

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMAN OF
THE CITY OF FAYETTE, MISSOURI
TUESDAY, JUNE 27, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen of the City of Fayette was called to order at 6:00 p.m. June 27, 2023 by Mayor Jeremy Dawson.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone in the Chamber rose for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Alderwoman Michelle Ishmael.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call verified five Board members present for the meeting.

Responding to the Roll Call: Alderwoman Marsha Broadus, Alderwoman Michelle Ishmael, Alderwoman Peggy O'Connell, Alderwoman Stephanie Ford and Alderwoman Bekki Galloway (by telephone).

One Board Members were absent from the meeting; Alderman Joe Parisi.

ADDITIONS TO AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

Alderwoman Ford motioned to approve the June 27, 2023 agenda with the addition of adding Dr. Roger Drake to the Visitor list. Alderwoman Ishmael seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD JUNE 13, 2023

Alderwoman Ford motioned to approve the minutes for June 13, 2023 with correction. Alderwoman Ishmael seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING HELD JUNE 14, 2023

Alderwoman Ford motioned to approve the minutes for June 14, 2023. Alderwoman O'Connell seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING HELD JUNE 20, 2023

Alderwoman Ford motioned to approve the minutes for June 20, 2023. Alderwoman Ishmael seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – 0. Motion carried.

CITY STAFF REPORTS

CITY MARSHAL DAVID FORD

City Marshall David Ford presented a lineitem request to purchase a 2023 Chevy Silverado Truck with police package in the amount of \$47,267.00 and four Pyramid 800 Mhz vehicle repeaters including installation in the amount of \$10,410.00.

Alderwoman Ford motioned to approve the purchase of the 2023 Chevy Silverado Truck with police package in the amount of \$47,267.00 and four Pyramid 800 Mhz vehicle repeaters including installation in the amount of \$10,410.00.

Alderwoman O'Connell seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – 0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR DANNY DOUGHERTY

Public Works Director Danny Dougherty reported that construction on the Spring Street Bridge started yesterday, June 26, 2023.

CITY CLERK JUDY THOMPSON

City Clerk Judy Thompson reported that the employer contribution of the Lager's Retirement for employees would be raised from 7.2 to 8.2 percent for General employees and 23.6 to 23.9 percent for Police Officers starting July 1, 2023.

CITY ATTORNEY NATHAN NICKOLAUS

City Attorney Nathan Nickolaus reported that he would bring the sign ordinance to the next meeting to be approved.

VISITORS

Rhonda Gerlt

Rhonda Gerlt shared comments on the CMU sidewalk widening project and was thankful that she had an alderwoman who listens to her concerns.

Pam Huttzell

Pam Huttzell presented a letter from Missouri State Parks and reported that the City of Fayette was not selected to receive funding through the Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant Round for the Historic Fayette Memorial Pool. Mrs. Huttzell recommended the city hire a grant writer and apply for the grant again in August 2023.

Mrs. Huttzell spoke on the benefits of the National Register District.

Dr. Roger Drake

Dr. Roger Drake, President of Central Methodist University presented many thoughts on CMU's plans to improve the walkways at the University and the importance of the safety of students, faculty and citizens. Dr. Drake pledged that though several trees would have to be removed for the project, CMU was dedicated to planting new trees and pledged to continue to make every effort to provide a beautiful landscape. Dr. Drake commented that it was hurtful to think the city was opposed to the University in the matter and stated that though the University was tax-exempt, they were the largest employer in Fayette, paid over \$86,000.00 per month in utilities and that people move to Fayette to work at the University.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**George Beford**

George Beford announced that there would be an event at Faith Family Church on Saturday night to honor all veterans, police officers and firefighters in the area and invited those officials to come.

Mr. Beford also gave comments regarding the CMU project and stated that trees can be replaced but lives can't.

Cathy Thogmorton

Cathy Thogmorton presented many thoughts and memories regarding the trees on the CMU campus and asked the city to make no decisions on the CMU project until a visual of the project was available.

Tristin Head & Sheila Scott

Tristin Head and Sheila Scott shared their concerns regarding the Peddler's license needed by the city from vendors for the July 4th Party in the Park, and asked the city to waive the fees. Mayor Jeremy Dawson stated that the ordinance regarding the license has not been followed and the city was moving forward to reinstitute the license requirements by vendors.

