

The City of Pleasant Hope
5492 Highway H
Pleasant Hope, Mo 65725
Minutes for City Council Meeting
August 15, 2011

1. **Call to Order** – Mayor Harralson called the meeting to order at 7pm.
2. **Roll call** - Present: Aldermen: Jamie Hannaford, Diana Shanks, Michael Brakebill, and Gary Dooley. Also present City Clerk Lynn Esser, Public Works Director Rick Davis, Chief Ricardo Lopez and City Attorney Mel Gilbert.
3. **Moment of Silent Prayer**
4. **Approval of Agenda** - Diana Shanks moved to approve the agenda. Jamie Hannaford second. All in favor none opposed.
5. **Approval of Minutes** – June 18, 2011 Minutes – Diana Shanks moved to approve the Minutes of June 18, 2011. Gary Dooley second. All in favor none opposed.
6. **Approval of Pending Bills** – Gary Dooley moved to approve the payment of pending bills. Jamie Hannaford second. All in favor none opposed.
7. **Comments and Questions from the public**
 - a) **Brent Offerdahl** – Need for a police presence at the schools – not present
 - b) **Citizen complaint** – large smelly truck trailers on Farmer’s Market Lot – Council has spoken to Doug Mullings about the trucks.
 - c) **Bev Wilson – Tickets** – Ms. Wilson, owner of the PowerBlast addressed Council with concerns about the volume of tickets being written in Pleasant Hope hurting her business, the high cost of a Pleasant Hope tickets compared to other communities, tickets being written for under 10-miles per hour over the speed limit and she requested an accounting of the incomes received from the Municipal fines. She also advised Council that other businesses in the community; Diamond K, Laney’s and the banks are all concerned about these same issues. Mel Gilbert, City Attorney and Prosecutor for the City of Pleasant Hope addressed Ms. Wilson’s concerns. He explained how the rates were established in 2005. He iterated a list of Municipal Courts that have the same rates as Pleasant Hope. He offered to allow her to look at all the tickets written in Pleasant Hope to prove that the City does not write tickets for under 10-mp – Ms Wilson declined to review the tickets which were brought to the meeting by the Chief. Mr. Gilbert asked for names of people that received said the tickets she was concerned about so he could pull them for Council to review, but Ms. Wilson declined to give any names. Ms. Wilson questioned tickets given for not having your driver’s license readily available when stopped by an officer. Mr. Gilbert advised her that in the State of Missouri your driver’s license, insurance and registration is a requirement when stopped, but if you have those documents and bring them to Court than your ticket will be reevaluated. Ms. Wilson was provided with the last Semi Annual Statement, a written schedule of fines and the monthly police activity reports for June and July which provides Council with a look at both the number of tickets given and the number of warnings given. She was also advised that a total of 64 tickets were issued for the last six month period if she would like to review them. She declined. She was asked if 64 tickets were too many and are they really hurting her business. She responded that her car wash revenues, tire revenues were up year over year and her lubes were flat but growing. Her concern was the lost revenue from customers that would have done business with her had the ticket writing been less. She did not comment on a volume of 64 tickets written over the last six months when asked several times if that was too many tickets.
8. **Old Business:**
 - a) **Status on new water line under Hwy 215 East of Hwy H** – Rick Davis reported that the only thing he is waiting on is a permit from the State.
 - b) **Status on Business Licenses** – Lynn Esser reported that all Pleasant Hope businesses are current on their business license.
 - c) **Status on paving Bradley St** – Rick Davis reported that we were on the schedule for late September.
 - d) **Status on purchasing of vehicles from Government Fleet Svc.** –Rick Davis reported that the 4-wheel drive Dodge Durango that the Chief was trading for was in great condition and was purchased using the black&white as trade-in. However, the truck that they had hoped to purchase was in worst shape than our own so they did not make the buy. The drive back from Kansas City was not good on the City truck, it lost a donut gasket on the exhaust and the main seal on the rear-end. Repairs will be needed before it can be driven. Rick asked for permission to seriously look for a good truck for the City and would like Council to give him permission, with a dollar cap, to place bids at auctions as well as dealers and private sellers. He also asked permission to attend a municipality auction in Leawood, KS on August 28, 2011 and use the Crown Vic to get there. Michael Brakebill moved to authorize the purchase of a 1-ton, 4x4,

pickup truck for the City not to exceed \$5,000 and to allow Rick to attend the municipality auction in Leawood, KS on August 28, 2011. Gary Dooley second. All in favor none opposed.

