# MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF TWIN OAKS, TWIN OAKS TOWN HALL ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021

The meeting of the Twin Oaks Board of Aldermen was called to order at 7:05 pm. Roll Call was taken:

Mayor:

Russ Fortune – yea

Aldermen:

April Milne – yea

Dennis Whitmore – yea

Lisa Eisenhauer – 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 Eisenhauer motioned to approve the Agenda, seconded by Alderman Stoeckl. 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 May 5, 2021 Work Session Minutes; the May 5, 2021 Regular Session Minutes; the Bills List from May 1, 2021 to May 14, 2021; and the Credit Card List from April 1 to April 30, 2021. Alderman Whitmore motioned to approve the Consent Agenda seconded by Alderman Milne. The motion passed by voice vote.

### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS/CONTRACTORS

**April Financial Statements:** Jeff Blume, Financial Consultant, has been working with the Auditor on the 2020 Audit. Originally the City had budgeted for 2020 Sales Tax revenue \$996,000 but the actual amount was \$902,000. Mr. Blume stated that this is a significant difference. The City will want to keep an eye on this trend.

Mr. Blume reviewed the financials for April. He brought to the attention of the Board the amount that has been spent in Sewer Lateral reimbursements in 2021. The City has

reimbursed \$20,942 which is a 698% increase from what was budgeted. The City has spent approximately 5 years of reimbursements so far in 2021. If the City experiences a few more years like this, which could be possible looking at the age of the residential areas, the City will no longer have any funds in the account. Mr. Blume suggested that the City review the plan they have at this point and may want to consider adjusting the program by putting in controls on reimbursements. Some of Mr. Blume's recommendations are as follows:

- 1. City has a representative at the scoping of the line reviewing the scope in real time.
- 2. Insist on at least two bids on the work to be done.
- 3. Have an overrun of 50%, if you receive a bid of \$4,000 the City will only reimburse up to \$2,000 in add on charges.
- 4. The City could compile a list of reputable plumbers with the disclaimer that the City is not recommending any one specific Company.

Alderman Whitmore verified that the City does require a scope of the lateral before the work can be done. City Clerk Johnson stated that the City does require a scope.

## PRELIMINARY CITIZEN COMMENTS

Jeff Graves stated that the gentleman in charge of the July 3<sup>rd</sup> Car Show at Twin Oaks Presbyterian Church asked if the City is reconsidering holding the fireworks on July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2021-14-A Resolution Of The Twin Oaks Board Of Aldermen Approving An Agreement With Cogent Inc., DBA Vandevanter Engineering For The Repair Of An Inoperable Waterfall Pump: This repair is for the old waterfall pump which was replaced last year. This will be kept as a backup pump if needed. Mayor Fortune asked for any questions concerning Resolution 2021-14. Mayor Fortune asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2021-14. Alderman Whitmore motioned to approve Resolution 2021-14, seconded by Alderman Eisenhauer. The motion passed by voice vote of four yes, zero no.

Resolution 2021-15-A Resolution Of The Twin Oaks Board Of Aldermen Approving An Agreement With Harvey's Services, Inc. For The Removal Of Existing Landscaping And Installation Of New Landscaping On Golden Oak Court: Mayor Fortune asked for any questions concerning Resolution 2021-15. Alderman Milne asked if the plants are appropriate for the area. City Clerk Johnson stated that John Williams, Public Works Director, worked with the nursery to pick the plants best suited for the area. Mayor Fortune asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2021-15. Alderman Milne motioned to approve Resolution 2021-15, seconded by Alderman Stoeckl. The motion passed by voice vote of four yes, zero no.

Resolution 2021-16-A Resolution Of The Twin Oaks Board Of Aldermen Approving An Agreement With Topps Paving And Sealing LLC For Application Of An Asphalt Overlay To Walking Paths In Twin Oaks Park: Mayor Fortune asked for any questions concerning Resolution 2021-16. Alderman Milne asked what this contract was since the Board had approved a contract with Topps Paving recently. City Clerk Johnson explained that this will be raising the sidewalk in the area around the concrete bridge so that when it rains, mud does not cover the walkway. Mayor Fortune asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2021-16. Alderman Eisenhauer motioned to approve Resolution 2021-16, seconded by Alderman Stoeckl. The motion passed by voice vote of four yes, zero no.

Resolution 2021-17-A Resolution Of The Twin Oaks Board Of Aldermen Approving A Concept Plan For Sidewalks Along A Portion Of Crescent Avenue; Authorizing The Preparation Of Construction Plans; Authorizing The Mayor And City Clerk To Negotiate The Acquisition Of Property Interests; And Providing Further Authority: City Clerk Johnson stated that this is only the authorization to move to the next step. Mayor Fortune asked for any questions concerning Resolution 2021-17. Mayor Fortune asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2021-17. Alderman Milne motioned to approve Resolution 2021-17, seconded by Alderman Whitmore. Mayor Fortune stated he would like a roll call vote on this Resolution. Resolution 2021-17 passed on a roll call vote as follows: Aldermen Milne-yea, Eisenhauer-yea Whitmore-yea and Stoeckl-nay. Mayor Fortune stated that Resolution 2021-16 passed by a vote of 3 yeas and 1 nay.