Attorney Nickolaus stated that vendors know that it is the law to follow license requirements in every city.

Alderman Galloway asked how many vendors were involved. Mrs. Head stated around fifteen vendors would be at the event. Mrs. Galloway volunteered to pay the \$10.00 fee for each vendor.

Alderman Galloway motioned to approve the Peddler's licenses. Alderman Ford seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – 0. Motion carried.

Pansy Kean

Pansy Kean reported the problem with bird messes on bleachers and tables and asked the city to install bird spikes that she would donate. Mr. Dougherty stated that the city would put them up.

Reverend Bill O’Neill

Reverend Bill O’Neill presented thoughts on the CMU project and the huge burden that would be created for the church and its members if the street were designated as no parking. Rev. O’Neill stated that the events at the church were not only on Sunday, but several times per week.

Jacquez Jones

Jacquez Jones commented on road and sidewalk disrepair in Fayette stating that his grandparents have trouble walking on the sidewalks. Mr. Jones stated that beautification of the city was important and called on the city to work on repairing roads and sidewalks.

Tim Jackman

Tim Jackman presented comments on the CMU project and asked the city to find a way to come together with the University.

Monique Chapman

Monique Chapman asked the city for information regarding what funds were spent on the Paige-Liberty Park. Miss Chapman also asked about the hexagon playground equipment. Mr. Dougherty stated that the city would not be replacing the hexagon since it was old and rusted and currently there were no funds to replace it.

Grafton Cook

Grafton Cook speaking as a concerned citizen presented comments on the city changing Church Street to a no parking street and urged the council to look at it with great care and to table for now. Mr. Cook stated that studies were being done for the parking in Fayette and asked the city to wait to make a decision until the studies were done.

Julee Sherman

Julie Sherman shared that four trees can be saved and the University was mindful of campus beauty. Mrs. Sherman stated that Arborist Dakota Wells had been a great help to them and if the city had any questions, just reach out to her.

Mrs. Sherman stated that the University had recently met with Little Dixie Construction on the new building on the square and reported that the second and third floor would be open in December 2023 and that five to six retail spaces would be available after the first of the year.

Danny Dougherty asked Mrs. Sherman about the street lights around the building. Alderwoman Ishmael stated that she has two interests for the retail space.

Landon Ball

Landon Ball, on behalf of the Fayette Chamber of Commerce stated that regardless of intent, he called on the parties to lay down offenses and get more facts before deciding on Church Street no parking.

Comments by Alderwomen Regarding the CMU Project/No Parking Issue**Alderwoman Michelle Ishmael**

Alderwoman Ishmael stated that it was never her intention to discriminate against her CMU friends, but she took an oath to listen to those in her ward and bring what was said. Mrs. Ishmael stated that all should speak freely and respect one another and agreed that a road study was needed. Mrs. Ishmael stated that all involved should clear the air and have a hard reset.

Alderwoman Bekki Galloway

Alderwoman Galloway by phone, stated that she would be glad to see a visual of the project and also glad that four trees were saved. Mrs. Galloway said she was not hearing that parking should go away and that possibly traffic could be rerouted through Morrison Street.

Alderwoman Marsha Broadus

Alderwoman Broadus stated that we need more time.

Alderwoman Stephanie Ford

Alderwoman Ford stated that she had no intention of passing an ordinance when she commented on the parking issue on Church Street and had just asked for a discussion about the matter to be put on the agenda. Mrs. Ford said that she would like to hear more public comment and get more information on safety prior to making a final decision.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS**PAY RESOLUTION 2023-14 APPROVING INVOICES FOR PAYMENT**

Alderwoman Ford motioned to approve Pay Resolution 2023-14 approving invoices for payment in the total sum of **\$125,821.47** which includes, General Fund \$17,516.96, Electric Fund \$13,069.28, Water Fund \$67,417.37, Sewer Fund \$10,893.76 and Payroll Fund \$16,924.10. Alderwoman Broadus seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – 0. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION AND/OR APPROVAL OF BILL NO. 2023-05, AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE AND ADOPT THE 2023-2024 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET

Alderwoman Ford motioned to approve BILL NO. 2023-05 FIRST AND TITLE ONLY READING APPROVING THE 2023-2024 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET. Alderwoman Ishmael seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – 0. Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Alderwoman Ford, Alderwoman O’Connell, Alderwoman Ishmael, Alderwoman Galloway and Alderwoman Broadus.

