

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CUBA, MISSOURI**  
**TUESDAY – AUGUST 1, 2023 – 6:00 P.M.**  
**CUBA CITY HALL COUNCIL ROOM**

Mayor Cody Leathers called the meeting to order. Aldermen present: Kevin Copling, Debbie Martin, Curtis Holt, Jeff Bouse. Police Captain present: Ben Scharfenberg. City Attorney present: Lance Thurman.

**Motion by Holt, seconded by Bouse, to approve the agenda. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.**

**Citizens Participation:**

Mayor Leathers stated that the Cuba Development Group (CDG) have recently enlisted Doug Lasley as the new community advisor and welcomed him as well as thanking him for taking on the role. Mr. Lasley, in attendance, stated that his position will take effect as of September 1, 2023 and he is looking forward to the new position. Mr. Lasley stated that he has always been a banker and is looking forward to working with the community and will be available for phone calls or to visit at anytime. Mayor Leathers stated that the council budgeted \$40,000 for this fiscal year and will have a contract of services with the CDG to outline the funding and the duty expectations prepared by the next council meeting. Mayor Leathers would like to meet again after the contract to discuss the details of what the city would like to see and to work closer with transparency. Martin stated that she is on board, but the board hasn't formally agreed to release the funds. Mayor Leathers stated that the money budgeted would be divided per month and paid monthly. Mayor Leathers stated that Mr. Lasley will have an office to utilize at the Tourist Center and that is where he will be working from. **Motion by Martin, seconded by Bouse, to approve a contract for services with the Cuba Development Group. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.**

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Holt, to approve the regular meeting minutes from July 18, 2023. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.**

**Motion by Martin, seconded by Bouse, to approve the executive session meeting minutes from July 18, 2023. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.**

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Holt, to approve the bills to be paid. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.**

**Electric Department:**

**Tree Trimming:** Mayor Leathers stated that Andy Simpson, electric supervisor, went out for tree trimming bids for specific areas of Cuba.

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Medows Subdivision tap area:

Brown’s Tree and Bucket Service	\$16,500
AAA Tree Service	\$22,000

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Holt, to approve the tree trimming bid from Brown’s Tree and Bucket Service for \$16,500 at the Medows Subdivision tap area. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.**

Voss circuit area:

Brown’s Tree and Bucket Service	\$12,500
AAA Tree Service	\$16,000

**Motion by Bouse seconded by Martin, to approve the tree trimming bid from Brown’s Tree and Bucket Service for \$12,500 at the Voss circuit area. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.**

Town Substation (Belden Street) circuit area:

Brown’s Tree and Bucket Service	\$16,800
AAA Tree Service	\$19,500

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Holt, to approve the tree trimming bid from Brown’s Tree and Bucket Service for \$16,800 at the Town Substation (Belden Street) circuit area. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.**

Park Street removal and trimming area:

Brown’s Tree and Bucket Service	\$22,500
AAA Tree Service	\$14,500

**Motion by Martin, seconded by Bouse, to approve the tree trimming bid from AAA Tree Service for \$14,500 at the Park Street removal and trimming area. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.**

Maiden Lane removal and trimming area:

Brown’s Tree and Bucket Service	\$23,200
AAA Tree Service	\$19,000

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Copling, to approve the tree trimming bid from AAA Tree Service for \$19,000 at the Maiden Lane removal and trimming are. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.**

There was an additional bid from AAA Tree Service in the Spencer Street area that the council is holding off on.

Martin stated that there was only \$60,000 budgeted for tree trimming and all those that were just approved add up to \$79,300. Simpson stated that the Maiden Lane removing and trimming area bid is an important one that needs to be done. Copling stated that he wondered why the tree trimming budget was low and that a few years ago when the electric rates were raised, they were told that they had to keep \$150,000 in the budget for tree trimming and feels there should have been more budgeted so he would like to have the ordinances checked to see if that was added. Copling thinks it was done back when Kent Robinson was the attorney. It was discussed if that was for tree trimming specifically or

for maintenance. Thurman will check the electric rate ordinance. Simpson recommended keeping the Maiden Lane area, the Voss circuit area, and the Town substation (Belden Street) circuit area.

**Motion by Copling, seconded by Bouse, to withdraw the approved tree trimming bid from Brown’s Tree and Bucket Services for \$16,500 at the Meadows Subdivision tap area. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.**

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Holt, to withdraw the approved tree trimming bid from AAA Tree Service for \$14,500 at the Park Street removal and trimming area. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.**

Simpson stated that if the other areas are not in the budget then they will wait until the next year. Jennifer Basham, accounting, stated that at the quarterly budget revisions they can revisit and check.

