

December 8, 2014
St. James Municipal Center
Regular City Council Meeting

AGENDA ITEM: Call to Order

The following Councilmembers were present for the City Council meeting: Mayor Wilson, Councilwoman Weatherly, Councilman Garver, Councilman White, Councilman Sachs, Councilman Tonding, Councilman Huster and Councilman Watkins. Councilman Moore was absent. City Administrator Jeff Davis and City Clerk Sarah Wheeler were also in attendance.

AGENDA ITEM: Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Wilson led the council in the pledge of allegiance.

Councilman Watkins made a statement that he objected to the agenda with the feeling that it was made with prejudice.

AGENDA ITEM: Citizen Comments

Discussion: Citizen Comments

After attending the November meeting, John McAllister requested to speak with the Council again during the December meeting to see if they had come to any agreement on the issue of allowing him to have a carport at the front of his house. He again requested that the council allow him to have a carport even if it means that he would need to anchor it to the driveway.

Mayor Wilson explained that it was on the agenda tonight for discussion later in the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM: MIRMA GRANT

Discussion: Kelly Beets, MIRMA Representative

Kelly presented Chief Jones with a grant from MIRMA in the amount of \$3934. Chief Jones had applied for the Risk Management Grant for the purpose of purchasing car cameras and stop sticks. MIRMA awarded \$2700 for the purchase of the car cameras and \$1200 for the stop sticks.

AGENDA ITEM: Minutes November 10, 2014

Councilman Sachs made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 10, 2014 regular City Council meeting. Councilwoman Weatherly seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all councilmembers voted “aye” with the exception of Councilman Watkins who voted “no”. Councilman Watkins did not believe the minutes fairly expressed opinions of the council at the last meeting regarding the administrator changing the policies without board approval.

AGENDA ITEM: OVERTIME

Councilman Watkins asked to make a motion to add to the agenda the discussion of the overtime policy. Councilman Sachs seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted “aye”.

Councilman Watkins stated that his original concern is that policy is the council responsibility and the change was never brought to the council. Watkins suggested that the policy revert back to the way it previously was and then resubmitted to the council at next month’s meeting for discussion.

Councilman Watkins made a motion to revert back to the old way of paying and to discuss the issue again at the next council meeting. Councilman Sachs seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted “aye”.

AGENDA ITEM: Bills

Councilman Watkins made a motion to approve the bills to be paid for the month of December. Councilman Huster seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted “aye”.

AGENDA ITEM: Accessory Buildings/Carports

Discussion: Accessory Buildings/Carport Discussion

The council discussed the accessory buildings and carport ordinance brought forward by Councilman Huster. Huster stated that he had been contacted by Mr. McAllister asking that he discuss at the next meeting. Mr. McAllister would like to have a carport over his driveway in the front of his house and not the back. Councilman Huster stated that he believes that the home and car are a persons to biggest investments and that it would not look bad having the carport over the front of the house. Councilman Huster did not see a problem allowing this as long as the council make regulations on how far back it needs to be, etc. Huster asked for the council to take a vote tonight on whether or not they would like to look further at changing the ordinance.

The council discussed in further details their thoughts and concerns of changing the ordinance. No vote was taken.

AGENDA ITEM: Day After Christmas

Discussion: Day After Christmas

Jeff mentioned that several of the employees had asked for the day after Christmas off this year since Christmas fell on a Thursday. He let the council know that if they would like they could offer it as a one-time holiday to the employees, deny them taking off or offer a liberal leave day and allow those wanting to take off the choice to do so if they use a vacation day. Jeff also mentioned that President Obama had declared the day after Christmas a federal holiday for this year.

Councilman Watkins made a motion to allow for a liberal leave day and give the employee the choice on whether or not they would like to take a vacation day to have the day off. Councilman Huster seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted "aye".

AGENDA ITEM: Ordinance No. 14-1063

Discussion: No Parking along Nelson Hart Drive in Nelson Hart Park

Clerk Wheeler read Ordinance No. 14-1063 for the first reading at the November meeting.

Clay Coffman, Park Director discussed with the council the reason for the request in passing the ordinance. Clay mentioned that it has become a safety issue with cars driving too fast and kids running around during ball games. There are designated crossing areas but the kids normally do not follow these. The park has first tried putting up no parking signs to try and deter drivers from parking in these spots, however, it has not worked. The ordinance would need to be passed in order for the police to enforce the no parking.

Clerk Wheeler read Ordinance No. 14-1063 for the second and final reading.

Councilman Watkins made a motion to pass Ordinance No. 14-1063 with the correction of no parking just on the north side and not the south. Councilman White seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all Councilmembers voted "aye".

AGENDA ITEM: City Administrator Comments

Discussion: City Administrator Comments

Jeff reported to the council that one of the police vehicles had been in an accident on December 1st when there had been some ice on the road. A SUV came around the corner and hit the police car. The damage estimate the city received was \$18,000, still waiting to find out if it will be totaled or not.

AGENDA ITEM: Mayor's Comments

Discussion: Mayor

Mayor Wilson mentioned the following items to the council:

- Election sign-up period will begin December 16, 2014 and end January 20, 2015.
- Mayor Wilson would be attending the upcoming MPUA meeting.

- Attended the “Wreaths Across America” where they put wreaths on all veterans graves.
 - Mable Gahr passed away at 90 years old
 - Santa would be at the library December 9th.
 - Attended the RREC meeting at the new Public House Brewery.
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AGENDA ITEM: MISC

Mayor Wilson asked the council to take a look at the 6 month financial report and compare the numbers to last year. The city was doing better on both expenses and revenues in most areas.

Councilman Watkins mentioned that he had attended the Ozark Solid Waste Management meeting and reported that waste is up considerably and OSWM is struggling with certain laws looking at getting passed and trying to take control of which ones could hurt our city.

AGENDA ITEM: Adjourn

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