

CITY OF KNOB NOSTER
Board of Aldermen Session
Meeting Minutes
August 18, 2020

1. MAYOR MORTON called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance. ALDERMAN BABINEAUX, STAUFFER-BAUM, LIECHTI, CHARRETTE, THOMAS and THERING were present. A quorum was verified.
2. The August 4, 2020, meeting minutes were reviewed by the Board of Aldermen. Motion to approve the August 4, 2020, meeting minutes was made by ALDERMAN BABINEAUX with a second by ALDERMAN THERING. Motion carried 6 ayes to 0 nays.
3. The Board of Aldermen reviewed the bill list.
4. ALDERMAN CHARRETTE thanked whoever removed the trash on Bridge Street. ALDERMAN THOMAS inquired about the metal plates in the road. She stated that a patron had had a tire ruined by running over these plates in the road. It was explained that Miller Pipeline is replacing all gas lines in Knob Noster and these plates would be around until they finish Knob Noster. ALDERMAN BABINEAUX inquired when Higgins Asphalt will start the road project in Knob Noster. PW Super Jeremy Kearney stated they should be her September 1, 2020. He is concerned about comments made at last meeting about "Who's next?" to leave the City and he wants to know what is going on for employees to feel that way. He stated that the City has lost the City Administrator, the City is being run down on Facebook and he feels that the City is going in the wrong direction. He thanked the City Administrator for his service and for being a great advocate for Knob Noster. He is sorry to see him go. ALDERMAN THERING stated that he had attended the Knob Noster State Parks 1st phase planning session. There is a survey for the parks that was handed out that he requested all fill out. He was wondering how the school will be doing student drop-off as there is a bus shortage and more parents will be required to bring them to school. He expressed his concern regarding the loss of 5 employees in the last six months. He also thanked the City Administrator and wished him well in his future endeavors. ALDERMAN STAUFFER-BAUM stated that few people in his ward will speak openly and mistrust government. He wondered if there would be a way for patrons to anonymously disclose information without fear of repercussions. They wish to approach the Board with their issues without being identified. ALDERMAN LIECHTI thanked the Public Works Department for all the great work on the City Park. He asked if Spire was going to replace the sidewalks and streets that they destroy replacing gas lines. Jeremy Kearney stated that they would replace anything that they destroy. He has noticed some unregistered cars parked around town and knows that is illegal. He also is concerned about 5 employees leaving the City in the last six months. He feels that the Board needs an impartial 3rd party to determine what has occurred within the City personnel. He then read a letter from an anonymous source regarding Alderman Thomas. MAYOR MORTON relayed that he had attended the KN State Park Phase 1 planning session and the Park is still very interested in annexation. He did note that some criminal activity had been occurring on Elm Street (dog getting shot, power washer stolen). He stated that, in speaking to P&Z Commission, the City is entertaining the idea of a tax abatement for improvements on homes in our community. He also thanked the City Administrator and said he did a great job of challenging the Board of Aldermen with his new ideas, successes and realization of the City's potential growth. He also stated that Old Drum Animal Shelter in Warrensburg, mainly funded by City of Warrensburg was closing due to budget shortfalls. He asked the Aldermen to think of anything the City could do to help them. CHIEF KNISKERN stated that the PD has become more active on Elm Street and that absent homeowners are the main issue with that street. He stated that patrons are angrier and short-tempered due to Covid and mask wearing. He had a problem with the statements of corruption by the City Administrator in the last meeting because his people work their butts off for this City. He also said that Facebook rumors are a problem and Doug Kermick is not a crook. Jeremy Kearney stated that the Public Works Dept. had fixed a few small leaks and had been working on the City park. FIRE CHIEF Rick Johnson stated that the 911 Ceremony will be Sept. 11, 2020, at approximately 8:30a.m. Santa Claus will be delivering presents this year on December 19, 2020. The form will be put in City Hall after Thanksgiving. He also thanked the City Administrator for his effort on behalf of the City. COURT CLERK, Paula West, stated that Court is August 25. She stated that she is doing the best she can in the Utility Department. If there are any issues with bills, she asks that patrons contact City Hall. BUILDING INSPECTOR, Bart Amsbaugh, stated that building permits have slowed on new construction but that there were three homes being built by Stucker Construction. He attended an online class to become the FEMA Flood Plain Manager for the City. CITY CLERK, Amy Schouten, thanked the City Administrator for his time at the City.

Perry Byerly, Planning and Zoning President stated that there was a meeting on August 13, 2020, that the Building Inspector had attended and answered many questions. He stated that Bart relayed that there were numerous properties that had been annexed inside City limits that were not paying City taxes. Bart is working at identifying all

these properties. Perry stated that they would be appointing a new president and secretary at the next meeting on August 27, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Benjamin Liechti, Park Board member, relayed that, the Park Board had met last Friday at the park and determined that a camera system would be needed to ensure safety at the park. The Park Board will be requesting quotes for 8 cameras for the park. He said that there needed to be some sort of pylons erected at night to keep control of usage after park hours.

