

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMAN OF
THE CITY OF FAYETTE, MISSOURI
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2024**

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., November 26, 2024 by Mayor Greg Stidham.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL

Roll Call verified five Board Members present for the meeting.

Responding to the Roll Call: Alderwoman Stephanie Ford, Alderwoman Ronda Gerlt, Alderwoman Peggy O'Connell, Alderwoman Michelle Ishmael and Alderwoman Marsha Broadus.

ADDITIONS TO AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Alderwoman O'Connell motioned to approve the November 26, 2024 agenda. Alderwoman Ishmael seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – none. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN HELD ON NOVEMBER 12, 2024

Alderwoman Ishmael motioned to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held November 12, 2024. Alderwoman Broadus seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – none. Motion passed.

VISITORS

AJ Stone – Wastewater Superintendent

Mr. Stone presented to the Board, a Line-item request for one of the five Mixers for the wastewater plant. Mr. Stone explained that it's a critical component for the Wastewater plant that has been working 24/7 for the past 15 years. The cost to replace the mixer is \$23,815. Mr. Stone is also asking for approval to repair the old mixer for \$7,334 to have it as a spare to put back in service as needed.

Deanna Cooper - Downtown Fayette

Ms. Cooper presented the Annual Agreement for 2025 and asked the Board to consider the City's support with \$10,000. Item to be discussed and/or approved on New Business section.

Ms. Cooper also provided a copy of the amended contract for the MoDot Grant, which is for a cultural assessment for the environmental impact, the one that will be covered 80% by the MoDot Grant and

20% covered by CID. Mayor Stidham said that this item will be included on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

Ms. Cooper asked Berendisha Mathews to share some Downtown Fayette announcements. Ms. Mathews informed the Council that the Design committee needs volunteers for Christmas decorations on the square and the Promotions Committee is in need of a chair as well. Ms. Mathews announced the last two events of the year, the Small Business Saturday on November 30th and the Fayette Festival of Lights, will take place on December 7th.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

Bekki Galloway – Tree Board

Ms. Galloway reported that they are picking up the buckets from the trees and putting them back out because of the freezing temperatures. Ms. Galloway also informed the Council that they got the Cost Share Grant. She commented about the support received by Dakota, he has given a lot of help this year without costing us any money. He planted four trees last year, replaced and treated trees at the park, put wind sealers and all kinds of help without charging us anything.

Ms. Galloway commented as well that they are applying for Tree City USA and thanked the city crew for all the city put towards the tree work this year.

Jacquez Jones

Mr. Jones also acknowledged the ongoing efforts to repair the highway but mentioned the need for the Council to address additional repairs within the city, particularly on sidewalks. He mentioned that a lot of sidewalks are overgrown, making them difficult to access for pedestrians. Mr. Jones mentioned that his disabled grandparents reside in 504 Rocheport St. are unable to use the sidewalks due to the overgrowth.

Alderwoman O'Connell asked whether the sidewalk maintenance is the responsibility of the homeowner. Mayor Stidham confirmed that the sidewalks are maintained by the homeowners or residents and noted that the city can demolish it if homeowners wish to replace it.

CITY STAFF REPORTS

CITY MARSHAL DAVID FORD

Chief Ford reported that past Sunday they had Pork dinner Fundraise for Holiday House and brought \$1,734 that will be donated.

CITY CLERK MATI ROGERS

Ms. Rogers reported that we are ready to begin Candidate filing on December 10th, for the 2025 Elections. She also informed the Council that she will be attending two webinars hosted by MEC.

CITY ATTORNEY NATHAN NICKOLAUS

Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **DISCUSSION AND/OR APPROVAL OF BILL # 2024-23, AN ORDINANCE ON VACATION OF ALLEY WAY ON WEST HACKBERRY, JEFF DAVIS.**

1st Reading by Title Only

2nd Reading by Title Only

Aldерwoman O’Connell made a motion for first reading, Aldерwoman Gerlt seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Aldерwoman Ford, Aldерwoman Gerlt, Aldерwoman O’Connell, Aldерwoman Ishmael, Aldерwoman Broadus. Nays – None.

Aldерwoman Ford made a motion for second reading, Aldерwoman Gerlt seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Aldерwoman Ford, Aldерwoman Gerlt, Aldерwoman O’Connell, Aldерwoman Ishmael, Aldерwoman Broadus. Nays – None. Motion passed.