Alderwoman Ford motioned to approve BILL NO. 2023-05 SECOND AND TITLE ONLY READING APPROVING THE 2023-2024 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET. Alderwoman Broadus seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – 0. Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Alderwoman O’Connell, Alderwoman Ford, Alderwoman Ishmael, Alderwoman Broadus and Alderwoman Galloway.

DISCUSSION AND/OR APPROVAL OF NO PARKING ON CHURCH STREET IN FRONT OF CMU

Alderwoman Ford stated that the council had no intention to approve no parking on Church Street and that we should all work together and research the issue as a team for the safety and protection of citizens. Mrs. Ford also stated that she didn’t appreciate comments made about the subject in the newspaper.

DISCUSSION AND/OR APPROVAL OF MISSOURI HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MUNICIPAL AND COST APPORTIONMENT AGREEMENT (Resurfacing of parking areas on Church Street)

Alderwoman Ford motioned to approve the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission Municipal and Cost Apportionment Agreement. Alderwoman Ishmael seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – 0. Motion carried.

BOARD OF ALDERMAN COMMENTS & COMMITTEE UPDATES

Alderwoman Peggy O’Connell

Alderwoman O’Connell reported from the Fayette Historic Preservation Commission that a Paul Brune grant and feasibility study could be done.

Mrs. O’Connell stated that a full time Building Inspector was needed and Public Works Director Danny Dougherty needed to be at meetings. Mrs. O’Connell asked why representatives were not needed at commission meetings.

Alderwoman Michelle Ishmael

Alderwoman Ishmael stated that she hoped citizens were aware that she was kind, available and will always be available.

Mrs. Ishmael commented that she was happy that we’re moving forward on the Spring Street Bridge.

Aldерwoman Marsha Broadus

Alderwoman Broadus questioned why there was still gravel in a spot where a repair was made. Mr. Dougherty stated that it has to settle before they fill it with concrete and that with the new budget, more patching would be done to streets.

MOTION TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO RSMO CHAPTER 610.021 (2) LEASING, PURCHASE OR SALE OF REAL ESTATE BY A PUBLIC GOVERNMENT BODY WHERE PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRANSACTION MIGHT ADVERSELY AFFECT THE LEGAL CONSIDERATION THEREFORE: RSMO CHAPTER 610.021 (3) HIRING, FIRING, DISCIPLINING OR PROMOTING OF PARTICULAR EMPLOYEES BY A PUBLIC GOVERNMENTAL BODY WHEN PERSONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE EMPLOYEE IS DISCUSSED OR RECORDED; RSMO CHAPTER 610.021 (13) INDIVIDUALLY IDENTIFIABLE PERSONAL RECORDS, PERFORMANCE RATING OR RECORDS PERTAINING TO EMPLOYEES OR APPLICANTS FOR EMPLOYMENT

Alderwoman Ford motioned to move to closed session at 7:12 p.m. Alderwoman O'Connell seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – 0. Motion Carried.

Responding to the Roll Call: Alderwoman Broadus, Alderwoman Ishmael, Alderwoman Galloway, Alderwoman O'Connell and Alderwoman Ford.

MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION FOR BUDGET DISCUSSION

Roll Call verified five Board members present to return to open session for budget discussion at 7:55 p.m.

Responding to the Roll Call: Alderwoman Broadus, Alderwoman Ishmael, Alderwoman Galloway Alderwoman Ford and Alderwoman O'Connell.

Mayor Dawson announced that Joe Parisi had resigned from the City Council effective immediately.

Mayor Dawson announced that Joey Smith had resigned from the Planning and Zoning Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

Alderwoman Ford motioned to adjourn open session at 8:00 p.m. Alderwoman Broadus seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – 0. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted by:

 Judith Thompson, City Clerk

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JD' with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jeremy Dawson, Mayor