

City of Lincoln Regular Board Meeting
September 14, 2015 - 7:00 P.M.
Lincoln Community Building, 122 E. Main Street
Minutes

The Board of Aldermen of Lincoln, Missouri, met on September 14, 2015 at 7:00 P.M., at the City Hall in Lincoln, Missouri, where the following officials were present or absent as indicated:

	<u>Present/Absent</u>
Troy Bartley, Mayor	Present
Janice Swearngin, Alderwoman	Present
John King, Alderman	Present
J. D. Johnson, Alderman	Present
Rowena Lietzke, Alderwoman	Present

Others Present: Jack Lietzke, Mark Simmons, Kevin Moore, Anchul Axelrod, Glen and Cathie Nelson, Bobby Greene, Sylvia Moore, Loretta Szobodi, Public Works Director Dustin Koll, and City Clerk Barb Johnson.

Mayor Bartley called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Opening Prayer: The opening prayer was given by Pastor Anchul Axelrod.

Pledge of Allegiance

Anchul Axelrod left the meeting.

Agenda: A motion to approve the agenda was made by Johnson and seconded by Swearngin. The motion passed with each member present voting Aye.

Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2015 Tax Levy Public Hearing and the August 10, 2015 council meeting with corrections was made by Johnson and seconded by John King. The motion passed with each member present voting aye.

Bills: A motion to approve the September bills with additions was made by Johnson and seconded by Swearngin. The motion passed with each member present voting aye.

Fly-In: Jack Lietzke told the board 55 airplanes, two helicopters, and the MO Water Patrol boat had been in attendance during the Fly-In. He also said the food was good and the facility was excellent.

Kevin Moore: Mr. Moore came before the council to ask if the trees overhanging South Morgan Street could be trimmed. Dustin Koll said they would trim the trees.

Mark Simmons: Mr. Simmons asked why a city police activity report is not published in the local paper. The aldermen were in support of the matter.

Tax Levy Ordinance: Bill No. 9-14-15, a bill levying an ad valorem property tax for the year 2015 was introduced. A motion to read Bill 9-14-15 by title only for the first time was made by King and seconded by Johnson. On a call by the Chair for ayes and nays, the motion passed and the bill was read. A motion for approval of the first reading was made by King and seconded by Johnson. The motion passed. A motion to read by title only for the second time Bill No. 9-14-15 was made by King and seconded by R. Lietzke. On a call by the Chair for ayes and nays the motion passed and the bill received its second reading. A motion to approve the second reading was made by King and seconded by Johnson. On a call by the Chair for ayes and nays the motion passed. A motion to pass Bill No. 9-14-15, Ordinance No. 604 was made by Johnson and seconded by R. Lietzke. On a call by the Chair for a roll call vote the motion passed with Swearngin – aye, Johnson – aye, King – aye, Lietzke – aye.

Mayor Bartley vetoed the Ordinance. Alderman King presented the question: "Shall the bill pass, notwithstanding the objections of the mayor thereto notwithstanding?" causing the objections of the mayor to be entered at large upon the journal as follows: "Property ad valorem taxes are the major source of revenue for state and municipal governments.

Instead of raising taxes we should have discussed as a council ways to find savings in such things as employee compensation and unnecessary use of spending of city money.

I feel that the recent school tax increase and the possibility of future bond to pay for waste-water treatment facility improvements along with the possibility of a sewer rate increase will do more to hurt people financially than help. People are cash-strapped.

Increases in public employee benefitsThe average government employee has benefits that are 45 percent higher than their private-sector counterparts, according to the Labor Department, and while wages, pensions and health-care benefits are continually rising, even when the nation is in a recession and states and municipal governments are finding it more difficult to cover these costs. As a result, homeowners are tapped to make up the difference with property taxes. So this is way I will be Vetoing the Ordinance for levying an ad valorem property tax.”

The motion was seconded by Alderman Johnson. The mayor called for a roll call vote and the motion passed with the vote taken being: Lietzke – aye; King – aye; Johnson – aye; Swearngin – aye. The bill, certified by the city clerk, became an ordinance in the same manner as if it had received the approval of the mayor.

Planning & Zoning Amendment Ordinance: Bill No. 9-14-15-A, a bill amending Chapter 400: Planning and Zoning and Chapter 500: Building regulations of the Municipal Code was introduced. Alderman King asked Section 1, line 3 be corrected to read “plus five cents (.05) per square foot based upon total square foot floor area”. A motion to read Bill 9-14-15-A with the noted corrections by title only for the first time and be returned to the planning and zoning board for further consideration was made by King and seconded by Lietzke. On a call by the Chair for ayes and nays, the motion passed and the bill was read. A motion for approval of the first reading was made by King and seconded by Swearngin. The motion passed.

Comprehensive/Zoning Plan: Alderwoman Swearngin went over the progress the planning committee had made in development of a comprehensive plan for the city and finding a city planner, who would not charge for the first meeting of a group in order to help formulate the future for Lincoln. It was the consensus of the council to hold a meeting with Chris Chiodini, the planning committee, city council and the planning and zoning board to move forward with plan development.