Bill No. 21-07-An Ordinance Approving Amendments To The Twin Oaks Park Area Reservation Policy And Procedures, Municipal Code Section 220.040: First reading of Bill No. 21-07 was read. City Clerk Johnson stated that the rules were taken from the Community Room regulations and modified and adapted to the Park. These will now be included with each application. Mayor Fortune ask if there were any questions concerning Bill No. 21-07. The second reading of Bill No. 21-07 was read. Alderman Eisenhauer motioned to approve Bill No. 21-07, seconded by Alderman Stoeckl 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. 21-07 being duly passed becomes Ordinance No. 21-07.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Alderman Whitmore stated that he feels since the Cardinals and other venues are getting back to full capacity within the next few weeks, he would like to see the City have their July 3<sup>rd</sup> celebration this year. Mayor Fortune stated that the City's venue for the fireworks is different than a lot of other venues moving to full capacity. He feels that the City should wait as discussed earlier in the year and have the fireworks at some point in the Fall. Alderman Stoeckl stated that the Park Committee discussed at their meeting that they are more comfortable with having the fireworks in the Fall. The Committee also discussed that they are adding a concert in August provided a band can be secured. Mayor Fortune stated that if the City is going to have the fireworks in the Fall a decision will need to be made on

a date. Alderman Whitmore stated that he does not agree that the City's venue would not allow the City to proceed with the fireworks.

Alderman Milne stated that she is fine with going ahead with the fireworks. Alderman Eisenhauer stated that she also feels comfortable with having the fireworks, but that she respects the feeling of the Park Committee even though the fireworks are a City event.

### **ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Attorney Rost reported that in regards to the American Rescue Plan, stormwater would be the best option for the City to obtain money from this program. The money is not available at this time, but suggested it might be a good time for the City to begin planning what areas in the City would apply. If the City does receive money from the Plan, the money must be used by 2024 for stormwater issues.

## **CITY CLERK'S REPORT**

### **General Updates**

### **Crescent Road Footbridge**

 The City has contracted with Crowder to move the foot bridge on Crescent Road back into place. The total cost is \$550 and the City is currently working to get a confirmed date for the work.

#### **Financial Consultant Search**

 Staff has finished compiling a list of potential accounting firms and is working on finalizing a draft of the account services RFP.

### **Audit Update**

 Work is continuing on the 2020 audit. Auditors completed fieldwork at the City offices on Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **Project Updates**

### Golden Oak Landscaping

 The City has received a bid for remaking the landscaping on the Golden Oak Court traffic circles for a cost of \$2,500 from Harvey Services. A resolution approving the contract is on the agenda.

### **Curb Repairs for Autumn Leaf**

 The curb repair work in the condominiums on Autumn Leaf was largely completed on May 6<sup>th</sup> with the backfilling of the excavated areas finished on May 12<sup>th</sup>. There are still a few spots that need asphalt patches, which is expected to be done the week of May 17<sup>th</sup>.

# **Concrete Pad Replacements**

- The replacement of the sinking concrete bench pads in the park was completed on May 12<sup>th</sup>. City staff also authorized additional work to install a concrete pad for a picnic table in the park at a cost of \$1,200. This is to replace the concrete pad that had to be removed to allow heavy equipment to access the lake when it was dredged.
- The benches will be reinstalled by John on May 17th.

# Twin Oaks Presbyterian Church Berm

 BFA delivered the requested additional items requested to St. Louis County on May 7<sup>th</sup>. Currently still waiting on County approval.

### **MAYOR AND ALDERMAN COMMENTS**

Mayor Fortune stat the he has been receiving a lot of complaints on barking dogs within the City. City Clerk Johnson has been addressing these complaints. He made a request to dog owners in the City to be respective of their neighbors.

Alderman Eisenhauer requested that the City reinstate the Memorial Day display they have done in the past. Mayor Fortune suggested that the display be at City Hall in front of the flagpole instead of the hill at the intersection of Big Bend and 141.

Alderman Milne thanked John Williams for doing a good job with the landscaping at the Boly Lane entrance.

## **FINAL CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Denise Deckert stated she was still not happy with the proposed sidewalk on Crescent Avenue. She does not feel that the Board has listened to the majority of those affected by the sidewalk and who are opposed to having the sidewalk. She further stated that still has not seen a City wide plan or a funding plan for such project. Finally, she stated that when she moved to Twin Oaks eight years ago there were not any sidewalks and it was not an issue at that time.

Laurie DuVall stated that her property will be affected by the proposed sidewalk and that she feels the Board is not taking into consideration the residents who are being affected by the sidewalk. She stated that she feels it is not addressing the safety on Crescent Avenue since safety is a concern on all of Crescent Avenue. She also stated that the stormwater issue is only being addressed at one of the three residents being affected by the sidewalk and that it is an issue on the entire road. She lastly stated that she does not feel that this project is providing any value.

Karen Dresner stated that she was in agreement with Ms. Deckert and Ms. DuVall, and that she felt alternatives to address the safety along Crescent Avenue were never looked into. She stated that past Boards were concerned about eminent domain, however she does not feel that this Board cares about the residents.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Alderman Eisenhauer motioned to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:01 p.m., seconded by Alderman Whitmore and the motion passed with the unanimous consent of the Board of those present.

Drafted By:

Theresa Gonzales, Administrative Assistant

Date of Approval: 4 - 2 - 202

ATTEST:

Frank Johnson

City Clerk

Russ Fortune,

Mayor, Board of Aldermen