

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF TWIN OAKS,
TWIN OAKS TOWN HALL
ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2020**

The meeting of the Twin Oaks Board of Aldermen was called to order at 7:10 pm. Roll Call was taken:

Mayor: Russ Fortune – yea

Aldermen: April Milne – yea
Dennis Whitmore – yea

Lisa Eisenhower – yea
Tim Stoeckl – yea

Also Present: Frank Johnson, City Clerk
Paul Rost, City Attorney

Permanent records are kept of all minutes and ordinances. Each ordinance is read a minimum of two times by title, unless otherwise noted.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Fortune asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Hearing none, Alderman Milne motioned to approve the Agenda, seconded by Alderman Eisenhower. The motion passed by a voice vote.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Fortune asked if there were any changes to the Consent Agenda consisting of the October 7, 2020 Regular Session Minutes, August 19, 2020 Closed Session Minutes, the Bills List from October 3, 2020 to October 16, 2020 and the Credit Card list from August 17 to September 15, 2020. Alderman Eisenhower motioned to approve the Consent Agenda seconded by Alderman Whitmore. The motion passed by voice vote.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS/CONTRACTORS

Park Report: Cindy Slama, Park Chairman, stated that the Park Committee would like to put Christmas lights in the Park again this year. They would like to expand the lights as well. Possible options were the split rail fence and the rose garden.

The Committee also discussed playing Christmas music during the evening in the Park. She will discuss with John Williams, Public Works, if this is a possibility. It also was discussed purchasing a prop as a permanent photo opportunity. Examples would be a

wagon or a cart of some sort. Mayor Fortune stated it would need to be placed in an area which is not highly populated.

The Committee revisited the catch and release policy. At this time the Committee would like to keep the policy as is. In the Spring they will hold a Public meeting on the subject and allow residents to come and voice their opinions on this matter. The Committee will make their recommendation to the Board at that time. Mayor Fortune would like the Park Committee to organize educational sessions for young fishermen during the Spring or Summer months.

September Financials: Jeff Blume, Financial Consultant, reviewed the Financial Statements for September 2020 with the Board. Mr. Blume stated that at this time everything is looking good, however with the uncertain nature of the economy due to the pandemic a close eye will need to be kept on the revenues the City receives. The Board accepted the Financial Statements as submitted.

PRELIMINARY CITIZEN COMMENTS

Jeff Graves liked the new light at the Boly entrance. He also requested that the center strip dividing the lane as you are exiting off of Boly Lane be repainted. City Clerk Johnson will have Mr. Williams look into this. Alderman Whitmore asked if the yellow striping could be repainted on Autumn Leaf Drive as you turn off of Boly Lane as well.

OLD BUSINESS

Bill No. 20-15-An Ordinance Temporarily Suspending The Application Fees For Residential Building Permits And Single Family Residential Appeals To The Board Of Adjustment For The Period Of March 1-December 31, 2020: First reading of Bill No. 20-15 was read. City Clerk Johnson stated that the City did not receive a large number of Building Permits so it will be a minor expense to reimburse these fees. Mayor Fortune ask if there was any discussion on Bill No. 20-15. The second reading of Bill No. 20-15 was read. Alderman Milne motioned to approve Bill No. 20-15, seconded by Alderman Whitmore and the motion passed on a roll call vote as follows: Aldermen Milne-yea, Eisenhauer-yea Whitmore-yea and Stoeckl-yea. Mayor Fortune stated that Bill No. 20-15 Being duly passed becomes Ordinance No. 20-15.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Permit and Application Fees: City Clerk Johnson gave a summary of his findings on what the City permit fees cover. These include the office staff, BFA review of plans and the payment to Mr. Williams for the inspections he does. The fees cover the cost of in house inspections, those done my Mr. Williams, however they do not cover the expense when plans are sent to BFA. City Clerk Johnson also stated that in reviewing what other City's charge the amount will vary from City to City.

Alderman Milne stated that she would like to do away with the residential permit fee. She would like to have this be a service that the City provides. It is beneficial to everyone when residents are making improvements to their homes.

Alderman Eisenhower stated that the City provides several services with no cost to the residents. She feels that charging a permit fee will not stop a homeowner from making home improvements. She did feel however, that the Board could have a discussion on the amount that is charged for a permit.

Alderman Whitmore was in agreement with Alderman Eisenhower and feels that there should be a fee associated with residential permits.

No decision was made by the Board at this time.

Winter Lighting: City Clerk Johnson stated they have received the proposal for the Winter lighting in the Park. He asked the Board if they would be in favor of the Park Committee's recommendation of expanding the lighting this year. Mayor Fortune stated the Board cannot make that decision until an estimate of the cost to expand the lighting is received. He asked Ms Slama to get a quote from STL Holiday Lighting for the additional areas.

There has also been interest in doing some type of holiday lighting at the intersection. One idea was to plant live evergreen trees in the small planters. The lights would have to be battery or solar operated otherwise an extension cord is required and would provide a trip hazard. City Clerk Johnson will get with Mr. Williams to discuss the options that would work the best for this area.

Crescent Avenue Sidewalk Update and Proposed Timeline: City Clerk Johnson gave a timeline of the sidewalk project. He stated that the timeline will be influenced by acquiring the possible easements and how this process goes.

Included in the Board packet was an aerial view of Crescent Avenue with the proposed sidewalk drawn. If the Board is in agreement this is what the survey will be based on. The Board was in agreement with the placement of the sidewalk.

Alderman Whitmore felt that the residents who will have the sidewalk on their property should be involved as soon as possible.

