**CITY OF KNOB NOSTER**

**Board of Aldermen Session**

**Meeting Minutes**

**March 16, 2021**

1. MAYOR MORTON called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. All present included: ALDERMAN THOMAS, LIECHTI, CHARRETTE, and THERING. A quorum was verified.
2. ALDERMAN THOMAS made motion to approve the Agenda with a second by ALDERMAN THERING. Motion carried 4 ayes to 0 nays.
3. ALDERMAN THOMAS to approve the consent agenda consisting of a motion:
* approving minutes of the March 2, 2021, Board of Aldermen meeting
* approving the Police Dept. purchase of 2021 Dodge Charger
* approving the Public Works Dept. purchase of 2022 Ford F-550 with dump bed and snow equipment

ALDERMAN THERING seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 ayes to 0 nays.

\*\*ALDERMAN STAUFFER-BAUM arrives at 7:04p.m.\*\*

1. The Board of Aldermen reviewed the bill list.
2. ALDERMAN THOMAS voiced concerns from Ward I patrons north of Highway 50 regarding available tornado shelters for them. She queried if there was a detailed statement for them outlining each shelter, their capacity and what is and isn’t allowed in the shelter. Another patron asked her if pets were allowed to come to the shelter with their owners. ALDERMAN THERING stated that he was at City Hall yesterday when the sirens sounded for a tornado warning. He stated that there were approximately 30 people, including himself, in the City’s basement shelter. He saw that PD was letting people in when he went downstairs to take shelter. The only issue he saw was that better signage directing patrons to the shelter is needed. ALDERMAN CHARRETTE virtually attended the Base Community Council meeting and learned that the Wing Commander will be leaving WAFB in June. The City will need to forge a new relationship with the next Wing Commander. ALDERMAN LIECHTI inquired about the Profit and Loss statement. He stated that Maggie Coppenbarger had contacted him regarding the intersection of Oak Terrace and Dogwood where a leak had been repaired. She told him that the gravel that had been put in had all washed out and it was a huge hole. He inquired if the Street Dept. could lay some asphalt to correct the issue. ALDERMAN STAUFFER-BAUM stated that the DNR tree planting project is garnering interest. The oak trees will be received by him in late March and anyone interested needs to contact him for a tree. MAYOR MORTON commends the PD for their work during the severe weather outbreak Monday. He stated that information does need to be disseminated throughout the community regarding severe weather and storm shelters. He thanked the City Administrator for notifying staff and Elected Officials of the Covid vaccination that happened on March 4, 2021. He and others were able to receive their first vaccination. He relayed to the Board that the 2021 Knob Noster Fair was cancelled by the Fair Board due to concerns regarding the ongoing pandemic. Lt. Van Vickle was impressed with his officers’ response to the severe weather. He also said that he had spoken to Chief Kniskern today on the phone and he is hoping to be back to work sometime in April. He said that there was no storm damage but that various signs around town were loose and some were missing bolts. Fire Chief Rick Johnson stated that the FD was called out on a medical run during the severe weather. Public Works Superintendent Jeremy Kearney said that their department had a few leaks and were attempting to lay asphalt (weather permitting). City Clerk, Amy Schouten, shared that RFP’s for the 2020 Audit have been sent out to various firms for return by April 30, 2021. The Public Safety Committee has not met due to the last Alderman needing to take the tour. The Sidewalk Committee did not meet. The Inclement Weather/City Hall Closing Policy Committee has met and are currently looking at other cities our size for their snow/ice/inclement weather policy. The Planning and Zoning Commission will be meeting on March 25, 2021, at 6:00p.m. The City Administrator has been researching information regarding AIRBNB’s (short-term rentals) for their next meeting. The Parks and Recreations Dept. will meet March 27, 2021, at the City Park for a Park Clean Up Day to begin at 9:00a.m. with help from the Knob Noster Youth Sports Association, the Lion’s Club and any patrons who wish to participate.
3. The City Administrator presented his report.
4. Mr. Paul Bertschy of 10117 Knob Noster Road relayed to the Board of Aldermen his issue with the property he rents out at 421 North State Street. He stated that the previous Building Inspector had approved the project turning the old grocery store into two viable businesses, Brooke’s Florist and B&G Scoops. A small apartment was built during that time in the back of the business. The Carter’s currently reside there and it isn’t zoned for residence. He is asking the Board of Aldermen to assist him keeping small businesses in town.