- e) **Status on Excessive Vegetation clean up** – Lynn Esser reported that eleven letters were issued and four phone calls have been made. Most of the cleanup was slowed by the extreme heat but progress is being made.
- f) **Status on EEZ Board Membership** – Mayor Harralson advised Council that a ballot process was being used to choose one board member to represent all municipalities and entities that receive income from taxation, except for the schools. Rick Davis in on that ballot, but results have not been announced.

9. New Business

- a) **Bill #114 – An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Quit Claim Deed to DD Properties & Investments in the City of Pleasant Hope.** Gary Dooley moved to have the 1st reading of Bill #114 by title only. Michael Brakebill second. All in favor none opposed. Mayor Harralson read Bill #114 aloud by title only. Michael Brakebill moved to approve the 1st reading of Bill #114 and to have the second reading of Bill #114 by title only. Gary Dooley second. All in favor none opposed. Mayor Harralson read aloud Bill #114 by title only. Michael Brakebill moved to approve the 2nd reading of Bill #114 and to pass Bill #114. Roll Call Vote – Gary Dooley-yes, Michael Brakebill-yes, Diana Shanks-yes and Jamie Hannaford-yes. Bill #114 passed and was assigned Ordinance #265.
 - b) **Opening of Bids for 2011-2012 Propane Service** – Lynn Esser advised Council that only one bid was received. The bid from Dallas County propane was opened. Attorney Mel Gilbert advised Council that since only one bid was received the City can try to negotiate a better price. Michael Brakebill moved to table the propane bid approval until the next regular meeting September 19, 2011. Diana Shanks second. All in favor none opposed. Council requested the City Clerk to call the bidder and validate that the bid was their best offer and report at next meeting.
 - c) **Sewer Certificate of Deposit Maturing this month** – Lynn Esser advised Council that a non-renewable Sewer Certificate of Deposit held at Community Bank of Pleasant Hope will mature on 8/26/2011. Diana moved to cash the CD on maturity and put the money in the Sewer Fund. Gary Dooley second. All in favor none opposed.
 - d) **2012 Budget Preparation Schedule** – Lynn Esser reported the she is starting to prepare the 2012 Budget and will be working with department heads to assess their needs for the end of 2011 and what they perceive their needs to be for 2012. She provided Council with a Budget Preparation Schedule.
 - e) **Review of Water & Sewer Rate Tables** – Lynn Esser, Troy Copeland. Lynn Esser reported that as part of the recommendation by the State Auditor, the City should review their utility rates every few years to make sure they are appropriate. Troy Copeland has worked extensively on preparing a replacement and extension list for both water and sewer. Using formulas provided by the Department of Natural Resources and Missouri Rural Water Lynn Esser created a 20-Year Annualized Schedule with rates to support Troy's replacement and extension cost. Both the water rates and the sewer rates are appropriately established at this time.
10. **Mayor's Communications** – Mayor Harralson had no items to discuss.
11. **Park Committee Report** – Written report was provided by Margaret Gregory. the Park Committee is working on a Trick'r'Treat night in the park on October 29, 2011, making plans for the Fall Festival on October 1, 2011 and planning a float for the December Parade.
12. **Monthly Report Attorney** – Report there would be no Court scheduled in September due to lack of volume of tickets. Next Court date October 13, 2011.
13. **Monthly Report City Clerk** – Lynn Esser provided Council with all the monthly reports for July for both the water and financials.
14. **Monthly Report Public Works** – Nothing further to report.
15. **Monthly Report Police Dept** – Chief Lopez provided Council a written report of the department activities as well as the training that he attended in Joplin.
16. **Motion to go into closed session pursuant to RSMo 610.021, litigation, real estate, hiring, firing, disciplining of employees.** At 9:30pm Gary Dooley moved to go into closed session pursuant to RSMo 610.021(2) real estate. Michal Brakebill second. Roll Call Vote; Jamie Hannaford-yes, Diana Shanks-yes, Michael Brakebill-yes and Gary Dooley-yes. Mayor Harralson announced that Council was going into closed session. At 9:35pm City Clerk announced that Council was back in open session.
17. **Adjourn** – Jamie Hannaford moved to adjourn. Michael Brakebill second. All in favor none opposed. Mayor Harralson adjourned the meeting at 9:40pm.

Minutes for Closed Session
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Mayor Harralson provided for Council's review a written document from Jerry Steven offering part of his retail area for the City to rent, rent to own or purchase.

Consensus was to have the Mayor speak with Mr. Stevens and tie down some real numbers with his offer.

Michael Brakebill moved to go back to open session. Gary Dooley second. All in favor none opposed.

At 9:35pm City Clerk announced that Council was back in open session.

Mayor Richard Harralson

City Clerk Lynn Esser