

January 12, 2015
St. James Municipal Center
Regular City Council Meeting

AGENDA ITEM: Call to Order

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order. The following councilmembers were present: Councilman Sachs, Councilman Garver, Councilwoman Weatherly, Councilman Huster, Councilman White, and Councilman Watkins. Councilman Tonding and Moore were absent from the meeting. City Administrator Jeff Davis and City Clerk Sarah Wheeler were also in attendance.

AGENDA ITEM: Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Wilson led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ITEM: Citizen Comments

There were no citizens requesting to speak.

AGENDA ITEM: December 8, 2014 Minutes

Councilman Sachs made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 8, 2014 meeting. Councilman White seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted "aye".

AGENDA ITEM: Bills

Councilman Watkins made a motion to approve the bills to be paid for January. Councilwoman Weatherly seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted "aye".

AGENDA ITEM: Chief Jones - Yearly Update

Police Chief Jones presented to the council a yearly update on the Police Department. He presented the council with a handout showing the statistics for the department and mentioned that for 2014 there had been 7,875 incidents that were responded to or initiated. He also let the council know that compared to previous years they were seeing a lot more Meth related arrests, not as many labs but more of the finished product coming in from off the interstate and out-of-town.

AGENDA ITEM: Employee Overtime

Jeff presented the council with a proposal to change the policy from an 8 hour per day overtime to a 40 hour per week overtime so that all departments are paid the same. He mentioned that the issue had also been presented to the Utility Board and their recommendation was the same to move to a 40 hour per week overtime. One way or another the city needs to make the overtime policy uniform between all employee departments.

Councilman Watkins stated that he had contacted other cities and none go by a 40 hour work week for overtime. He stated that we need to hold Supervisors more accountable for who gets called out. Anyone that gets called out after hours should get time and a half if they have worked 8 hours that day. They were hired under current policy and it would be unfair to change it now.

Councilman Sachs mentioned that we should leave the policy alone if they get called out for Utilities, however, City employees would stay the same. Sachs said the city should not change the policy and continue to pay as we have been, Utility over 8 hour day and City over 40 hour week.

Councilman White asked if we could find a standard ground between the two and put the decision on the employee and supervisor if they want to get sent home or continue to work and get paid overtime if they put in more than 40 hours per week.

Councilman Watkins made a motion to continue to pay Utilities on an 8 hour day. There was no second. Councilman Watkins withdrew the motion.

Councilman Watkins made a motion to leave the policy as is until we know the budgetary impact and the change from there. Councilman Sachs seconded the motion. There was more discussion, Councilman Watkins and Councilman Sachs both withdrew the motion.

Councilman Watkins made a motion to compensate on a 40 hour work week with time and half over 40 hours, employee discretion together if they want to get paid overtime or take off. There was no second and more discussion. Councilman Watkins again withdrew his motion.

Councilman Huster made a motion to pay overtime based on a 40 hour workweek with supervisor discretion on comp hours. Councilwoman Weather seconded the motion. Councilman White, Weatherly, Huster and Garver voted "aye". Councilman Watkins and Sachs both opposed the motion. The motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM: City Administrator Comments

Jeff stated that there would be a workshop on Thursday at 4:00 pm with the Council and Utility Board to discuss utility rates. He let the council know that the rate had increased to \$75 per kwh and that it was having a significant impact on the budget. According to Paulette Craft, Utility Manager each month they were dipping into reserve money in order to pay electric bills.

AGENDA ITEM: Mayors Comments

Mayor Wilson mentioned the MRPC Board meeting, the move by MODOT to do away with Park signs that attract less than 1,000,000 customers per year, the Federal Legislation Representatives and finally the pipeline that Claire McCaskill was now supporting.

AGENDA ITEM: Adjourn

With no further business to discuss, Councilman Watkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Huster seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted "aye".

Dennis I. Wilson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sarah Wheeler, City Clerk

Date