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1. Discussion was led by Scott Peterson, City Administrator, regarding the Employment Satisfaction Survey proposed by Management Partners. He stated that the first scope presented to the Board of Aldermen was not large enough and didn’t include past employees. The new Survey proposed is two parts: 1. Employee Survey and 2. Interviews and Answers. The cost of the Survey is $4,300.00. Motion to approve the proposed Employment Satisfaction Survey with a cost of $4,300.000 was made by ALDERMAN CHARRETTE and was seconded by ALDERMAN STAUFFER-BAUM. Motion carried 4 ayes to 0 nays.
2. Discussion was held regarding the 2021 City-Wide Clean-Up dates. Motion was made by ALDERMAN CHARRETTE to slate the City-Wide Clean-Up for 2021 as April 23, 2021, through May 1, 2021, with a second by ALDERMAN THERING. Motion carried 4 ayes to 0 nays.
3. Discussion was held regarding the yearly salary for the Police Chief position. ALDERMAN CHARRETTE believes a 6% raise over four years for the position would be a viable option. ALDERMAN THOMAS inquired whether this was a merit raise based on performance. She was told there was no merit-based system in the City currently. She stated that the City is being irresponsible with concerns of how and who is spending money and raising the Police Chief Position salary just because the City has funds available. She stated if a salary increase is approved, it should be based on the performance of the person currently in that position and not solely for the position and any other format is irresponsible spending. ALDERMAN STAUFFER-BAUM inquired what other communities with an elected Police Chief do regarding pay. The City Administrator stated that the City of Knob Noster is one of the last remaining cities in the State with an elected Police Chief/City Marshall but he would research this information. Motion was made by ALDERMAN CHARRETTE for a 6% raise over four years for the next City Marshall elected with a second by ALDERMAN THERING. Motion passes 3 ayes to 2 nays (LIECHTI and THOMAS). Discussion was then held regarding the Collector’s yearly salary. According the ALDERMAN CHARRETTE, this position has not had a raise in 20 years. Motion was made by ALDERMAN LIECHTI to raise the Collector’s salary to $1,500.00 per year with a second by ALDERMAN THERING. Motion fails 2 ayes to 3 nays (STAUFFER-BAUM, THOMAS and CHARRETTE). Motion was then made by ALDERMAN CHARRETTE for 12% raise over a two-year term with a second by ALDERMAN LIECHTI. Motion carried 4 ayes to 1 nay (THOMAS).
4. Motion was made by ALDERMAN THOMAS with a second by ALDERMAN THERING to enter into Executive Session at 8:36p.m. pursuant to Section 610.021, Paragraph 2, RSMo—Real Estate with a Roll Call vote. Motion carried 5 ayes to 0 nays.

Roll Call Vote

Alderman Liechti Aye

Alderman Thering Aye

Alderman Stauffer-Baum Aye

Alderman Thomas Aye

Alderman Charrette Aye

Motion carried 5 ayes to 0 nays.

1. Motion was made to exit Executive Session at 9:03p.m. by ALDERMAN THOMAS with a second by ALDERMAN THERING with a Roll Call vote.

Roll Call Vote

Alderman Liechti Aye

Alderman Thering Aye

Alderman Stauffer-Baum Aye

Alderman Thomas Aye

Alderman Charrette Aye

Motion carried 5 ayes to 0 nays.

1. Motion was made to adjourn at 9:04 p.m. by ALDERMAN THOMAS and was seconded by ALDERMAN THERING. Motion carried 5 ayes to 0 nays.

Respectfully submitted by,

AMY M. SCHOUTEN,

Knob Noster City Clerk