

MINUTES
DES PERES BOARD OF ALDERMEN
May 18, 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 May 18th, 2020.

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 Clerk, Director of Finance, Director of Parks & Recreation, Director of Public Safety and the Director of Public Works. Mr. Michael Lindgren was present on behalf of City Attorney Graville.

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

PUBLIC HEARING – None

AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

CITIZEN COMMENTS - None

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES - None

REPORT OF THE MAYOR –

Executive Order #4

Mayor Becker announced that on May 12, 2020 he issued Executive Order #4, which extended the Moratorium on Issuance of Door-to-Door Solicitors Licenses until the Shelter at Home Order in St Louis County is fully rescinded.

Update & Discussion on St Louis County Shelter at Home & Business Closure Order

City Administrator Harms stated that the County Executive has indicated that he will revisit the reopening of gyms and other events at a later time. Director of Parks and Recreation added that he is reviewing recreational programs for June, including camps and events.

Tennis Courts

City Administrator Harms stated that staff has yet to receive clarification of what the definition of sport court is, and if it includes tennis courts. Mr. Schaffer added that the tennis courts at Des Peres Park are expected to be completed on Memorial Day, but court attendants have been furloughed.

Alderman Concagh asked if it would be possible to go to a reservation system. Mr. Schaffer stated that it is something they can look into.

Alderman Fitzpatrick moved to allow the tennis courts at Des Peres Park to open June 1st if all work has been completed including landscaping, second by Alderman Sansone. A roll call vote was then taken with the following results: Concagh, AYE; Fitzpatrick, AYE; Kleinschmidt, NAY; Barrett, AYE; Sansone, AYE; Pound, AYE. Motion passed 5-1.

Reopening of City Hall

Mr. Harms stated that he was working on a plan to reopen City Hall to employees, and establishing regulations for City Hall, the current plan is to reopen the Tuesday following Memorial Day.

Election Day – June 2nd, 2020

Mr. Harms stated that Election Day is approaching and it is anticipated that the Des Peres Government Center Polling Place will have a large voter turnout due to Proposition S. Mr. Harms added that given the COVID-19 virus and social distancing requirements, the Board might consider closing City Hall for public business.

Alderman Pound moved to close City Hall for city business on Election Day, second by Alderman Sansone. 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.

Summer Concert Series

Mr. Schaffer stated that with the current order the June concert cannot be held, and he is recommending all events, rentals and programming to be canceled through June 28th.

Mr. Harms stated that the June concert is the highest attended concert and social distancing would be difficult to obtain. Mr. Harms added that due to the timing of the next Board of Aldermen meeting, a decision should be made at this meeting.

Alderman Fitzpatrick moved to cancel the June summer concert, second by Alderman Pound. 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.

Format of Future Board of Aldermen Meetings

Mr. Harms stated that as the County slowly begins to reopen, staff would like direction on how to move forward with the format of future meetings. Mr. Harms stated that video recordings

are a public document, and are something that former City Attorneys have advised against. Mr. Harms concluded that if it is the decision of the Board to continue holding meetings the audio and video system will need to be updated.

Proclamation

Mayor Becker recognized May 17th- 23rd, 2020 as National Public Works Week.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Becker stated that the Consent Agenda consisted of five (5) items. Alderman Fitzpatrick read a summary of the items on the consent agenda.

1. Minutes of the Board of Aldermen Meeting of April 27, 2020
2. Warrant List Dated May 14,2020
3. R20-3400 Authorizing Renewal of Liquor Licenses for the Year Beginning July 1st, 2020
4. R20-3401 Amending the Capital Improvement Fund Budget by Adoption of a Supplemental Appropriation in the amount of \$26,125 for Relocation of the Water Service to the Des Peres Government Center
5. R20-3402 Amending Resolution R19-3350 Relating to Increases in Membership Fees at The Lodge and Establishing a New Effective Date of January 1, 2021

Alderman Pound moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, second by Alderman Fitzpatrick. 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)

1. **B20-2883 An Ordinance Authorizing an Professional Services Agreement with Gray, Ritter and Graham PC**

Alderman Fitzpatrick introduced Bill 20-2883, and read it for the first time.

Alderman Barrett moved to waive the rules and read Bill 20-2883 a second time, second by Alderman Concagh. 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.

Alderman Fitzpatrick read Bill 20-2883 for the second time.

Alderman Barrett moved to approve 20-2883 as presented, second by Alderman Concagh. 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.

