

March 4, 2013
St James Depot
Regular City Council Meeting

AGENDA ITEM: Roll Call

The following Councilmembers were present for the Regular City Council meeting:

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

AGENDA ITEM: Pledge of Allegiance

Discussion: Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Wilson led the Council in the Pledge.

AGENDA ITEM: Approve Minutes

Vote or To Do: February 4, 2013

A motion to approve the minutes from the February 4, 2013 Council meeting was approved by Councilwoman Sachs and seconded by Councilwoman Roberts. All Councilmembers voted "aye".

AGENDA ITEM: March Bills

Vote or To Do: March Bills to be paid

Councilwoman Roberts made a motion to approve the bills to be paid. Councilwoman Verkamp seconded the motion. All Councilmembers voted "aye".

AGENDA ITEM: Citizen Discussion

Bryan Lambeth with the St James Ambulance District presented a certificate of appreciation to Mayor Wilson in honor of the City Council and Staff helping with the districts first annual 5k run, which raised money to help a paramedic diagnosed with cancer. Bryan stated that they had 255 participants and raised approximately \$6700.

Joy Tucker, Superintendent of the St James School District made a presentation about the upcoming bond election for the Schools. Joy presented an outline of what the bond would help pay for if it was passed. She mentioned that new security measures were the main goal of the school board. The entrance ways to both the middle and high school would be changed, new classrooms would be added on, a track would be added around the football field and if there was any money left the football field would also be redone. The proposed bond would not cause the tax rates to increase. Joy also mentioned that in order to keep the tax rates from not increasing the bond would be extended over a longer period of time, however, the Board would pay off the bond earlier if they were able to.

AGENDA ITEM: JR Marcus Retirement

Discussion: JR Marcus Retirement

Mayor Wilson presented JR Marcus with a plaque upon his retirement for serving 38 years with the City of St James.

AGENDA ITEM: Resolution No. 13-223

A resolution renaming the new St James Municipal Center as the "Mayor Mayme H. Ousley Municipal Building".

Discussion: Resolution No. 13-223

Mayor Wilson stated that he would like to officially name the new Municipal Building after the first woman Mayor of the City of St James, Mayme Ousley.

Vote or To Do: New Vote Item

Vote or To Do: New Vote Item

Clerk Wheeler read Ordinance No. 13-1037 for the first reading. Councilwoman Roberts made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 13-1037 for a second reading. Councilman Sachs seconded the motion. Upon roll call the votes were as follows: Councilman Watkins “no”; Councilman Sachs “aye”; Councilwoman Roberts “aye”; Councilman White “no”; Councilman Tonding “aye”; Councilman Moore “no”; Councilwoman Verkamp “no”.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Roberts to bring the Ordinance back next month with a final copy of the lease approved by the City Attorney. Councilwoman Verkamp seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all Councilmembers voted “aye”.

AGENDA ITEM: Ordinance No. 13-1038

An ordinance authorizing the St James Municipal Utilities to purchase ultraviolet equipment with auto cleaning for use at the sewer treatment plant.

Discussion: Ordinance No. 13-1038

Clerk Wheeler read Ordinance No. 13-1038 aloud for the first reading. Jeff explained to the Council that the UV equipment must be ordered this month so that we will have it here and installed by the deadline of December 2013. The equipment will be paid for right now with Utility reserve funds and later can be reimbursed with Bond money if it is needed. Jeff Meadows with CM Archer also explained to the Council the need for the UV Equipment as well as the auto cleaning technology.

Vote or To Do: New Vote Item

Clerk Wheeler read Ordinance No. 13-1038 for the second and final reading. Councilman Moore made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 13-1038 as read. Councilman White seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the votes were as follows: Councilman Moore “aye”; Councilman Watkins “aye”; Councilwoman Verkamp “aye”; Councilman Sachs “aye”; Councilwoman Roberts “aye”; Councilman Tonding “aye”; and Councilman White “aye”. The motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM: Ordinance No. 13-1039

An ordinance authorizing the St James Municipal Utilities to adjust electrical rates.

Discussion: Ordinance No. 13-1038⁹

Clerk Wheeler read Ordinance No. 13-1038⁹ for the first reading. Jeff explained to the Council the need to raise the electric rates in order to help pay for the Utilities Bond. Councilman Watkins stated he would like to decrease the PILOT if they electric rates were going to increase. Jeff recommended the PILOT be kept the same because it is used for storm water repairs.

Vote or To Do: New Vote Item

Clerk Wheeler read Ordinance No. 13-1038⁹ for the second and final reading. Councilwoman Roberts made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 13-1039 to increase the electrical rates to help pay for bonds. Councilman Moore seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the votes were as follows: Councilman Moore “aye”; Councilman Watkins “no”; Councilwoman Verkamp “aye”; Councilman Sachs “aye”; Councilwoman Roberts “aye”; Councilman Tonding “aye”; Councilman White “aye”. The motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM: Update on James Foundation

Discussion: Update on James Foundation

Jeff gave an update on the James Foundation transfer. He and Mayor Wilson had a meeting with representatives from the New York Community Trust. They were ok with most of our terms. They also wanted to make sure that when the transfer was completed that the Park would stay open as a Park and if something happened where the Library was destroyed that the City would rebuild within a year, however, upon further negotiations it was decided it would be ok to rebuild within a 3 year time period.

Jeff also mentioned that the Library was back to square one with no tax and no district. This allows the City and Library Board to go forward and decide what the next step should be. He also mentioned that if the library was not a district it would fall under the responsibilities of a City Library.

AGENDA ITEM: Mayors Appointments

Discussion: Mayors Appointments

Mayor Wilson asked the Council to approve the appointment of Judy Cavender for the empty seat on the IDA Board.

Vote or To Do: New Vote Item

Mayor Wilson reminded the Council to fill out their Personal Financial Disclosure statements before May 1st. He also mentioned the St James Lady Tigers going to the State Championship, opening day of trout season and gave an update on the China negotiations to bring a business to town.

AGENDA ITEM: Adjourn

Vote or To Do: New Vote Item

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



Dennis I Wilson, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sarah Wheeler, City Clerk

4-1-13

Date