5. Mr. Joe Burnor, 205 South State Street, addressed the Board of Aldermen regarding sidewalks in disrepair. He stated some sidewalks are overgrown, broken, popped up or so old made of bricks. He stated that sidewalks in our community provide growth. To have a better town, the City needs better sidewalks. If there is no ordinance regarding sidewalks, make one. If there is no plan in place, make one.
6. Discussion was held regarding Bill No. 080820-A: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KNOB NOSTER, MISSOURI, AMENDING THE KNOB NOSTER CITY CODE, CHAPTER 405 BY ADOPTING ONE NEW SECTION REGARDING MEDICAL MARIJUANA FACILITIES. ALDERMAN STAUFFER-BAUM does not want to restrict dispensaries to residential only as he sees this industry creating taxes for the City. Motion was made to amend Section C, Item 2, letter b. by removing this section regarding location of dispensaries by ALDERMAN CHARRETTE and was seconded by ALDERMAN THOMAS with a roll call vote:

Roll Call Vote

Alderman Thomas	Nay
Alderman Charrette	Nay
Alderman Stauffer-Baum	Aye
Alderman Liechti	Nay
Alderman Babineaux	Aye
Alderman Thering	Aye

The vote was a tie. MAYOR MORTON voted NAY. Motion to amend Bill No. 080820-A fails 4 nays to 3 ayes.

Motion was made by ALDERMAN LIECHTI with a second by ALDERMAN THOMAS to pass Bill No. 080820-A: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KNOB NOSTER, MISSOURI, AMENDING THE KNOB NOSTER CITY CODE, CHAPTER 405 BY ADOPTING ONE NEW SECTION REGARDING MEDICAL MARIJUANA FACILITIES, to its first reading, by title only, was made by ALDERMAN LIECHTI and was seconded by ALDERMAN THOMAS.

Motion carried 6 ayes to 0 nays.

Discussion was held.

Mayor Morton had the City Clerk present the bill.

Motion to pass Bill No. 080820-A to its second reading, by title only, and conduct a roll call vote was made by ALDERMAN LIECHTI and seconded by ALDERMAN THOMAS.

Roll Call Vote

Alderman Liechti	Aye
Alderman Thering	Aye
Alderman Babineaux	Aye
Alderman Stauffer-Baum	Aye
Alderman Thomas	Aye
Alderman Charrette	Aye

Motion carried 6 ayes to 0 nays. Ordinance No. 845 was assigned.

7. Discussion was held regarding the Emergency Manager Director for Knob Noster. Through discussion, it was determined that without a City Administrator in place, it would be hard for a new EMD. Motion was made to set this item aside by ALDERMAN BABINEAUX with a second by ALDERMAN THERING. Motion failed 0 ayes to 6 nays.

Troy Armstrong of JoCo Emergency Management came on the zoom line and stated that the City could utilize the JoCo Emergency Management's Director to fill the position until an appointment of the Knob Noster EMD is made by MAYOR MORTON. Motion was made by ALDERMAN THOMAS and seconded by ALDERMAN LIECHTI to appoint and utilize JoCo EMA for the City's EMD until one can be found to fulfill this position.

Motion carried 6 ayes to 0 nays.

8. MAYOR MORTON appointed Katherine Plakorus and Trisha Wilcox to the Park Board. Motion to approve these appointments was made by ALDERMAN THERING with a second by ALDERMAN LIECHTI.

Motion carried 6 ayes to 0 nays.

9. Discussion was held regarding the tentative Park Board proposal to reserve the pavilion at the City Park for a fee (\$10.00 for 2 hours). Mr. Zach Groves of the Park Board stated that these fees collected could assist the Board in recouping costs for park improvement. He stated that the Park Board will be putting a "Communication Board" up at the City to post messages, reservation times, etc. Motion was made by ALDERMAN LIECHTI and seconded by ALDERMAN BABINEAUX to charge those wishing to reserve the park pavilion a \$20.00 deposit and \$10.00 to reserve.

Motion fails 6 nays to 0 ayes.

Motion is then made to table this item and send it back to the Park Board for clarification of fees/deposits/etc by ALDERMAN THERING with a second by ALDERMAN BABINEAUX.

Motion carried 6 ayes to 0 nays.

10. Discussion was held regarding the City Administrator's position that needs filled with the upcoming vacancy of Luke Lewis. The Mayor stated that, according to legal, there are three options: 1. Mayor to fill City Administrator role; 2. Hire a full time City Administrator immediately; or 3. Search for applicant while using an interim City Administrator for six months. The City Administrator, Luke Lewis, recommends an interim until issues in the City are cleaned up. Lauber Municipal Law strongly supports an interim CA. Motion was made by ALDERMAN CHARRETTE with a second by ALDERMAN THOMAS to suspend the Personal Policy Manual and have Lauber Municipal Law assist with finding an interim City Administrator/Consultant for six months.

Motion carries 6 ayes to 0 nays.

11. Motion was made at 9:55p.m. by ALDERMAN BABINEAUX to enter into Executive Session pursuant to Section 610.021, Paragraph 1, RSMo—Legal; Section 610.021, Paragraph 2, RSMo—Real Estate; and/or Section 610.021, Paragraph 3, RSMo—Personnel and was seconded by ALDERMAN THERING with a roll call vote

Roll Call.

Alderman Babineaux	Aye
Alderman Thering	Aye
Alderman Liechti	Aye
Alderman Stauffer-Baum	Aye
Alderman Charrette	Aye
Alderman Thomas	Aye

Motion carried 6 ayes to 0 nays.

12. Motion was made at 10:26p.m. to exit the Executive Session by ALDERMAN THOMAS and was seconded by ALDERMAN LIECHTI with a roll call vote.

Roll Call

Alderman Thomas	Aye
Alderman Charrette	Aye
Alderman Stauffer-Baum	Aye
Alderman Charrette	Aye
Alderman Thering	Aye
Alderman Babineaux	Aye

Motion carried 6 ayes to 0 nays.

13. Motion was made to adjourn at 10:27 p.m. by ALDERMAN LIECHTI and was seconded by ALDERMAN BABINEAUX.

Motion carried 6 ayes to 0 nays.

Respectfully submitted by,

AMY M. SCHOUTEN,
Knob Noster City Clerk