

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CUBA, MISSOURI  
TUESDAY – SEPTEMBER 17, 2024 – 6:00 P.M.  
CUBA CITY HALL COUNCIL ROOM**

Mayor Kevin Copling called the meeting to order. Aldermen present: Joyce Hartzell, Debbie Martin, Tony Hutson, Harold Halbert, Jeff Bouse. Aldermen absent: Dave Honea. Police Chief: Doug Shelton. City Attorney present: Charles Hurth III.

**Motion by Halbert, seconded by Hutson, to approve the agenda. Vote: All ayes. Honea absent.**

**Citizens participation: None**

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Halbert, to approve the regular meeting minutes from September 3, 2024. Vote: All ayes. Honea absent.**

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the executive session meeting minutes from September 3, 2024. Vote: All ayes. Honea absent.**

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

**Natural gas department committee recommendation – supervisor position:** Hutson stated that they had a committee meeting with only Matt Pigg and himself present. Hutson recommended moving Pigg to the natural gas supervisor position. **Motion by Hutson, seconded by Bouse, to move Matt Pigg to the natural gas supervisor position. Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Halbert-yes, Hutson-yes, Martin-yes, Hartzell-yes. Honea absent.**

Hutson stated that with Pigg moving to the supervisor position he recommends advertising a natural gas laborer/technician internally for one week and then if no interest to advertise externally. **Motion by Hutson, second by Bouse, to approve advertising the natural gas laborer/technician position internally for one week and then advertise externally if no interest. Vote: All ayes. Honea absent.**

**Street department committee recommendation – street laborer position:** Bouse stated that Bill Dotson, street supervisor, interviewed applicants and recommended Eli Medlock for the position. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to hire Eli Medlock for the street laborer position. Roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Martin-yes, Hutson-yes, Halbert-yes, Bouse-yes. Honea absent.**

**EOC committee recommendations:** Hutson stated that at a committee meeting it was discussed to move the necessary equipment from the existing office to a new office area at the Crawford County Emergency Management office within the County Coroner's building. There was a bid submitted for \$1500 from Table Rock Alerting Systems. Martin asked if there was a fee for the office space. Hutson

stated yes and that Darren Dake was also present for the meeting and is offering full use of the facility, internet, and other amenities for a full utility abatement.

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the bid to move equipment from Table Rock Alerting Systems for \$1500. Vote: All ayes. Honea absent.**

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the EOC to move office space and the full utility abatement. Vote: All ayes. Honea absent.**

Hutson stated that Dake would like an agreement for all parties to sign stating that as long as Cuba is utilizing the office space there will be compensation with a utility bill abatement. Hurth stated that there is concern when paying a bill as there is no control of the cost over time and that extra equipment or other parties could be added, increasing the cost. Hurth doesn't want to make a promise of the unknown and would rather make a payment of a set amount for the space instead of a utility abatement. Jennifer Basham stated that in the future an electric study will have to be done so that could change the rate structures that could change the cost of the utility bills. **\*\*Bouse and Hartzell rescind their previous motions to move the equipment, move office space, and the full utility abatement to table for future discussion.** Discussion was tabled to determine more specific details.

**Discussion of playground equipment:** Mayor Copling stated that about a month ago he brought up some park equipment and believes the citizens deserve it and asked if the board would like to move forward. The cost would be \$400,000. Martin stated that's a lot of money coming from the park and recreation tax and capital improvement tax. Mayor Copling stated that it would be coming from capital improvement tax only now. Martin stated that she put out a feeler and while one expressed interest in park equipment, there were other expressed interests also. Mayor Copling stated that there have not been any commitments or recommendations from anyone else. Andi Harly, park and recreation president, stated that there are some plans for park equipment but nothing in detail. Martin would like to wait on a recommendation from the park and recreation board as it is a lot of money for a lot of other projects and would like to wait to discuss further. Martin asked the board to ask the citizens for their opinions. Mayor Copling stated that he asked the citizens and this is what the plan was 20 years ago and that the money is there and this is a way to give back to the community. Martin again stated that the community has expressed their concerns for other things and now they have the money suggested spending it on other improvements. Hutson stated that he agreed with Martin that it's a lot of money that only reaches out to a small group of individuals and would rather see something that can help a wider variety of people like walking trails, shade trees, bbq pits, pavilions, etc. Mayor Copling stated that is why there is a park and recreation board to recommend those kinds of projects with the park tax money. Mayor Copling stated that it is amazing what can get planned once a plan comes into play and that there hasn't been any park equipment in any of the parks for a long time and asked why nothing has been done in any of the parks with the park tax money. Mayor Copling stated that \$400,000 is all he is asking for. Bouse stated that he has also talked to people that have kids and like the idea and if they don't spend something to show for then there won't be another park tax. Bouse also stated that they don't want the park equipment at Hood Park as it is too secluded and would rather it go into Tangle

