

January 7, 2013
St. James Depot
Regular City Council Meeting

AGENDA ITEM: Call To Order

Those present for the meeting were: Mayor Wilson, Councilman Cahill, Councilwoman Verkamp, Councilman Watkins, Councilman Moore, Councilwoman Roberts, Councilman Tonding, and Councilman White. City Clerk Wheeler and City Administrator Davis were also in attendance. Councilman Sachs was absent.

AGENDA ITEM: Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Wilson led in the Pledge

AGENDA ITEM: Approve Minutes

December 3, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes

Vote or To Do: Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from the December 3, 2013 meeting was made by Councilman Moore, Councilwoman Verkamp seconded the motion. All Councilmembers voted "aye".

AGENDA ITEM: January Bills to be Paid

Vote or To Do: Bills to be Paid

A Motion to approve the bills was made by Councilman Moore and seconded by Councilman White. All Councilmembers voted "aye".

AGENDA ITEM: Visitors

Discussion: Jim Morrison - City Priorities

Jim Morrison spoke briefly to the Council and stated that he believes they should be more worried about tree limbs growing through power lines instead of having employees working at City Hall to get the basement remodel completed. Councilman Tonding mentioned that he does not believe they are fooling around.

AGENDA ITEM: New Agenda Item

Discussion: James Foundation Transfer Update

Jeff Davis mentioned that a couple of Library meetings had been held so far. At their first meeting Mitch Weatherly had been elected President, Deb Parton, Vice President, Tracy Edwards, Treasurer, and Tamara Story, Secretary. The Board has also set up committees to look at the budget, by-laws, and operations. At this point it is still believed that we have a library district. The next step is to have the County provide a letter stating that they did not find anything saying otherwise. There is still a lot of work to do to meet the May 1st deadline.

Jeff also mentioned that the Library will be separate from the City, however, minutes and agendas will still have to be kept and given to Clerk Wheeler to keep on file. Councilman Watkins any decision had been made on whether or not to keep the current employees. Jeff stated that the Board had made no decisions yet, but that he had met with employees and laid everything out for

them and told them it was ultimately the Library Boards decision. Volunteers are being looked at to help the budget as well. Finally Jeff mentioned that we are still looking at the Park Budget as well to try and figure out how we will work it with extra employees, repairs, etc.

AGENDA ITEM: Ordinance No. 13-1035

St. James Municipal Net Metering Service and Electrical System Integration

Discussion: New Discussion Item

Administrator Davis explained that the Utility Board had been working on this ordinance for a couple of months now as it was required to have in our code book. The ordinance will allow citizens that have any type of renewable energy generation to receive a reduction in their utility bill. Furthermore, the City would be required to buy back any excess energy produced. This ordinance will be made known to citizens so they are able to take advantage of this option.

Vote or To Do: Ordinance No. 13-1035

Clerk Wheeler read Ordinance No. 13-1035 for the first reading. With no questions, Clerk Wheeler read Ordinance No. 13-1035 for the final reading. Councilman White made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 13-1035. Councilman Watkins seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted “aye”. The motion was approved and passed as read.

AGENDA ITEM: Appoint Cemetery Board

Discussion: Appoint Cemetery Board

Mayor Wilson explained that there was no State Statute that he could find that made a requirement for how many people needed to be on a cemetery board. Mayor would like to appoint a 5 member board to help with the decision making. He would like to appoint the following members: Richard Jones, Stanley Dillion, Don Carson, and Candida Roark at this time. He is still looking for a fifth member.

Councilman White stated that he would like to see the Cemetery Board expanded to at least 7 members because if someone moves it does not leave very many people on the board. Councilman Watkins asked Mayor Wilson if he is sure there is not a state statute requiring a certain number of people. City Administrator, Jeff Davis, answered that we are a non-endowed cemetery once the city takes over, and therefore, there is no requirement to have a board at all. Councilman Watkins then stated that he agrees that we need to make the Board a larger number. Councilman Tonding asked how many employees the Cemetery currently has. Jeff stated that they have one at this time. Councilman Tonding then asked if someone from the James Foundation could be on the board temporarily since they know what is going on. Councilman Watkins brought up the question of what happens if a Board is formed and the City does not end up having the money to take it on May 1. Jeff said that New York has mentioned that the Cemetery is self- sufficient and therefore they are not worried if the City needs longer then May 1st to take it.

Vote or To Do: Appoint Cemetery Board

Councilman Moore made a motion to approve the members Mayor Wilson had mentioned and to change the number on the Cemetery Board to 7. Councilman White seconded the motion. All members voted “aye”.

AGENDA ITEM: City Administrators Report

Discussion: City Administrators Report

Jeff gave an update on the W Washington building. He mentioned that the City is still going down the road to get a petition to have it torn down. Notices and release of covenants have been sent to previous tenants. The City must show due diligence that we are reaching out to people if they have interest in building before we can tear down. He also stated that an ad must be run in the paper and approximately a month after that we should be ready to move forward.

AGENDA ITEM: Mayors Report

Discussion: Mayors Report

Mayor Wilson introduced Dawn Thompson from the Chamber. She mentioned they were in the process of having new carpet installed. She also mentioned the annual dinner was scheduled for January 25th. Mayor Wilson mentioned next week a boys’ basketball tournament will be held and that this past weekend a girls’ tournament was held.

AGENDA ITEM: Open Discussion

Discussion: Open Discussion

Councilman Watkins stated that he noticed sales tax revenue is down. Also, tonnage in Sanitation is down which is due to Terry working more on Recycling.

AGENDA ITEM: Adjourn

Vote or To Do: Adjourn

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

Dennis I Wilson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sarah Wheeler, City Clerk

Date