entire City Council shares the property tax burden voiced by citizens.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.n.

Zachary Daniel
City Clerk