

April 1, 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, Councilwoman Roberts, Councilman Watkins, Councilman Tonding, Councilman Cahill, Councilwoman Verkamp, Councilman White and Councilman Sachs. City Administrator Jeff Davis and City Clerk Sarah Wheeler were also in attendance. Councilman Moore 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: March 4, 2013

A motion to approve the minutes from the March 4, 2013 Council meeting was made by Councilwoman Sachs and seconded by Councilman Tonding. 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. Councilman Sachs seconded the motion. All Councilmembers voted "aye".

AGENDA ITEM: Citizen Discussion

Jenny Gaunt, Jean Crafton & Sharon Wilson with Beautify St James attended the meeting. They thanked the council and the city for all the hard work over the years in helping the group to complete their projects. Councilman White thanked the ladies for how much work they had put in to making the city look nice over the years as well.

AGENDA ITEM: Ordinance No. 13-1037

An ordinance approving an agreement between Wave Internet and the City of St James.

Discussion: Ordinance No. 13-1037

Clerk Wheeler read Ordinance No. 13-1037 for the first reading.

City Administrator Davis mentioned that the council had reviewed the draft copy at last month's meeting and pointed out a couple of minor changes to the final draft. Councilman Watkins asked if other internet providers come to the city would this give them permission as well. Jeff stated that this would be a case by case basis and any company wanting permission would have to go through the same site inspection that Wave Internet had completed.

With no further questions or discussion, Clerk Wheeler read Ordinance No. 13-1037 for the second and final reading.

Vote or To Do: New Vote Item

Councilman Sachs made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 13-1037 as read. Councilman Cahill seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the votes were as follows: Councilman Cahill "aye"; Councilman Watkins "aye"; Councilman Sachs "aye"; Councilman Tonding "aye"; Councilman White "aye"; Councilwoman Roberts "aye"; Councilwoman Verkamp "aye". The motion was carried.

AGENDA ITEM: Breaker Bids

Discussion: Breaker Bids

Jeff mentioned that the Utility Department is in the process of updating old breakers with new ones. He said that the Utility Board reviewed breakers bids at their regular monthly meeting and recommended that the Seimens bid be brought to the council for final approval.

Vote or To Do: New Vote Item

Councilwoman Roberts made a motion to approve the bid from Seimens for new breakers. Councilwoman Verkamp seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted "aye".

AGENDA ITEM: Utility Pole Bids

Discussion: Utility Pole Bids

Jeff stated that approximately two months ago the council had approved the purchase of new utility poles to replace old ones. This is a continuation of the same project, just in the second phase. With this bid they will purchase and replace 20 more poles in town. The money to purchase the poles will come out of the GO Bond money.

Vote or To Do: New Vote Item

Councilman White made a motion to approve the purchase of 20 poles. Councilman Watkins seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted "aye".

AGENDA ITEM: 2013-2014 Budget

Discussion: 2013-2014 Budget

The budget was presented to the council for review. At this time there were several questions and discussion about the budget. Jeff and Sarah answered questions for the Council. Jeff mentioned that a special meeting will be held on April 15th to finalize and approve the budget.

AGENDA ITEM: Bond Refinancing

Discussion: Bond Refinancing

Jeff discussed with the council the options he had been given by Joy Howard to refinance the current Swimming Pool bond. This would save the City approximately \$8,000-\$10,000 per year. The City now has an A credit rating and would qualify for a lower interest rate. Jeff has asked Joy to come to the May 1, 2013 meeting to discuss further options with the Council.

AGENDA ITEM: Update on James Foundation

Discussion: James Foundation

Mayor Wilson and Jeff mentioned that they had reached an agreement between the City and the James Foundation and that an ordinance would be ready to pass with the terms at the April 15th meeting so that the city can take over the properties as of May 1st.

AGENDA ITEM: Update on Industrial Park Prospect

Discussion: Industrial Park Prospect

Mayor Wilson gave an update on his trip to China. He said he was accompanied by Jeff, Sabash Alias from MO Partnership, Ed Li Missouri's Onsite Rep from China and Butch Tucker with the IDA. Mayor Wilson said he thought the meeting had went very well and that Mr. Ren will be coming back to visit St. James within the next couple of weeks. He is very optimistic and is hoping to have a final decision by June.

AGENDA ITEM: Purple Heart City Proclamation

Discussion: Purple Heart City Proclamation

Mayor Wilson explained that he would like St. James to participate as a Purple Heart City to honor the Veterans in town.

Vote or To Do: New Vote Item

Councilwoman Roberts made a motion to approve the Proclamation. Councilman White seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted “aye”.

AGENDA ITEM: Arbor Day Proclamation

Discussion: Arbor Day Proclamation

Mayor Wilson explained that the Forestry Board had met and would like to plant a tree for Arbor Day at the Tourist Information Center. They are also applying for a TRIM grant that will give them help to take inventory of all the trees in the City and be able to replace the old trees with new ones.

Vote or To Do: New Vote Item

Councilwoman Roberts made a motion to approve the Proclamation. Councilwoman Verkamp seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted “aye”.

AGENDA ITEM: City Administrator Report

Discussion: City Administrator Report

Jeff informed the Council that this should be the last meeting at the Depot. The new Council Chambers at City Hall were completed and future meetings will be able to be held there.

He also let the Council know that the Phelps County Commissioners Meeting will be held at the City Hall on April 23rd at 7:00 pm. Since it is local County Government week they decided to hold their meeting at a different location so that others could take part in the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM: Mayors Report

Discussion: Mayors Report

Mayor Wilson passed out a letter from Carol Flame complimenting the Sanitation Department and their hard work.

The Mayor mentioned that the Farmers Market would be opening next Friday, the Phelps County Historical Society will be meeting at the train depot on Sunday and reminded everyone of election day tomorrow.

Finally the Mayor mentioned that April 28-May 3 is local government week. An open house will be held on May 3rd at the Municipal Center with several different displays to show what it takes to run the City.

AGENDA ITEM: Adjourn

Vote or To Do: New Vote Item

With no further business to discuss, Councilman White made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Roberts seconded the motion. All councilmembers voted “aye”.

Dennis I Wilson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sarah Wheeler, City Clerk

Date