De-Commissioned Police Car Bid: Sealed bids opened for the police car were as follows: \$2,000 – Forrest Stark, \$850 – Ron Griffith, \$800 – Jack Lietzke. A motion to sell the car to Forrest Stark was made by Johnson and seconded by Swearngin. The motion passed with each member present voting aye.

Reports: **Police Chief:** The Chief was absent. It was the consensus of the city council to have the mayor instruct the chief to have the next officer in command to attend any council meeting the chief was unable to attend.

Alderwoman Swearngin stated Lieutenant Greene had suggested “In God We Trust” be applied to the city police cars at no cost to the city. The city council was in unanimous agreement to do so.

Public Works Director: Koll reported a neighbor to the city’s wastewater system who has a pond downstream from the city lagoons had a fish kill in his pond. Koll also stated he had taken his quarterly samples a week or so prior to that date and those samples had all come back good. The Department of Natural Resources was on the farm and took samples from the pond. No report from DNR had been received to date but a follow up report will be released as soon as he receives one.

Koll was instructed to look at McCain Drive to see what he could possibly repair.

City Clerk: The clerk reported \$2,537 had been taken in during the Fly-In. There were still several outstanding bills related to the event. She also reported there are currently \$789,249 in funds held, and a total of 33.75 hours of overtime had been accrued during the month of August. She then asked for the council’s consideration for engagement of Dana F. Cole and Company to do the audit for 2015. A motion to enter into an agreement with Dana F. Cole and Company for the 2015 Audit was made by Johnson and seconded by Lietzke. The motion passed with each member present voting aye.

Landlords Jointly Responsible for Water Bills: Mayor Bartley suggested that perhaps not every landlord was being notified of their tenant’s overdue water bills. The city clerk explained to the mayor that within the city’s utility billing software, each tenant’s account is setup to automatically generate a delinquent water bill to both the tenant and the landlord for any overdue bills. There is no picking and choosing who does or doesn’t get a delinquent notice nor would it be advantageous to the office to do so.

Petty Cash Policy: Mayor Bartley had presented the council with a proposal for a written petty cash policy. Alderman King asked the clerk to explain the present procedures for handling petty cash. It was stated the petty cash amount is \$100, when a receipt is presented for reimbursement the presenter signs the receipt and notes to what line item(s) and department(s) the receipt is to be charged against. Each month the petty cash is reconciled to the receipts presented plus cash totaling \$100. The receipts are then presented in same presentation format as all the bills for the month are processed and a check is written for the petty cash reimbursement.

Alderman Johnson stated the current procedures have passed all audits over the years and felt the presented policy would result in additional paperwork procedures and time required to handle the petty cash.

Nathan Lines entered the meeting.

Mayor Bartley asked the record to show the council denied implementing a written policy as presented.

Alderman King asked the record to reflect they were not denying anything, but were just recognizing the current policy has met audit conditions and the software is able to handle the exact line items to which petty cash is charged. Alderman Johnson stated the current policy is working and there seemed to be no need to change it.

Lincoln Park Board: Dana Lynde, treasurer for the park board, sent a letter to the council stating the park board barely receives enough money to maintain the parks. The park board has recently requested the Lincoln school district to invest \$3,000 per year for care of the ball fields for the months they use the city parks for their ball programs.

The board was soliciting financial help from the Lincoln City Council for capital improvement projects.

They are currently very low on funds and requested help with mowing the tall grass in the parks. Koll explained the city doesn't have a brush hog to mow the tall grass with; the finish mower is not made to cut grass that tall. He was instructed to mow the grass for the park board.

Hannah Property Cleanup: It was the decision of the council to have the police Chief, acting in accordance with city code, to notify Ms. Hannah to clean up the property. The workers were instructed to insure the cleanup was completed. Mayor Bartley said he would contact the church community for help for the resident.

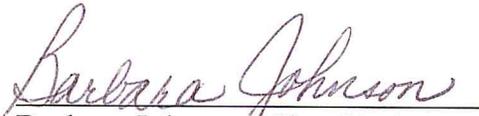
City Beautification: Alderwoman Swearngin told the council she would like to implement a beautification project for the park areas in 2016 so the plants would be fully mature by the time the city's sesquicentennial celebration comes about in July of 2019. She is hoping to do the entire project through donated funds and asked for the council's approval for achievement of the project.

Alderman Johnson stated the project was fine with him but the wastewater project was what he was concerned about. The mayor said the city needs to start setting money aside for the celebration.

Miscellaneous: Alderman King announced he would probably tender his resignation from the council at the October meeting.

Mayor Bartley asked the council to present any 2016 budget items they might have to him as he would be working on the budget soon. He told the council health insurance and setting up the employees as salaried personnel were budget options he is considering.

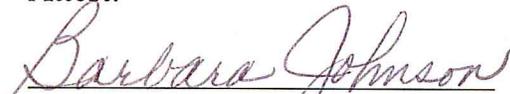
A motion to adjourn was made by Johnson and seconded by Swearngin. The motion passed and Mayor Bartley adjourned the meeting at 8:45 P.M.


Barbara Johnson, City Clerk

Approved 10-12-15


Troy Bartley, Mayor

Attest:


Barbara Johnson, City Clerk