**Double circuit conversion project – pole bid:**

Simpson stated that the pole bid that was approved at the previous council meeting is no longer valid as the company was sold and repurchased. A change order was received from Stella-Jones which is 7 poles less than the previous and \$1000 less. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Martin, to approve and accept the change order for the double circuit conversion project pole bid. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.**

**Transformer padmount bids:**

Simpson presented the council with bids for 25 KVA and 50 KVA padmount transformer bids.

25 KVA padmount transformers, quantity of 3:

Midwest Electric Tranformer Services	\$7475 each
Sunbelt Solomon	\$4865 each
Emerald Transformer	\$5500 each
DSI	\$3800 each

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Holt, to approve the bid from DSI for 25 KVA padmount transformers, quantity of 3, at \$3800 each. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.**

25 KVA padmount transformers, quantity of 3:

Midwest Electric Tranformer Services	\$8685 each
Sunbelt Solomon	\$5780 each
Emerald Transformer	\$6800 each
DSI	\$4150 each

**Motion by Bouse, second by Martin, to approve the bid from DSI for 50 KVA padmount transformers, quantity of 3, at \$4150 each. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.**

**Treatment Plant – SCADA system computer:**

A bid was presented for a new computer for the SCADA system. The computer was budgeted.

Cogent \$14,916

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Copling, to approve the bid from Cogent for \$14,916. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.**

**BlueBit Internet – pole attachment agreement discussion:**

Mayor Leathers asked if the council looked at the agreement from the prior meeting and if there was any interest in moving forward. Thurman stated he just needs to know if the council wants him to look further into the matter to pursue. **Motion by Martin, seconded by Bouse, to allow Lance Thurman to pursue the pole attachment agreement. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.**

**Property Management laborer position:**

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Holt, to approve advertising an entry level property management laborer position internally and externally until August 25, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.**

**Water/Sewer department:**

**Water laborer position:** Copling stated that the position was posted internally and externally, interviews were held with supervisors, and a committee meeting was had to discuss a recommendation. The position was offered first to an employee and they declined. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Copling, to hire Michael Montgomery for the water laborer position. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.**

**Backhoe discussion:**

Copling stated that a new backhoe was put in the water/sewer budget, but they are not the good ones to recommend and asked Ron Owsley, the mechanic, to attend for his recommendation. Owsley stated that the backhoe is still in good shape and would like to see it handed down to the electric department as the machine is worth more than the trade in and would cost more to purchase another one and does not want to throw money away. Bouse suggested keeping the backhoe and purchasing a dump truck that is needed and then also a trailer that can haul the trackhoe and then possibly trade or look into the backhoe at the next years budget. Bouse stated that the current dump truck is not in good shape. Owsley agrees with this suggestion, using the \$91,000 that was budgeted for a dump truck and trailer and possibly still being under budget. Mayor Leathers stated that as long as the money will work out, is fine with it. Basham stated that the money will be a wash and would just require a budget revision but would like to work according to the policy doing budget revisions quarterly and not just whenever as it will help her do her job more efficiently. Bouse stated again that he would like to keep the backhoe for now and utilize the money for a dump truck and trailer and wants to utilize Owsley's opinion as he is the one working on the machinery. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Copling, to keep the backhoe and utilize the budgeted \$91,000 for a dump truck and trailer for the trackhoe. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.**

AJ Harman, sewer supervisor, gave an update on some current projects. The water loop project at the Medows is about half done. The camera crew for the sewer lines is done with about 2000-3000 feet out of 7000 feet and if a bad area is discovered, they will line them.

Copling thanked Basham for a good discussion regarding some budget stuff and also thanked Owsley for attending and giving his recommendation.

**Police Department building grant discussion:**

Copling stated that he is aware some grants have come out for a new police department and asked if the council is interested in pursuing them. A few years ago, a new building was engineered and would like to look into a grant for the project. Copling would like to motion for Basham to pursue looking into grants. Basham stated that there are currently three grants available and unless the council is wanting to borrow money for the project then there are no grants available that would pertain to the city. Mayor Leathers stated that a loan payment would have needed to be budgeted and it was not so they would need to get more information to move forward. Basham stated that if the current engineered plans are not what is wanted then they would have to be redone as a grant requires accurate plans. Martin stated that they would need some sort of known funding ideas. Mayor Leathers encouraged the Police Chief and committee to brainstorm for a new facility and communicate with Basham to further explore for the next years budget.

Copling stated that he would also like to look for a grant in the electric department. Simpson stated that a pole change out project will have to be done in the next year and a small department like theirs shouldn't handle it. The poles are along/crossing Interstate 44 and will include permits and the labor to which a contractor would be a benefit. Mayor Leathers encouraged the electric committee to meet with Basham to explore and to start budgeting and to also utilize Doug Lasley for help he can provide.

