

**CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS
BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING MINUTES
September 6, 2018**

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY Mayor Robert J. Doerr at 7:30 p.m. Copies of all ordinances and resolutions to be considered at the meeting were made available for public inspection prior to the time of consideration by the Board of Aldermen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG was led by Mayor Doerr.

Mayor Doerr asked for a moment of silence due to the upcoming 17th anniversary of those victims who were killed on 9/11.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Mayor Robert J. Doerr, Attorney Kevin O’Keefe, City Collector Mark Tranel, Chief of Police Jeremy Ihler, City Clerk Deni Donovan, Alderwoman West, Alderwoman Reed, Alderman Merz, Alderman Jordan, Alderman Christian, Alderwoman Dailes, and Alderwoman Avant-Elliott.

ABSENT: Alderman Herl

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Alderwoman Avant-Elliott moved for the approval of the Agenda, seconded by Alderman Merz.

PRESENTATION OF THE UNAPPROVED MINUTES: Alderman Merz moved for approval of the August 16, 2018, Minutes of the Board of Aldermen Meeting, seconded by Alderman Christian with the following amendment:

Page 7, Alderwoman Avant-Elliott’s report; correct to: “She appreciates the *improvement in the* process and healthy dialogue...” Motion carried.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Alderwoman West moved to open the meeting to the public, as long as the Mayor deems necessary, with a 3-minute time limit, seconded by Alderman Christian. Motion carried.

The public hearing was addressed first.

PUBLIC HEARING: To hear public comments on a Conditional Use Permit for a home day care located 9765 Colony Drive.

SHERIE WILLIAMS, 97XX COLONY DRIVE: She introduced herself and asked if anyone had any questions of her or the day care; no one did.

Alderwoman West moved to close the Public Hearing and open the meeting to any other comments, seconded by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott. Motion carried unanimously.

KATHY MASON, 10XX DONNELL AVENUE: She was told the dead trees across the street were owned by St. Louis County. She asked if City Hall could make a call to have them cut down. Mayor Doerr will follow up.

RACHAEL BOBO, 94XX YORKTOWN DRIVE: Commented on how difficult it is to talk with a Bellefontaine Officer and how she was getting the run-around when she called Dispatch.

She feels it takes too long to meet an Officer face-to-face. Chief Ihler said he would talk to her after the meeting.

VALERIE STOKES, 101XX ELBA LANE: She is having a difficult time with one of her neighbors. She wanted to know how to get a hold of police when an issue is happening. Chief Ihler said he would look into it.

CARNELL JONES, 11XX WENTWORTH DRIVE: He thanked Alderwomen Reed and Avant-Elliott for their service and work on the budget.

PEG WARNUSZ, 100XX CRETE DRIVE: She relayed a story about a mentally disturbed neighbor who is being extremely disruptive and doing inappropriate things. She is very concerned about the kids in the neighborhood. The police have been called numerous times. Chief Ihler said mental health issues can be very difficult. A discussion continued as to what could be done.

REV. DINAH TATMAN, 33 GREEN ACRES ROAD: Commented on the mental illness process.

Mayor Doerr asked if anyone else wished to address the Board. Hearing none, Alderwoman West moved to bring the meeting back to the Board, seconded by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott. Motion carried unanimously.

September is known as National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. Alderwoman Avant-Elliott read the City's Proclamation to promote awareness surrounding resources available to the community for those in need.

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott made a motion to accept the Proclamation, seconded by Alderman Merz. Motion carried.

COMMISSION AND BOARD REPORTS:

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION: The Board reviewed the July 26 and August 23, 2018, Minutes. Alderwoman West reported on both meetings. She said the temporary chairs, elected at the last meeting, are now permanent. When asked, Chief Ihler said recruitment continues and they will build up their eligibility list.

YOUTH COMMISSION: The Board reviewed the August 20, 2018, Minutes. Alderwoman Avant-Elliott reported Family Fright Night will be October 19th; they are checking into obtaining ID Kits to pass out at various events; and they will discuss future events at the November meeting.

IMAGE & BEAUTIFICATION BOARD: The Board reviewed the August 14, 2018, Minutes. The citywide clean-up day went well, although Mayor Doerr would like to see more volunteers. Alderman Christian brought up that the memorial stones may possibly be moved due to the memorial bench being placed in Sgt. Peggy Vassallo's honor. Mayor Doerr will discuss ideas and suggestions with the Image & Beautification and Park Boards. The next clean-up day will be September 29th at 9:00 a.m.