Creek Park. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell to move forward with the park equipment for \$4000,000 with it installed at Tangle Creek Park. Roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Martin-no, Hutson-no, Halbert-yes, Bouse-yes. Honea absent.**

Martin apologized to the public for that motion.

**Police Chief report:** No nuisance report.

**Animal Control Officer position:** PC Shelton stated that applicants were interviewed for the position and made the recommendation to hire Cade Ray. Martin asked if they were certified, and it was replied no. Bouse asked if they would be doing the nuisance complaints. PC Shelton stated not until they are trained and then they will decide how to proceed. **Motion by Hutson, seconded by Martin, to approve hiring Cade Ray as the Animal Control Officer. Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Halbert-yes, Hutson-yes, Martin-yes, Hartzell-yes. Honea absent.**

PC Shelton announced that Officer Betty Post was injured over the weekend and a full recovery is expected. Due to this accident, PC Shelton will be assisting at the school in her absence.

**Motion by Hutson, seconded by Halbert, to have the first reading of Bill No. 2146 by caption only. Vote: All ayes. Honea absent.** Clerk Garbo read Bill No. 2146 – An ordinance approving awarding the bid for installing the fencing at the Cuba Police Department gun firing range to All-Type Fence Inc. and authorizing the Mayor to sign any and all documents necessary to authorize the construction of this project. **Motion by Martin, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the first reading of Bill No. 2146. Roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Martin-yes, Hutson-yes, Halbert-yes, Bouse-yes. Honea absent. Motion by Halbert, seconded by Hutson, to have the second reading of Bill No. 2146. Vote: All ayes. Honea absent.** Clerk Garbo read Bill No. 2146 a second time. **Motion by Hutson, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the second reading of Bill No. 2146. Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Halbert-yes, Hutson-yes, Martin-yes, Hartzell-yes. Honea absent.** Mayor Copling declared that Bill No. 2146 becomes Special Ordinance 914 on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of September 2024.

**Motion by Halbert, seconded by Hartzell, to have the first reading of Bill No. 2147 by caption only. Vote: All ayes. Honea absent.** Clerk Garbo read Bill No. 2147 – An ordinance approving awarding the bid for recoating the roof at the Cuba Police Department with a 10 year warranty to Rudy's Roofing and authorizing the Mayor to sign any and all documents necessary to authorize the construction of this project. **Motion by Halbert, seconded by Hutson, to approve the first reading of Bill No. 2147. Roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Martin-yes, Hutson-yes, Halbert-yes, Bouse-yes. Honea absent. Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Hutson, to have the second reading of Bill No. 2147. Vote: All ayes. Honea absent.** Clerk Garbo read Bill No. 2147 a second time. **Motion by Halbert, seconded by Hutson, to approve the second reading of Bill No. 2147. Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Halbert-yes, Hutson-yes, Martin-yes, Hartzell-yes. Honea absent.** Mayor Copling declared that Bill No. 2147 becomes Special Ordinance 915 on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of September 2024.

**Motion by Hutson, seconded by Halbert, to have the first reading of Bill No. 2148 by caption only.**

**Vote: All ayes. Honea absent.** Clerk Garbo read Bill No. 2148 – An ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of Cuba, Missouri, on behalf of said city, to enter into an agreement with Catlett & Associates, LLC for audit services.

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the first reading of Bill No.**

**2148. Roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Martin-yes, Hutson-yes, Halbert-yes, Bouse-yes. Honea absent.**

**Motion by Halbert, seconded by Hartzell, to have the second reading of Bill No. 2148. Vote: All ayes.**

**Honea absent.** Clerk Garbo read Bill No. 2148 a second time.

**Motion by Hutson, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the second reading of Bill No. 2148. Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Halbert-yes, Hutson-yes,**

**Martin-yes, Hartzell-yes. Honea absent.** Mayor Copling declared that Bill No. 2148 becomes Special Ordinance 916 on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of September 2024.

Martin thanked Public Works for the ditches looking great on Mapleshade Road.

