CITY OF CAMERON
MINUTES
July 18, 2022

REGULAR SESSION

Roy Estes	P
Dennis M. Clark	P
Becky Curtis	P
Julie Ausmus	P
Alexander Williams	P

The City Council of the City of Cameron, Missouri met in Regular Session on Monday, the 18th day of July 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at Cameron City Hall. Mayor Roy Estes led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Mayor Roy Estes presided with the following Councilmembers present: Dennis M. Clark, Becky Curtis, Julie Ausmus and Alexander Williams. Absent: None.

Present were City Manager Stephen Rasmussen, Utility Director Zac Johnson, Finance Director Carmen Weigand, Community Development Director Tim Wymes, Police Chief Bashor, Fire Chief O'Donnell, Interim Public Works Director Wilson, Park/Reservoir Supt. Garr, Attorney for the City Padraic Corcoran and City Clerk Shellie J. Blades.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION WITH COUNCIL

Vinzent Cooper, 305 Lake Viking Terrace, Gallatin, MO: Thanked Staff & Council for allowing him to speak. Stated his concern for the safety of the citizenry. Mr. Cooper spoke about peaceful protests in the past which became violent and destructive. Stated that "…nothing good happens in the dark," and requested Council consider setting a time of 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for protesting. Mr. Cooper also suggested having a designated area for demonstrations. Mr. Cooper spoke briefly about his podcast as well as parenting. Stated it was the Council's duty to protect Cameron. (five-minute time limit reached) Mr. Cooper spoke about people with sexuality issues and an alleged incident of transgender woman (biological man) using the women's shower room at the Cameron Pool. Alluded to idea that men should 'take care of' deviants. Spoke briefly about patriotism.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Councilmember Clark and seconded by Councilmember Williams to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

a. Motion to approve the Minutes of the June 15, 2022 Council Retreat.
b. Motion to approve the Minutes of the June 21, 2022 Regular Session.

c. Motion to approve the Minutes of the June 29, 2022 Special Session.

APPOINTMENTS

6:11 p.m. – Councilmember Ausmus recused herself citing a conflict of interest.

Housing Authority Board: Mayor Estes reappointed Nancy Leach to the Housing Authority Board based on the recommendation of the Housing Authority. The reappointment was approved by the remaining Councilmembers. Councilmember Ausmus abstained.

6:12 p.m. – Councilmember Ausmus rejoined the meeting.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Rasmussen:

- ✓ Went over the meeting schedule for the Finance/Budget Committee. The first meeting to discuss the new budget occurred earlier at 5:00 p.m. The next meeting will be Monday, July 25th at 5:00 p.m. and third meeting is scheduled for August 1st at 5:00 prior to the regular scheduled meeting that day. The public hearing for the budget will take place on August 15th with the Budget Ordinance to follow at the next two meetings.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Bill 2022-25, **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF CAMERON, MISSOURI, AND ALLIANCE WATER RESOURCES, INC. FOR MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS SERVICES AT THE CAMERON WASTEWATER FACILITY** was read by title on first reading by City Clerk Blades. Copies of said Bill 2022-25 were available for the public. Motion was made by Councilmember Williams and seconded by Councilmember Clark to pass said bill on first reading. Discussion. Utility Director Johnson explained this is the annual renewal of the contract with Alliance to provide operations at the City's Wastewater Treatment Facility. The new contract is an increase of approximately 9½% from the previous year. Alliance provides great service to the City and routinely provides a refund of budgeted amounts that are saved during the contract year. Bill 2022-25 passed on first reading only by unanimous voice vote.

Bill 2022-26, **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OF THE CITY OF CAMERON, MISSOURI, TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH HDR FOR PREPARING AN ENGINEERING REPORT FOR THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT** was read by title on first reading by City Clerk Blades. Copies of said Bill 2022-26 were available for the public. Motion was made by Councilmember Clark and seconded by Councilmember Williams to pass said bill on first reading.

Discussion. Utility Director Johnson explained he will be speaking about both Bill 2022-26 and 2022-27 as they are similar in nature. These Bills are to acquire the required engineering studies for the grant applications that Council approved at the previous meeting. The wastewater project is a $5 million project with $43,100 as the not-to-exceed amount for engineering. The water project (Bill 2022-27) is a $1.9 million project and the engineering costs for that will not exceed $37,300. Director Johnson stated he is not optimistic about being awarded the grants based on the point system geared toward communities that are in distress, which, by the grant guidelines, Cameron is not. Councilmember Curtis inquired why are we seeking engineering studies if we're not going to be awarded the grants. Director Johnson explained that the projects are still needed and necessary and the engineering needs to be completed whether we are successful with the grant or have to fund it some other way down the road. The engineering studies will still be valid. Council passed Bill 2022-26 on first reading only by unanimous voice vote.