PARKS BOARD REPORT: The Board reviewed the August 21, 2018, Minutes. Mark Dickerson reported on the following:

- Bids for the Bissell Hill Parks Project are due tomorrow by 2:00 pm. The timeline for the project is on schedule. The group with the project has been in discussions with the Ashbrook Street Project people.
- Registrations are ongoing for upcoming classes; and

- When asked, Mark said proceeds, from the dinners held at the Rec Center, go directly back to the city.

There was a question about the City Attorney's statement. He stated the Board meetings are included in his retainer.

INVOICES OVER \$500: Alderwoman Reed made a motion to pay invoices 1-11, dated August 24, 2018, in the amount of \$45,864.19, seconded by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott. Motion carried.

INVOICES UNDER \$500: Informational.

CHIEF IHLER: Chief Ihler reported on the following:

- The police department has applied for two grants: 1) surveillance system; and 2) tasers.
- National Night Out will be held on October 2nd – residents should contact Officer Owens if they want to host a party;
- PD does a couple of mass destruction of guns every year;
- Discussion with the Board continued about job openings; a high grass issue; a possible mold issue in PD; how city hall is required to contact an officer if a resident would like to talk to someone in PD; and the merger and salary of the Evidence Manager/AA position.

Discussion continued regarding when the City Attorney should prepare the Bill for the new Evidence Manager/AA position. It was decided for the Board to review the information at the next meeting first before having the Bill prepared. The Board has received the salary scale.

CITY ATTORNEY: No report given, but suggested the Board delay Bill No. 2520 until after Bill No. 2521.

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott made a motion to amend the Agenda to introduce Bill No. 2521 before Bill No. 2520, seconded by Alderwoman Reed. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-5 – INTRODUCED BY ALDERWOMAN AVANT-ELLIOTT

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING MISSOURI PROPOSITION D.

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott made a motion in support of Resolution 2018-5, seconded by Alderwoman Reed. Motion carried.

BILL NO. 2521 – INTRODUCED BY ALDERWOMAN WEST

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR OPERATION OF A HOME CHILD DAY CARE FACILITY TO BE LOCATED AT 9765 COLONY DRIVE TO SHERIE WILLIAMS AND ESTABLISHING CERTAIN CONDITIONS RELATING THERETO.

Alderwoman West read the Bill for the first time and moved for approval of the first reading of Bill No. 2521 and to go on to the second reading. The motion was seconded by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott. Motion carried. Alderwoman West then read Bill No. 2521 for a second time and thereafter made a motion that the Bill be approved, by the Board of Aldermen for enactment as an Ordinance and waves the rules, seconded by Alderman Jordan. Motion carried.

Upon the roll being called the votes were cast as follows: Alderwoman West, yes; Alderman Jordan, yes; Alderman Christian, yes; Alderwoman Dailes, no; Alderman Merz, yes; Alderwoman Avant-Elliott, yes; and Alderwoman Reed, yes.

The majority of the members elected to the Board of Aldermen having voted for passage of Bill No. 2521, the Bill was passed by the Board and will become Ordinance No. 2435 when and if signed by the Mayor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

BILL NO. 2520 – INTRODUCED BY ALDERWOMAN DAILES (1st reading only on August 16, 2018)

AN ORDINANCE IMPOSING A SIX-MONTH MORATORIUM ON ISSUANCE OF CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS FOR HOME CHILD CARE FACILITIES IN ORDER TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF POSSIBLE REVISIONS TO REGULATIONS GOVERNING SUCH PERMITS.

Alderwoman Dailes read Bill No. 2520 for a second time and thereafter made a motion that the Bill be approved by the Board of Aldermen for enactment as an Ordinance, seconded by Alderman Merz.

Upon the roll being called the votes were cast as follows: Alderwoman Dailes, yes; Alderman Jordan, yes; Alderman Christian, no; Alderwoman Reed, yes; Alderwoman Avant-Elliott, yes; Alderman Merz, yes; and Alderwoman West, no.

The majority of the members elected to the Board of Aldermen having voted for passage of Bill No. 2520, the Bill was passed by the Board and will become Ordinance No. 2436 when and if signed by the Mayor.