Attorney Hurth stated that at the previous council meeting there was a motion to purchase some cabinets for the Historical Museum and it was determined that it is not in the best interest to proceed with the purchase. A request letter was received from the Historical Museum that there was a miscommunication.

**Motion by Martin, seconded by Bouse, to rescind the motion to approve purchasing cabinets for the Historical Museum. Roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Martin-yes, Hutson-yes, Halbert-yes, Bouse-yes. Honea absent.**

Martin stated that hopefully by the next council meeting there will be information to present regarding the airport.

Hutson stated that Jerry Montgomery got a bid from Hendrix Masonry LLC for \$7575.00 for the block walls at the Tangle Creek and Hood Park bathrooms and believe it is less than budgeted. Montgomery clarified the bid does not include the doors and if approved, the work will be done in the winter.

**Motion by Hutson, seconded by Martin, to approve the bid from Hendrix Masonry LLC for \$7575.00.**

**Vote: All ayes.**

Hutson stated that Montgomery received a bid from Crull Construction for \$15,725.00 for work on the old firehouse. Basham stated that the project was not budgeted. Martin asked if a revision could be done if the project was approved and Basham replied yes.

**Motion by Martin, seconded by Hutson, to approve the bid from Crull Construction for \$15,725.00 pending financing. Vote: All ayes. Honea absent.**

Hutson stated that a bid was received for the sewer department dump truck that was budgeted for. The bid was for a 2007 Freightliner Business Class M2 106 dump truck from Montgomery Sales, Inc. for \$47,500.00.

**Motion by Hutson, seconded by Bouse, to approve the purchase of the dump truck from Montgomery Sales, Inc. for \$47,500.00. Vote: All ayes. Honea absent.**

Bouse stated that the windows and doors are old and need replaced at the old rock building that is going to be used for the new Visitor Center location and will cost approximately \$15,000.00 asking if

there is money or if capital improvement funds could be uses. Basham stated that it was not budgeted and will have to check and report back at the next council meeting. Montgomery asked if the other half of the building is being remodeled also. Hutson stated that the other half will stay empty for the time being. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Martin, to approve \$15,000.00 for windows and doors pending the funding. Vote: All ayes. Honea absent.**

Bouse stated that during a previous discussion, it was determined a certain amount of \$5000.00 has to be spent for capital improvement funds and that the Historical Museum actually needs 7 cabinets. Basham stated that it needs to be determined what department that building is funded from and will report back at the next council meeting.

PC Shelton stated that he did speak with the Post Office regarding the parking, and they are not in favor of parking anywhere else. Martin clarified that the vehicles in question are the ones that are parked all day along the street by Robert-Judsons and not the delivery vehicles. There was a discussion of 2 hour parking, parking meters, and how to monitor. Attorney Hurth stated that those options are good if there are people to enforce.

PC Shelton stated that a K9 dog was budgeted and there is an opiate board that they submitted to for a grant to help pay for the dog, training, hotels, and food. The opiate board approved the grant and is being sent to the county commissioner for approval. Once approval is received PC Shelton will bring the information to Basham. PC Shelton would like to proceed with purchasing a K9 dog. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to approve purchasing a K9 dog. Vote: All ayes. Honea absent.**

**Motion by Hutson, seconded by Bouse, to enter into executive session – closed to the public pursuant RSMo 610.021 – Section 1) litigation; Section 2) real estate. Roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Martin-yes, Hutson-yes, Halbert-yes, Bouse-yes. Honea absent.**

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hutson, to go back into open regular session. Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Halbert-yes, Hutson-yes, Martin-yes, Hartzell-yes. Honea absent.**

Attorney Hurth stated that the Board of Aldermen met in closed executive session and there were no final actions taken.

Attorney Hurth stated that an omission on a motion made earlier in the meeting that was made innocently and not ill intended. Hutson stated that in the motion to move Matt Pigg to the natural gas supervisor position there was also a recommendation to pay supervisor pay retroactive September 1, 2024. Attorney Hurth stated that if Pigg was doing the work he can be given the compensation. **Motion by Hutson, seconded by Hartzell, to approve paying Matt Pigg supervisor pay retroactive September 1, 2024. Roll call vote: Hartzell-yes, Martin-yes, Hutson-yes, Halbert-yes, Bouse-yes. Honea absent.**

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hutson, to adjourn. Vote: All ayes. Honea absent**

**Lainie Garbo, City Clerk**