2. **DISCUSSION AND / OR APPROVAL OF SEWER WAIVER FOR 308 W. WALNUT**

Tabled to gather more detailed information regarding where the water went.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **PAY RESOLUTION 2024-24 APPROVING INVOICES FOR PAYMENT.**

Aldерwoman Ford motioned to approve Pay Resolution 2024-24, approving invoices for payment and salaries in the total sum of \$73,065.65 which includes, General Fund \$31,003.54, Electric Fund \$25,798.47, Water Fund \$10,967.94, Sewer Fund \$5,295.70. Aldерwoman O’Connell seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – none. Motion passed.

2. **DISCUSSION ON UPDATING COUNCIL SALARIES.**

Tabled. Aldерwoman O’Connell will get information for the next meeting.

3. **DISCUSSION AND/OR APPROVAL OF SUPPORTING FAYETTE HIGH SCHOOL WITH YEARBOOK AD.**

Aldерwoman Broadus made a motion to approve the Silver Ad of \$75. Aldерwoman Ford seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – none. Motion passed

4. DISCUSSION AND/OR APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT SURFACE MIXER AND REPAIR THE EXISTING ONE.

Aldерwoman Ford made a motion to approve the Purchase of Replacement Equipment for Wastewater Treatment Surface Mixer, Aldерwoman O’Connell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

5. DISCUSSION AND/OR APPROVAL OF ANNUAL AGREEMENT WITH DOWNTOWN FAYETTE.

Aldерwoman Ford made a motion to approve the Annual Agreement with Downtown Fayette. Aldерwoman Broadus seconded the motion. Motion passed.

6. DISCUSSION AND/OR APPROVAL OF BILL # 2024-24, AN ORDINANCE ON THE USE OF VIDEO GAMING MACHINES.

1st Reading by Title Only 2nd Reading by Title Only

Aldерwoman Ford made a motion to approve the Ordinance on the use of Video Gaming Machines. Aldерwoman Gerlt seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Aldерwoman Ford, Aldерwoman Gerlt, Aldерwoman O’Connell, Aldерwoman Ishmael, Aldерwoman Broadus. Nays – None. Motion passed.

7. DISCUSSION AND/OR APPROVAL OF GWORKS ANNUAL INVOICING.

The City Clerk explained that this renewal pertains to the gWorks software, which is being updated to a cloud-based version. This current billing reflects an increase of almost \$10,000, however gWorks has offered to maintain the same pricing for 2026.

Aldерwoman Broadus made a motion to approve the payment of the gWorks invoice. Aldерwoman Ford seconded the motion. Motion passed.

BOARD OF ALDERMAN COMMENTS & COMMITTEE UPDATE:

Aldерwoman Stephanie Ford - East Ward

Nothing to report.

Aldерwoman Ronda Gerlt - East Ward

Nothing to report.

Aldерwoman Peggy O’Connell - Northwest Ward

Nothing to report.

Aldерwoman Michelle Ishmael - Northwest Ward

Aldерwoman Ishmael thanked in advance to Chief Ford for the upcoming event on December 7th for the Downtown Fayette Parade and all the Christmas festivities. She also recognized and thanked the volunteers and crew involved in setting up the lights and moving the big blue barrels.

Aldерwoman Marsha Broadus - Southwest Ward

Nothing to report.

MAYOR’S COMMENTS

- Mayor Stidham announced there will not be a Council meeting on December 24th, 2024.
- Building Inspector report:
 - Mayor Stidham reported that there is a house being built on 413 N Howard, and another house on Cooper St.
 - Also Mr. Stidham reported an inspection done on a construction of a fence on West Davis St.
 - He mentioned that we are receiving lots of emails and calls concerning rental properties for Building Inspector.
 - Mr. Stidham is working with Rick Alexander on the handicap entrance to the Downtown Fayette building to make it ADA compliant.
 - Mayor Stidham commented that they need to start working on houses around town, ones that should be condemned and lots that should be cleaned up.

TO CLOSED SESSION

Aldерwoman Ford motioned to move to closed session at 6:36 p.m. Aldерwoman Ishmael seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – 0. Motion Passed.

Responding to Roll Call: Aldерwoman Broadus, Aldерwoman Ishmael, Aldерwoman O’Connell, Aldерwoman Gerlt, Aldерwoman Ford.

Aldерwoman Ford moved to adjourn closed session at 7:20 p.m. and go into open session. Aldерwoman Ishmael seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – None. Motion passed.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Aldерwoman Broadus, Aldерwoman Ishmael, Aldерwoman O’Connell, Aldерwoman Gerlt, Aldерwoman Ford.


ADJOURNMENT

Alderwoman O'Connell motioned to adjourn at 7:25 p.m. Alderwoman Ishmael seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – 0. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by:



Maria Rogers, City Clerk



Greg Stidham, Mayor