

The City of Pleasant Hope 5492 Highway H Pleasant Hope, Mo.65725

Regular City Council Meeting August 18, 2014

Minutes

- 1) **Call to order** – Mayor Richard Harralson called the meeting to order at 7pm
- 2) **Roll Call** – Aldermen present: Rodney Lee, Gary Dooley, and Justin Carlson. Alderman Jason Sims absent. Also present. Mayor Richard Harralson, City Clerk Lynn Esser, Water/Wastewater Operator Troy Copeland, Chief Shawne Ross, City Attorney Travis Elliott, Planning & Zoning Commissioner John Homer and Zoning Administrator & Building Inspector Tom Olivas.
- 3) **Moment of Silent Prayer**
- 4) **Approval of Agenda** – Gary Dooley moved to approve the Agenda. Rodney Lee second. All in favor none opposed.
- 5) **Approval of Minutes** – Regular Meeting July 21, 2014 and closed session of July 21, 2014. Rodney moved to approve all July 21, 2014 minutes. Gary Dooley second. All in favor none opposed.
- 6) **Approval of Pending Bills** – Rodney Lee moved to approve pending bills. Justin Carlson second. All in favor none opposed.
- 7) **Comments and Questions from the Public**
 - a) David Dilley – Quarterly Report on Veterans Wall – Mr. Dilley was not present.
- 8) **Old Business:**
 - a) **Updates from Planning & Zoning Open Hearing** –John Homer Commissioner presented Council with the recommendations of the Commission after the Open Hearing of August 11, 2014. Property owner Dewey & Doris Smith’s request to rezone properties on Pirate Lane from R-1 to A-1 will be addressed at the Planning & Zoning Meeting scheduled for August 25, 2014 at 6:30pm at City Hall.
Brad & Barry Isdell’s request to rezone properties on Highway 215 from R-2 to C-1 was reviewed and the Planning & Zoning Commission recommends the approval to rezone this property. Rodney Lee moved to accept the recommendations of the Commission and rezone the Isdell property on Highway 215 from R-2 to C-1 and change the ordinance. Gary Dooley second. All in favor none opposed.
Rodney Lee moved to accept the resignation of Commissioner Jacque Wingard. Justin Carlson second. All in favor none opposed.
 - b) **Motion to go into closed session pursuant to RSMo 610.21, litigation & real estate.** Rodney Lee moved to go into closed session pursuant to RSMo 610.21, litigation & real estate. Justin Carlson second. Roll Call Vote: Gary Dooley-yes, Justin Carlson-yes, Rodney Lee-yes and Jason Sims absent. The Mayor announced that Council would be going into closed session and requested the room be cleared at 7:10pm. Alderman Justin Carlson escorted people from the room.
Mayor Harralson announced that Council was back in open session at 8:15pm.
 - c) **Update on 200 W Cowden** – Rick Davis & Tom Olivas – issue not discussed in open session due to possible litigation.
 - d) **Update on donations for Storm Siren Repair** – Lynn Esser reported that enough donations had been received to cover all but \$127. The last check should arrive on Wednesday.
 - e) **Update on street light request for 5489 Anita** – Mayor Harralson briefed the Board of Alderman on the conversation he had with Southwest Electric and that he did not have a firm cost yet. John Homer questioned why the City was paying for street lights in an unfinished subdivision. Mr. Homer was told that a previous administration accepted the responsibility for Grande Brooke in 2005.
 - f) **Update on fence line clean up at the City Park** –Troy Copeland reported that Public Works sprayed the fence line with herbicide and the Edwards have pulled a lot of the brush and vines. The next step is trim some trees and possibly removal some trees.