Bill 2022-27, **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OF THE CITY OF CAMERON, MISSOURI, TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH HDR FOR PREPARING AN ENGINEERING REPORT FOR THE WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM** was read by title on first reading by City Clerk Blades. Copies of said Bill 2022-27 were available for the public. Motion was made by Councilmember Clark and seconded by Councilmember Williams to pass said bill on first reading. Discussion. None. Bill 2022-27 passed on first reading only by unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 2022-31, **A RESOLUTION FOR THE CITY OF CAMERON, MISSOURI TO ACCEPT A PROPOSAL FOR A CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 FROM RANDY CURNOW FOR THE WATER/SEWER DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT** was read by title by City Clerk Blades. Copies of said Resolution 2022-31 were available for the public. Motion was made by Councilmember Clark and seconded by Councilmember Williams to pass Resolution 2022-31. Discussion. Utility Director Johnson informed Council that the current budget anticipated replacing a dump truck for the Water/Sewer Distribution Department. The Department's service truck, however, has become inoperable and they wish to purchase a new pickup and plan to purchase a dump truck in another budget year. Randy Curnow has a truck that meets the Department's requirements for $49,715. Councilmember Curtis asked about the dump truck. Director Johnson explained that it is a 2000 and is starting to have some maintenance issues and was going to be replaced to keep the City's rolling stock up-to-date. The dump truck is still operational and staff feels they can get another year or two out of it. Councilmember Clark commented that Staff does an excellent job of keeping equipment functional. Resolution 2022-31 passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 2022-32, **A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2022 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES AND ADOPTING A VISION STATEMENT FOR THE CITY OF CAMERON, MISSOURI** was read by title by City Clerk Blades. Copies of said Resolution 2022-32 were available for the public. Motion was made by Councilmember Clark and seconded by Councilmember Curtis to pass Resolution 2022-32. Discussion. City Manager Rasmussen detailed the events of the Strategic Planning Retreat. This Resolution represents the Vision Statement developed and a list of objectives for staff. The list of objectives is slightly altered to reflect that staff will examine the need for a Communication Officer instead of creating a position.

The list also includes other political subdivisions along with organizations and clubs for collaborative projects. Resolution 2022-32 passed with a vote of four in favor and one opposed.

Resolution 2022-33, **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF CAMERON, MISSOURI ADOPTING A PUBLIC PLAYGROUND SAFETY POLICY STATEMENT** was read by title by City Clerk Blades. Copies of said Resolution 2022-33 were available for the public. Motion was made by Councilmember Williams and seconded by Councilmember Clark to pass Resolution 2022-33. Discussion. Park/Reservoir Superintendent relayed that the Park Board recommended the adoption of the Playground Safety Policy included with this Resolution. Supt. Garr explained that the Park and the City desire to set a precedent of safety regarding park equipment. Supt. Garr went over the seven-point guideline in detail including a sample inspection report. Councilmember Curtis asked what instigated this policy. Supt. Garr said he developed it after the events of a few years ago when park equipment had to be expeditiously removed due to safety concerns. There are no major changes from what the Parks are currently doing, this Resolution just memorializes the City's commitment to safety. Resolution 2022-33 passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Public Demonstration Discussion – Counselor Padraic Corcoran: City Manager Rasmussen stated that several staff members have received calls from the public regarding demonstrations and therefore he requested the City Attorney to provide information. Counselor Corcoran presented a PowerPoint which detailed the First Amendment, profanity, obscenity, public forums and levels of free speech. The City Clerk added that no permit is required for a demonstration unless blocking of streets is required. In that case, a typical parade/street closure permit would be required. Mayor Estes asked about establishing time limits for protesting. Counselor Corcoran explained the complications involved including a brief discussion on curfews.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION WITH COUNCIL

Suewanna Freeman, 908 W. Cornhill – Ms. Freeman relayed that she observed a small protest regarding the Roe v. Wade decision and wished they had done a better job of it. Ms. Freeman stated that she feels her church's rights were violated at this same time by now allowing a procession. The 'peaceful' protest that was going on allegedly ended with trespassing and threats. Ms. Freeman stated they had a right to their procession and they had full right to counter-protest. Ms. Freeman also spoke briefly about religious celebrations.

BJ Reed, 702 W. Third – Ms. Reed thanked the previous presenters in public participation. She feels there is a proper time and place for everything. Ms. Reed takes issue with the Historical Preservation Society's 4th of July parade being attended by protestors and felt children should not have been exposed to that. Ms. Reed questioned why HPS is required to get a permit when the protestors do not. Ms. Reed claimed that protestors were in the street during HPS's parade.

MISCELLANEOUS-STAFF

Tad Wilson, Interim Public Works Director

- Reminded all that trash collection this week (and likely next week) will begin early at 5:00 a.m. due to the heat.

Shellie J. Blades, City Clerk

- Informed Council that she and the Finance & Utility Directors will be out of the office Wednesday-Friday attending the MIRMA Conference.
- There is a Public Works Committee Meeting immediately following the Council meeting.
- The next Budget/Finance Committee Meeting will be Monday, July 25th at 5:00 p.m.

MISCELLANEOUS-COUNCIL

Councilmember Curtis:

- Thank everyone for attending the meeting, especially the young ones.
- The Finance Meeting was tough due in part to gas prices and litigation. Councilmember Curtis expressed her appreciation for Finance Director Weigand's conservative estimates.
- Thanked Staff for their efforts.

Councilmember Williams:

- It has been an eventful month. He thanked the community for their patience and is glad that events didn't escalate. A special thank you to Councilmembers Curtis & Ausmus for their attention to the situations.
- Thanked Main Street for their improvements to Earl Park.
- Thanked the Historical Preservation Society for the excellent Fourth of July celebrations and carnival.

Mayor Estes:

- Stated it has been an emotional month and he's glad that cooler minds prevailed.
- Announced that it is 'Kidney Stone Season' and urged everyone to stay hydrated.

Councilmember Clark:

- Reflected about an event in the past when the Westboro Baptist Church came to Cameron to protest at the funeral of a fallen soldier and commented that there is always a challenge to be met.

There being no further business on motion made by Councilmember Clark and seconded by Councilmember Williams, the meeting was adjourned at 7:08 p.m. on unanimous voice vote.

APPROVED:

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Mayor Roy Estes

ATTEST:

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City Clerk