

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF CUBA, MISSOURI**  
**TUESDAY – FEBRUARY 4, 2025 – 6:00 P.M.**  
**CUBA CITY HALL COUNCIL ROOM**

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

Mayor Copling requested to remove agenda line item 11, Bill No. 2165 – an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Williams, Robinson, & Wiggins for legal services, and line item 13, executive session – closed to the public pursuant to RSMo 610.021 section 3) personnel – hiring, firing and/or promoting of particular employee(s). **Motion by Hutson, seconded by Bouse, to approve removing line items #11 and #13 from agenda. Vote: All ayes. Martin and Honea absent.**

**Motion by Halbert, seconded by Bouse, to approve the agenda with revision. Vote: All ayes. Martin and Honea absent.**

**Citizens participation:**

Derrick Sutton, Amazon store, asked about the parking on Green Street and Washington. Sutton stated that he has lost half of his parking due to the decision of no parking on the west side of Green Street and feels that is discrimination of his business. Sutton asked the council to reconsider the parking on Green Street. Mayor Copling stated that the issue will be looked at again and the council will get a legal opinion for further advice to move forward.

Dan Eidson thanked the council and street department for the sign placed at Washington and Treece Street. Eidson also questioned a big box truck now parked in the way.

Dee Gregory stated she is possibly purchasing a building next to Derrick Sutton and also asked to get the parking back on Green Street as there is no other parking areas. Bouse asked about the possibility of a one way street. PC Shelton stated it would have to be discussed.

**Motion by Hutson, seconded by Hartzell, to approve the regular meeting minutes from January 21, 2025. Vote: All ayes. Martin and Honea absent.**

**Motion by Hartzell, seconded by Hutson, to approve the executive closed session meeting minutes from January 21, 2025. Vote: All ayes. Martin and Honea absent.**

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

**Budget revisions and transfers through 12/31/24:** Jennifer Basham presented the budget revisions and transfers. See attached.

Bouse asked about the increase in the natural gas departments payroll. Basham stated it is due to new employees and Jimmy Happel working part time to help train and just needs to be increased to make the fiscal year balance. Bouse stated that the natural gas committee will need to address. Hutson stated that the department is new and need the training from Happel.

**Motion by Hutson, seconded by Bouse, to approve the budget revisions and transfers through 12/31/24. Vote: All ayes. Martin and Honea absent.**

**Salary committee recommendations:** Bouse stated that a salary committee meeting was held on 01/24/25 to discuss raising the starting salary for the laborers position to include anyone full time under the pay of \$20.50. Bouse also included Dawn Gregory and Leslie Hageman in the raise. Basham stated that Gregory and Hageman are not included in the revision as there was no mention of those being included in the salary committee recommendation. Bouse stated that yes they were to be included and felt that Basham was not doing what is being told to do. Hutson asked about the ripple effect of raising the starting pay and that one might not want to make the move from a different department if the money isn't different. Hutson stated that he is not against employees making more money, but this is mid-year of a budget and asked if it was the right time to be making this move. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to make the starting pay \$19.50/hour without a CDL and \$20.50/hour with a CDL** Mayor Copling asked if the bookkeeper said if this starting pay was affordable. Bouse stated that \$60,000.00 was budgeted. **Roll call vote: Bouse-yes, Halbert-yes, Hutson-no, Hartzell-yes. Martin and Honea absent.**

Mayor Copling would like to wait until budget time for any other raises or changes in the salaries but did agree with raising the starting pay.

**Street department – laborer position:** Bouse stated that the street department laborer position needs to be advertised and would like to post the position internally and externally until February 28, 2025 and possibly hire at the March 4, 2025 council meeting. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to post the street department laborer position internally and externally until February 28, 2025. Vote: All ayes. Martin and Honea absent.**

**Sewer department – bid for fence at Paul Bryan lift station:** AJ Harman, sewer supervisor, stated that the fencing around the Paul Bryan lift station is dangerous as it is old and not worth fixing so it needs replaced. This is a budgeted item.

All-Type Fence Inc. \$7651.59

**Motion by Hutson, seconded by Bouse, to approve the bid from All-Type Fence Inc. for \$7651.59. Vote: All ayes. Martin and Honea absent.**

**Treatment plant – bar screen grate parts:** Harman stated that there are two bids to present.

Lewis Machine & Tool Co., Inc. \$21,205.00

Saveco North America Inc. \$44,304.88

**Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hutson, to approve the bid from Lewis Machine & Tool Co., Inc. for \$21,205.00. Vote: All ayes. Martin and Honea absent.**

**Police Chief report:** Nuisance report – PC Shelton stated that there is nothing to report. There have been a couple things that the department has taken care of. There was talk of the animal control officer taking nuisance complaints, but not ready yet.

PC Shelton stated that Animal Care Assistant Zoey Lickliger turned in her resignation effective May 11, 2025 but could be sooner due to her pregnancy and asked why they should rehire and advertise the position to allow time for training. Bouse stated that May is a long time away and would like to wait. PC Shelton wanted to council to be ware. **Motion by Hutson, seconded by Bouse, to approve advertising the Animal Care Assistant position until filled. Vote: All ayes. Martin and Honea absent.**

**Motion by Hutson, seconded by Hartzell, to accept the resignation of Zoey Lickliger effective May 11, 2025. Vote: All ayes. Martin and Honea absent.**

Bouse announced that there would be a police committee meeting to discuss the parking on Green Street Friday; February 7, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. at the police department.

Mayor Copling stated that Karen Groom resigned from the planning and zoning board. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hutson, to accept the resignation of Karen Groom. Vote: All ayes. Martin and Honea absent.**

Mayor Copling stated that Rodney Neff resigned as the Emergency Preparedness Director effective February 28, 2025. Bouse recommends it be effective immediately. Guffey made the recommendation to keep the resignation effective February 28, 2025. **Motion by Bouse, seconded by Hartzell, to accept the resignation of Rodney Neff effective February 28, 2025. Vote: All ayes. Martin and Honea absent.**

**Motion by Hutson, seconded by Hartzell, to adjourn. Vote: All ayes. Martin and Honea absent.**

Lainie Garbo, City Clerk