

## **MINUTES**

### **BOARD OF ALDERMEN**

**November 9, 2020**

### **DES PERES GOVERNMENT CENTER**

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The regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen of the City of Des Peres, Missouri was at the Des Peres Government Center, 12325 Manchester Road 63131, commencing at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, November 9, 2020.

#### **ROLL CALL**

The City Administrator, in his capacity as Deputy City Clerk, took roll with the following elected official present: Alderman Barrett, Alderman Concagh, Alderman Fitzpatrick, Alderman Kleinschmidt, Alderman Pound and Alderman Sansone. Mayor Becker was also present.

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

He stated that due to COVID health restrictions, attendance at the meeting is permitted to be done electronically. For the record, Aldermen Kleinschmidt, Alderman Sansone and the City Attorney are attending the meeting remotely by video.

At this time, those present rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **AMENDMENT OF AGENDA**

The Mayor asked for any amendments to the agenda. Hearing none, the agenda was adopted as published.

#### **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

At this time, the Mayor asked if there were any citizens in attendance who desired to address the Board of Aldermen. He asked if any desired to do so to please approach the podium, state your name and address and limit your remarks to no more than three (3) minutes. No citizens desired to address the board at this time.

The Mayor asked if the City Administrator had any comments or questions submitted by e-mail by residents for the meeting and, if so, asked that they be read into the record. The City Administrator advised that no requests had been received at this time,

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The Mayor announced that there were six items on the consent agenda. At the request of the Mayor, Alderman Fitzpatrick read the items on the consent agenda including:

1. Minutes of the Board of Aldermen meeting held October 12, 2020

2. Warrant List Dated October 22, 2020
3. Warrant List Dated November 5, 2020
4. R20-3427 Extending the Contract with Hawkins Inc for Purchase of Pool Chemicals in 2021
5. R20-3428 Granting an Extension of Time to the Village–BHR LLC for Completion and Occupancy of the Draft Distillery at 12239-12247 Manchester Road
6. R20-3429 Authorizing a Contract with Navigate Building Solutions and Lamar Johnson Collaborative for Design and Construction Management Services for Repair & Replacement of Siding at The Lodge

The Mayor stated that the rules of the Board of Aldermen provide that items on the consent agenda can be removed to new business for discussion at the request of any individual member of the Board of Aldermen and asked if the board desired to remove any items from the consent agenda.

Alderman Fitzpatrick moved, second by Aldermen Barrett, that the consent agenda for November 9, 2020 be approved. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Alderman Barrett, "AYE"; Alderman Sansone, "AYE"; Alderman Pound, "AYE"; Alderman Concagh, "AYE"; Alderman Kleinschmidt, "AYE: Alderman Fitzpatrick. "AYE". The Mayor announced that the consent agenda had passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed 6-0.

## **REPORT OF THE MAYOR**

Mayor Becker reported that the City Clerk Stacey Mann had resigned effective November 6, 2020 to accept the position of Assistant City Administrator and City Clerk of Bridgeton. The Municipal Code provides that the City Administrator shall serve as Deputy City Clerk during a vacancy in the office of City Clerk and Mr. Harms will continue do so until a new City Clerk is appointed.

The Mayor announced that he had issued a Proclamation Recognizing January 24-30<sup>th</sup> as School Choice Week. He observed that Des Peres is blessed with two highly recognized public school districts in Kirkwood and Parkway and numerous outstanding private or parochial elementary and high schools which are available to our residents and their children.

## **REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

The Mayor acknowledged that written reports or minutes of the following Boards and Commission who have met since our last meeting have been submitted to the Board of Aldermen.

- Report of the Public Safety Commission Meeting of October 19, 2020
- Report of the Audit & Finance Committee Meeting of October 26, 2020
- Report of the Board of Adjustment Meeting of October 28, 2020.

The Mayor asked if there were any questions or discussion relating to those reports. Hearing none, he ordered them filed and received.

## LEGISLATION

1. **Unfinished Business** – the Mayor announced that there are no items of unfinished business carried over from the prior meeting.

### 2. **New Business**

a) B20-2896 An Ordinance Accepting the Streets and Sidewalks in Brighton Heights Subdivision for Public Use and Maintenance.

Alderman Barrett read Bill 20-2896 for the first time.

Mayor Becker announced that this bill would be held over until the November 23, 2020 meeting for 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and consideration for passage and approval at that time.

## MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

a) Report of the Director of Public Safety

The Director of Public Safety Eric Hall provided a power point outlining a new general schedule to be implemented in the Department of Public Safety effective on or around January 1, 2021. The general nature of the schedule change is to adopt what is referred to as a 48/96 schedule for commissioned officers assigned to 24 hour shifts which has become the norm for fire departments in our region. An officer will work two 24 hour shifts serving in both fire-ems and police patrol capacities for two consecutive days (48 hours) and then be off duty for 96 hours. The schedule provides benefits to both the department and its officers and the change is strongly supported by the officers. This schedule will be tried for up to 12 months with quarterly evaluations of its impact on staffing, overtime, training and the work/life balance sought by employees.

b) Report of the City Administrator

City Administrator Harms stated in March 2020, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen instituted a hiring freeze in light of concerns over revenues due to COVID which requires prior board approval before filling any vacant full-time positions. The staff has four (4) full time positions currently vacant for which permission is being sought to proceed to hiring:

- Two vacant public safety positions created by the recent retirement of two long term public safety officers (Sergeant and a Public Safety Officer). The Director of Public Safety has requested permission to fill both positions with two public safety officers and are prepared to do so immediately from a recently created eligibility list of for (4) candidates. With filling these two positions, the Department will remain one commissioned officer below authorized strength.
- The Director of Public Works has requested permission to proceed with filling a vacant Street Maintenance Worker position vacant due to resignation of a Street Maintenance Worker to accept a job in the private sector. With approval to fill this spot, the Street Department will remain one position below full strength.
- The Mayor has requested that the Board of Aldermen authorize filling the vacant position of City Clerk for which applications are currently being accepted.

Alderman Pound moved, seconded by Alderman Barrett to authorize the City Administrator to proceed with the required processes to fill the four (4) vacant positions in Public Safety, Public Works and City Clerk's Office. A voice vote was taken the motion passed 6-0.

The City Administrator advised that two additional full-time positions remain vacant involving a dispatcher position and a vacant Aquatic Specialist position. Permission is not being requested at this time to fill either position pending finalization of the 2021 budget.

### **REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Mayor stated that neither he nor the City Attorney have requested any Executive Sessions at this time.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The Mayor announced that a Public Hearing will be held at the next meeting on November 23, 2020 on the proposed 2021 Budget. He encouraged all interested parties to review the proposed budgeted on the city website and to appear in person at the hearing of to submit written comments prior to the hearing.

Alderman Concagh moved, seconded by Aldermen Barrett to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 P.M.

Minutes Prepared by:

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Douglas J. Harms  
Deputy City Clerk

Minutes approved by the Board of Aldermen on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 2020;

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Mark Becker, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Douglas J. Harms  
Deputy City Clerk