2. B20-2884 An Ordinance Providing for an Additional Sales Tax in the Amount of One-Quarter of One Percent (0.25%) for the Purposes of Funding Operation of the Municipal Fire Department and Calling for an Election to be held on August 4, 2020 (Introduction, Waive Rules & Consideration for Adoption)

Alderman Barrett introduced Bill 20-2884, and read it for the first time.

Alderman Fitzpatrick moved to waive the rules and read Bill 20-2884 a second time, second by Alderman Pound. 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.

Alderman Barrett read Bill 20-2884 for the second time.

Alderman Pound moved to approve 20-2884 as presented, second by Alderman Fitzpatrick. A roll call vote was then taken with the following results: Concagh, AYE; Fitzpatrick, AYE; Kleinschmidt, AYE; Barrett, AYE; Sansone, ABSTAIN; Pound, AYE. Motion passed 5-0-1.

3. B20-2885 An Ordinance Adopting and Enacting the Mechanical, Plumbing and Electrical Codes of St Louis County, as amended, as the Mechanical, Plumbing and Electrical Codes of the City of Des Peres; Amending the Municipal Code of the City of Des Peres Accordingly; and Effective Date (Introduction)

Alderman Pound introduced Bill 20-2885, and read it for the first time.

4. R20-3403 A Resolution Requesting that Municipalities within St Louis County Receive an Equitable Distribution of the \$175 Million in Funding Received by St Louis County from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act ("The CARES Act") to Reimburse Municipal Police and Fire Agencies for Expenses Incurred Relating to COVID-19

Alderman Concagh read Resolution 20-3403.

Alderman Fitzpatrick moved to approve Resolution 20-3403, second by Alderman Pound. 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.

REPORTS OF STAFF

Report of the City Clerk

City Clerk announced that on May 12th staff eliminated approximately three hundred boxes of stored records, and anticipates an additional two hundred boxes be eliminated on Friday May

22nd, 2020. City Clerk Mann added this will complete the clean-up project, and all records being held are within the requirements of the record retention policies placed by the Secretary of State.

Report of the City Administrator

Compensation for City Employees Post June 1st

Mr. Harms stated that is the recommendation of staff to discontinue the work from home policy effective June 1st, and begin to pay employees only for actual hours worked on-site and not for on-call or at home work and impose a maximum 20 hour work week for those employees. Mr. Harms added that employees would be allowed to draw pay beyond 20 hours per week by use of vacation time.

Alderman Fitzpatrick moved to discontinue the work from home policy effective June 1st, requiring a maximum twenty hour work week, and granting the City Administrator and Director of Parks and Recreation authority to call back staff, second by Alderman Concagh. 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.

Alderman Sansone stated that Mayor Krewson has indicated that St. Louis City pools won't be reopening due to lack of CPR training, and asked the Director of Parks and Recreation if this will be an issue with the Lodge reopening. Brian stated that they will use the week notice to train additional lifeguards, but they are currently short lifeguards and will need to flex swim hours due to the shortage.

Suspension of Merit Increases Scheduled for July 1st, 2020

Mr. Harms stated that one of the items previously discussed which the Board took under advisement was a recommendation to suspend merit increases for employees not at top pay on July 1st. Director of Finance, Tracy Hansen, estimates a savings of close to \$60,000 in the General Fund by eliminating the merit increase for 40 employees, including 22 public safety employees.

Request to Bid – City Hall Abatement Project

Mr. Harms stated that the City originally budgeted \$250,000.00 for the environmental abatement of the second and third floors at City Hall, but this project has been suspended due COVID-19. Mr. Harms added that Navigate Building Solutions has recently reported that recent bids for similar work for abatement have come in under 35% of estimated costs, and they believe that the City may get better pricing by bidding now. Mr. Harms stated that is the recommendation of staff to move forward with bidding, and if the savings don't materialize, we do not need to award a contract.

Alderman Fitzpatrick moved to authorize staff to bid project for environmental abatement at City Hall, second by Alderman Sansone. 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.

Hiring Freeze

Mr. Harms stated that in the initial Executive Order a hiring freeze was placed on all vacant positions. Mr. Harms stated that there are currently openings in Public Safety for an officer and dispatcher, as well as a code enforcement officer position within the Public Works Department.

Alderman Sansone moved to allow the Public Works Director to advertise for the Code Enforcement Position, second Concagh. 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.

Mayor Becker requested that the other vacancies be reviewed further at the June 8th, 2020 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business to come before the regular session of the Board of Aldermen, Alderman Concagh moved to adjourn, second by Alderman Sansone at 8:31 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