Mayor Fortune asked the residents who were in attendance at the meeting their feelings on the project. Denise Deckert of 2 Golden Oak stated she would like to have more information on the project before she makes a judgment. She feels that there should be a comprehensive plan for the entire City. Joe Krewson of 90 Crescent Avenue is in favor of the project. Laurie DuVall of 98 Crescent Avenue would like to be involved in the project

from the beginning. She asked if the Board had developed a comprehensive plan for sidewalks throughout the City, since safety is an issue. She asked what the next phases of the project will be. She inquired as to what material will be used, asphalt or concrete, to construct the sidewalk. She was also concerned if, as residents, their input will matter on acquiring their property for the sidewalk. John Robben of 147 Crescent Road asked if there were plans for the sidewalk to continue down Crescent Road, He stated that walking along this road is very dangerous as well. He felt that the Board should have a comprehensive plan for the entire City.

Mayor Fortune stated that the Board has discussed putting sidewalks in various locations throughout the City. Doing sidewalks throughout the City would require a bond issue to be voted on by the residents. Mayor Fortune stated that there are people that are walking on Crescent Avenue, most are Valley Park residents, who are going to the Park. This sidewalk would provide a safe path to the Park. The City will be able to finance this portion of sidewalk. The sidewalk will be constructed of concrete.

Ms DuVall asked if the City would be responsible for snow removal or the resident. She also asked if someone was hurt on the sidewalk is it possible that the homeowner could be sued. Attorney Rost stated that these questions could be better answered once there is an exact placement of the location of the sidewalk.

At this time the City is only committed to getting the survey showing exact placement of the sidewalk and what easements are involved. Once this has been completed and the Board has reviewed the survey a decision will be made to move to the next step in the process.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Rost had no report at this time.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT

General Updates

CARES Act Funds

- Staff submitted the City's application for the St. Louis County's Municipal Relief Program on Oct. 8. Our application was accepted and we have moved into the Pre-Funding Agreement phase. We submitted the required paperwork for this phase on Oct. 13. The next step is receiving and signing the actual funding agreement from St. Louis County, after which the initial 50 percent of requested funds will be transferred.

Credit Card Payments

- After a discussion with financial consultant Jeff Blume, staff is recommending that we do not charge a convenience fee for credit card payments as we anticipate the cost to the city to be insignificant. However, staff will track and monitor the total amount of transaction fees charged and adjust the policy if necessary.

Board of Adjustment Hearing

- Pending board approval of the fee waiver, a hearing for the Board of Adjustment is tentatively scheduled for Nov. 9 on the building permit for a deck at 1436 Autumn Leaf.

Project Updates

Golden Oak Court Lighting

- Ameren is currently estimating that they will get the light installed by Oct. 16. Issues with Ameren's internal work order process have caused delays on this project.

Autumn Leaf Runoff

- BFA is currently working on the plans for the Berm around the Twin Oaks Presbyterian Church athletic field. We hope to have the completed plans by the end of October or early November.

Resealing/Overlay for Park Paths

- Currently in the process of obtaining bids for this work. Due to the late time of year, it's possible that this project will be scheduled for next spring.

Crescent Road Landscaping

- The City has received a bid for removal and new plantings for around \$22,000 from Davey Tree. This exceeds the budgeted amount of \$15,000 for the project. In addition, per the city's purchasing policy, we will need to do a formal bid solicitation.

Golden Oak Landscaping of Circles

- John has identified grasses and other plantings that can be used to beautify this area. Planting will take place next spring.

Boly Lane Entrance Lighting

- According to the contractor, this light is on a photo sensor. The streetlight positioned behind may be causing a delay in when the decorative light turns on.

MAYOR AND ALDERMAN COMMENTS

Alderman Stoeckl asked if it would be possible to remove the Ameren street light at the Boly entrance now that we have the new decorative light installed.

Mayor Fortune stated that the new light at Boly Lane is very bright. He asked City Clerk Johnson to check if it would be possible to put a different bulb in the fixture.

Alderman Eisenhower thanked everyone who came to the meeting that evening. She also was happy with the leaf pick up postcard.

Alderman Whitmore reminded everyone of the Drug Take Back Day from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. this Saturday, October 24th.

FINAL CITIZEN COMMENTS

There was one Citizen comment from Facebook thanking the Park staff for the 5 star bathrooms in the Park. She felt that they were the cleanest bathrooms at any City park.

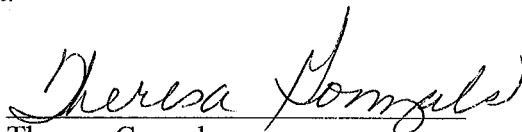
MOVE TO CLOSED SESSION

Alderman Whitmore motioned to go into closed session at 8:20 p.m. to discuss matters pursuant to Section 610.021 (3), seconded by Alderman Eisenhower. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: Aldermen Eisenhower-yea, Milne-yea, Whitmore-yea and Stoeckl-yea.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board returned to regular session at 8:49 p.m. There being no further business, Alderman Whitmore motioned to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:50 p.m., seconded by Alderman Eisenhower and the motion passed with the unanimous consent of the Board of those present.

Drafted By:


Theresa Gonzales,
Administrative Assistant

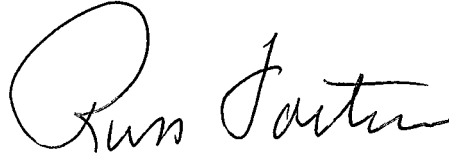
Date of Approval:

11-4-2020

ATTEST:



Frank Johnson
City Clerk



Russ Fortune,
Mayor, Board of Aldermen