- g) **Update on street maintenance downtown** – Mayor Harralson reported that Rick was working on bids to put 2” layer of asphalt on the downtown area and was hoping to acquire a discount from the company that would be paving the front lot at the High School.
- h) **Update on yard and property violations** – Chief Ross was not present. The list was reviewed by the Board of Alderman and minor updates applied.
- 9) **New Business**
- a) Renewal Request from Cox Healthcare Plans – Rodney Lee moved to discuss the renewal increase with each of the employees and if they accept the increase cost (to their paychecks) than the policy would be renewed. Justin Carlson second. All in favor none opposed. City Clerk was directed to make contact with each employee.
- 10) **Mayor and Alderman Communications**
- Mayor Harralson asked the Board of Alderman if they had noticed the change of lighting on the Veterans Wall. He has been working with Empire District Electric and the change should cover the wall more evenly and bring down the electric costs a little.
 - Mayor Harralson advised the Board of Alderman that he had been in contact with Mindy Spitz in connection with the proposed cell tower. She is waiting on Verizon and will contact the City as soon as she knows anything.
- 11) **Monthly Report City Clerk** - Lynn Esser advised the Board of Alderman that bid letters have been issued for propane services and they would see those bids at the next regular meeting. The 2014 Forecast is showing another year of reduced sales tax revenue and will end in the red for General Operations Fund. Other Funds should finish the year ok. Lynn Esser made the Board of Alderman aware that Rodney Lee has agreed to serve on the City Finance Committee with the Mayor and City Clerk. A review of the 2014 Forecast and the proposed department expense requests for 2015 will be reviewed next week by the Committee. Lynn Esser requested to go part-time starting in September with a review and assessment of the impact in January. Justin Carlson moved to allow Lynn Esser to go part-time starting in September. Rodney Lee second. All in favor none opposed.
- 12) **Monthly Report Public Works** –Troy Copeland advised the Board of Alderman of a request from the Fire Department to paint the bonnets on the fire hydrants colors to match flow/pressure. Troy did not want to address the issue without a clear understanding of why. He will invite someone from Fire Department to present their request to the Board of Alderman at next month’s regular meeting.
- 13) **Monthly Report Police Dept.** – Chief Shawne Ross – absent
Robert & Erika Morin interrupted the Board of Alderman’s next agenda item with questions about 200 W Cowden; voicing their concerns about the safety of their family and value of their property. Rodney Lee told them that the Board of Alderman was unable to discuss the details as it is in litigation and that they should fill out formal complaints with the Chief.
- 14) **Motion to go into closed session pursuant to RSMo 610.21, litigation, real estate, hiring, firing, disciplining of employees.** Rodney Lee moved to go into closed session pursuant to RSMo 610.21, litigation, real estate, hiring, firing, disciplining of employees. Gary Dooley second. Roll Call vote: Rodney-yes, Gary Dooley-yes, Justin Carlson-yes and Jason Sims absent. Mayor Harralson announced that Council would be going into closed session and asked that the room be cleared at 8:50pm. Alderman Justin Carlson escorted people from the room. Mayor Harralson announced at 9:18pm that Council was back in open session.
- 15) **Adjourn** – Gary Dooley moved to adjourn. Justin Carlson second. All in favor none opposed. Mayor Harralson adjourned the meeting at 9:20pm.

Mayor Richard Harralson

City Clerk Lynn Esser

**Minutes for Closed Session in association with the
August 18, 2014 City Council Meeting**

Closed session pursuant to RSMo 610.21, litigation & real estate

City Building Inspector / Zoning Administrator and the City Attorney Travis Elliott were asked to join the Board of Alderman in the Closed Session.

Legal Issues associated with the cleanup of 200 W Cowden where addressed with the City Attorney.

Legal issues associated with the pursuant of nuisance violations where addressed with the City Attorney.

Rodney Lee moved to return to open session. Gary Dooley second. All in favor none opposed.

Mayor Richard Harralson

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A complaint against a city employee was reviewed by the Board of Alderman.

Board of Alderman brought forward concerns about an employee who is not completing timecards & daily activity logs with enough detail.

Board of Alderman also noted that the Personnel Manual is not being enforced when it comes to reporting and scheduling time off for both sick and vacation days.

Rodney Lee moved to return to open session. Gary Dooley second. All in favor none opposed.

Mayor Richard Harralson

City Clerk Lynn Esser