**Police Captain report:**

**Nuisance report:** None

**Riveria Maya street closure:**

Captain Scharfenberg stated that Riviera Maya has requested a street closure of SW Main St. from Smith Street to Hickory Street on September 9, 2023 from 3 pm – 10 pm. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Copling to approve the street closure. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.**

Captain Scharfenberg presented a bid for a new patrol car from the Missouri State Highway Patrol that was budgeted. It is a 2020 Dodge Charger with 50,000-55,000 miles for \$23,000. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Copling, to approve the purchase of the 2020 Dodge Charger for \$23,000. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.**

Captain Scharfenberg presented a bid for 2 fingerprint scanners that were budgeted. The bid includes the finger scanner device for \$2500, 2 year extended warranty for \$250, and a black device sleeve for \$50 per device.

IDEMIA \$5600 total for both devices

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Martin, to approve the bid from IDEMIA for 2 fingerprint devices totaling \$5600. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.**

Copling asked about a nuisance complaint regarding the residence across from Missouri Hick. Police Captain Scharfenberg will get with Bob Baldwin for the contact information.

**Motion by Holt, seconded by Bouse, to have the first reading of Bill No. 2100 by caption only. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.** Thurman read Bill No. 2100 – An ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of Cuba, Missouri, on behalf of said city, to enter into an agreement with West Contracting for street repairs and improvements. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Holt, to approve the first reading of Bill No. 2100. Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Holt-yes, Martin-yes, Copling-yes. Honea and Graddy absent. Motion by Bouse, seconded by Holt, to have the second reading of Bill No. 2100. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.** Thurman read Bill No. 2100 a second time. **Motion by Holt, seconded by Bouse, to approve the second reading of Bill No. 2100. Roll call vote: Copling-yes, Martin-yes, Holt-yes, Bouse-yes. Honea and Graddy absent.** Mayor Leathers declared that Bill No. 2100 becomes Special Ordinance 883 on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of August 2023.

**Motion by Holt, seconded by Bouse, to have the first reading of Bill No. 2101 by caption only. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.** Thurman read Bill No. 2101 – An ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of Cuba, Missouri, on behalf of said city, to enter into an agreement with James Happel for use of a trencher on an emergency basis. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Holt, to approve the first reading of Bill No. 2101. Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Holt-yes, Martin-yes, Copling-yes. Honea and Graddy absent. Motion by Bouse, seconded by Holt, to have the second reading of Bill No. 2101. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.** Thurman read Bill No. 2101 a second time. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Holt, to approve the second reading of Bill No. 2101. Roll call vote: Copling-yes, Martin-yes, Holt-yes, Bouse-yes. Honea and Graddy absent.** Mayor Leathers declared Bill No. 2101 becomes Special Ordinance 884 on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of August 2023.

**Motion by Holt, seconded by Bouse, to have the first reading of Bill No. 2102 by caption only. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.** Thurman read Bill No. 2102 – An ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of Cuba, Missouri, on behalf of said city, to enter into an agreement with PLC for conversion of double circuit to single three phase. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Holt, to approve the first reading of Bill No. 2102. Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Holt-yes, Martin-yes, Copling-yes. Honea and Graddy absent. Motion by Bouse, seconded by Holt, to have the second reading of Bill No. 2102. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.** Thurman read Bill No. 2102 a second time. **Motion by Martin, seconded by Holt, to approve the second reading of Bill No. 2102. Roll call vote: Copling-yes, Martin-yes, Holt-yes, Bouse-yes. Honea and Graddy absent.** Mayor Leathers declared that Bill No. 2102 becomes Special Ordinance 885 on this 1<sup>st</sup> da of August 2023.

Copling stated that in the state audit there were items that were supposed to be corrected and asked how long it will take to correct. Clerk Garbo stated that some policies will need to be created and

passed. Mayor Leathers stated that the city is working on those things and the auditors are aware they are being worked on or have already corrected.

Bouse stated that he has been asked by employees about a uniform allowance for different shirts. Basham stated that the council did not approve that in the budget because the contract with Unifirst is not for just uniforms but also rugs, mops, etc. and the entire contract will have to be checked and/or redone. Mayor Leathers stated that it will need to be revisited at the next budget. Martin stated that the employees need to be identifiable as City of Cuba employees and not wear shirts with other contractors. Basham stated it can be looked into at the quarter budget revisions.

Mayor Leather stated that Karissa Leathers has submitted her resignation from the Parks and Recreation Board. **Motion by Holt, seconded by Martin, to accept the resignation from Karissa Leathers. Vote: All ayes.** Karissa Leathers thanked the council for allowing her to serve.

**Motion by Holt, seconded by Bouse, to adjourn. Vote: All ayes. Honea and Graddy absent.**

**Lainie Garbo, City Clerk**