

MINUTES
DES PERES BOARD OF ALDERMEN
April 13, 2020
DES PERES GOVERNMENT CENTER

The regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen of the City of Des Peres, Missouri was held at the Des Peres Government Center, 12325 Manchester Road commencing at 7:00 PM on Monday April 13, 2020.

Prior to roll call Mayor Becker made the following statement:

“St Louis County has issued an Executive Order thru the Department of Health which imposes a restrictions on public gatherings to limit crowds to less than 10 individuals in response to COVID19. The order has a few exceptions including Essential Government Functions which one would assume includes meetings of the Board of Aldermen. However, it does apply a requirement that everyone including governments take all reasonable steps to practice social distancing requirements which now suggest a minimum six (6) foot separation between individuals.

To that end, we have reconfigured the council chambers to use the setup used by Planning & Zoning which will allow more separation between elected officials if two members move from the dais and take seats at the conference table. The City Administrator and City Attorney will also be at the conference table. Separate tables have been set up for those department heads who need to be in attendance located a distance from each other by at least six (6) feet.

We will be using more technology that at the last meeting. We will continue to provide a livestream of the meeting for the general public and will post a copy of the audio/video tape on our website on Tuesday”

ROLL CALL

The City Clerk took roll with the following board members present: Alderman Pound, Alderman Sansone, Alderman Fitzpatrick, Alderman Kleinschmidt, Alderman Barrett and Alderman Concagh. Mayor Becker was also present.

For the record, Alderman Kleinschmidt attended the meeting remotely by video.

Staff members present included the City Administrator, Assistant City Administrator, City Attorney, City Clerk, Director of Finance, Director of Parks & Recreation, Director of Public Safety and the Director of Public Works.

At this time the Board of Aldermen, staff and citizens rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING – None

AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

Alderman Fitzpatrick requested that the agenda be amended to discuss the closure of parks based on comments and concerns he has received.

Brian Schaffer, Director of Parks & Recreation, stated that staff was monitoring the parks and found that in large people are practicing physical distancing requirements. Mr. Schaffer furthered that tennis courts remain open as the sport isn't close contact.

Chief Hall added that the Department of Public Safety has received only a few calls regarding large groups congregating in the parks.

City Administrator Harms stated that the initial order included the closure of restrooms at city parks, however, after negative feedback, the restrooms were reopened. Mr. Schaffer added that the restrooms continue to be open during park hours but aren't being utilized as frequently.

Alderman Kleinschmidt raised concern with keeping the restrooms and tennis courts open.

Alderman Fitzpatrick made a motion to keep the parks, including restrooms and tennis courts, open, second by Alderman Sansone. A roll call vote was then taken with the following results: Fitzpatrick, AYE; Barrett, AYE; Sansone, AYE; Pound, AYE; Concagh, AYE; Kleinschmidt; NAY. Motion passed 5-1.

CITIZEN COMMENTS - None

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES - None

REPORT OF THE MAYOR –

Mayor Becker stated that on April, 2020 he signed executive orders which imposed a hiring freeze on full time positions without permission of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, a hiring freeze on part time positions without permission of the City Administrator, and sequestering certain funds in the 2020 Capital Improvement Budget for capital equipment that has been authorized but not yet purchased, and instructs staff to limit spending in the operating budgets to only necessary items.

City Administrator Harms added that staff is currently still making projections, and anticipate sales tax numbers to come in around May 10th, 2020.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Becker stated that the Consent Agenda consisted of five (2) items. Alderman Concagh read a summary of the items on the consent agenda.

1. Minutes of the Board of Aldermen Meeting of March 23, 2020
2. Warrant List Dated April 9, 2020
3. R20-3397 Writing off of Uncollectible Debts for Ambulance Services in the Amount of \$28,051.64
4. R20-3398 Authorizing a Sole Source Agreement with Zoll Medical Corporation for The Emergency Purchase of a Zoll Series X Cardiac Monitor/Defibrillator for use by the Department of Public Safety And Authorizing a Supplemental Appropriation Relating Thereto in the amount of \$27,000.00 in the Fire Fund
5. R20-3399 Granting an Extension of Time to the Village BHR-LLC for Completion and Occupancy of a Craft Distillery at 12239-12247 Manchester Road

Alderman Concagh moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, second by Alderman Barrett. A roll call vote was then taken with the following results: Concagh, AYE; Fitzpatrick, AYE; Kleinschmidt, AYE; Barrett, AYE; Sansone, AYE; Pound, AYE. Motion passed 6-0.

LEGISLATION (UNFINISHED) - None

LEGISLATION (NEW) - None

REPORTS OF STAFF

Report of City Administrator

City Administrator Harms stated that the current Shelter in Place order is due to expire on April 22, 2020, and there is reason to believe that the order will be extended through the end of May. Mr. Harms stated that the Board would need to make a decision on how to handle employee compensation following the expiration of the Shelter in Place order.

Alderman Kleinschmidt stated that he would prefer to wait until the sales tax projections come in on May 10th before making any difficult decisions regarding employment.

Alderman Fitzpatrick made a motion to extend the Shelter in Place and Work from Home Policy including full pay for "on call" employees another thirty days thru the pay period ending May

31st, second by Alderman Kleinschmidt. A roll call vote was then taken with the following results: Fitzpatrick, AYE; Barrett, AYE; Sansone, AYE; Pound, AYE; Kleinschmidt, AYE; Concagh, AYE. Motion passed 6-0.

Alderman made a motion to cancel the Board of Aldermen meetings scheduled for May 11 and May 25th, 2020 and schedule a Board of Aldermen meeting on Monday May 18th, 2020 at 7PM, second by Alderman Sansone. A roll call vote was then taken with the following results: Barrett, AYE; Sansone, AYE; Pound, AYE; Concagh, AYE; Kleinschmidt, AYE; Fitzpatrick, AYE. Motion passed 6-0.

City Administrator Harms stated that if it is the Boards intention to continue live streaming its meetings post pandemic, Tech Electronic has provided the city a quote in the amount of \$14,660.00 to upgrade the system in order to provide better telecasting.

Report of City Clerk

City Clerk submitted a request to shred certain documents being held in storage in the Administration Department, items to be destroyed include bid documents from 2010-2014, bids not awarded from 2015-2017, license renewal applications from 2016-2017, vehicle accident reports from 2006-2009, and documents related to judicial proceedings dated 2001-2016. City Clerk added that settlement agreements will continue to be kept on file. City Clerk certified that these records may be destroyed pursuant to the Secretary of State Retention Schedule.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business to come before the regular session of the Board of Aldermen, Alderman Barrett moved to adjourn to enter into Executive Session for purposes of consulting with legal counsel, second by Alderman Concagh at 7:44 PM. A roll call vote was then taken with the following results: A roll call vote was then taken with the following results: Concagh, AYE; Kleinschmidt, AYE; Pound, AYE; Sansone, AYE; Barrett, AYE; Fitzpatrick, AYE. Motion passed 6-0.

Minutes prepared by:

Stacey Mann, City Clerk

Mark Becker, Mayor

ATTEST:

Stacey Mann, City Clerk