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott asked the Board be informed of the study on the moratorium which will be conducted through the Planning and Zoning Commission.

NEW BUSINESS:

BILL NO. 2522 – INTRODUCED BY ALDERMAN CHRISTIAN

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

Alderman Christian read the Bill for the first time and moved for approval of the first reading of Bill No. 2522 and to go on to the second reading. The motion was seconded by Alderman Merz. Motion carried. Alderman Christian then read Bill No. 2522 for a second time and thereafter made a motion that the Bill be approved by the Board of Aldermen for enactment as an Ordinance, seconded by Alderman Jordan. Motion carried.

Upon the roll being called the votes were cast as follows: Alderman Christian, yes; Alderwoman Reed, yes; Alderman Merz, yes; Alderwoman Avant-Elliott, yes; Alderwoman West, yes; Alderman Jordan, yes; and Alderwoman Dailes, yes.

The majority of the members elected to the Board of Aldermen having voted for passage of Bill No. 2522, the Bill was passed by the Board and will become Ordinance No. 2437 when and if signed by the Mayor.

REPORT OF THE MAYOR:

Mayor Doerr reported on the following:

- The RGSD Homecoming Parade will be September 22nd beginning at 10:00 am;
- Theresia Metz has resigned as Director of the Veterans Home;
- He has accepted a position with the Oversight Committee at the Veterans Home;
- Bid openings for the Ashbrook Project was September 4th – six bidders submitted bid packets;
- Bid openings for the Bissell Hills Park Project will be tomorrow at 2:00 pm;
- The Town Hall Meeting will be September 20th at 7:00 pm;
- The Auditors will be at City Hall the week of September 24th;
- He reminded the Board a special meeting will need to be called in order to pass the Property Tax Ordinance;
- Sandra Henry has resigned from the Public Safety Commission – looking for another member;
- Please remember the lost souls of September 11th; and
- His budget letter was read and distributed to the Board – he stated the reason for not signing the budget ordinance.

REPORT OF THE ALDERMEN:

ALDERMAN JORDAN: He suggested scheduling special meetings to pass the property tax ordinance, the Ashbrook Project contract, and the Bissell Hills Park Project contract.

After much discussion, it was decided to have a Special Meeting on September 20th (before the Town Hall Meeting) at 6:00 pm. and a Special Meeting on September 27th at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the property tax rates Ordinance.

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott had questions regarding the St. Louis County Tax site and how it relates to Bellefontaine Neighbors.

ALDERMAN CHRISTIAN: No report given.

ALDERWOMAN DAILES: On August 28th, she attended a meeting on Prop D. She suggested going to the County's website to gain more knowledge. She attended a Back-To-School event at True Redemption. She attended a dedication in the City of Berkeley in honor of Leta Hopkins. Thanks to Marcie for her upcoming help on a celebration in Ward 4 on National Night Out.

ALDERWOMAN AVANT-ELLIOTT: She would like Mayor Doerr to sign and date the letter he read to the Board regarding the budget and keep it with the budget paperwork in the vault. She thanked everyone for attending tonight and asked them to invite a friend to the next meeting. She said the Board is a work in progress; improvements and changes are being done.

ALDERWOMAN WEST: Reminded everyone about the Neighborhood Bash scheduled in Ward 1 on September 15th from 12:00-3:00 pm. This is an attempt to begin discussions on community policing and to meet with the police, firemen and any elected officials who are present.

She would like to get a group together to discuss changing the fence ordinance; Alderman Christian will be helping. A discussion continued about having a public forum; getting an Alderman from each ward; and the role P&Z will play in updating the changes.

In response to the letter read by Mayor Doerr tonight, Alderwoman West made a motion to move forward to establish a Budget Committee. After much discussion with the Board and

the City Attorney about a Budget Committee/Budget Officer, again, Alderwoman West made a motion to discuss establishing a Budget Committee at the next workshop meeting, seconded by Alderman Christian. The City Attorney would like more information from the Board, such as the purpose of a Budget Committee.

More discussion on the 2018-2019 budget.

Upon the roll being called the votes were cast as follows: Alderwoman West, yes; Alderwoman Reed, yes; Alderman Merz, yes; Alderman Jordan, no; Alderman Christian, yes; Alderwoman Dailes, yes; and Alderwoman Avant-Elliott, yes. With a 6-1 vote, the motion carried.

Alderwoman West has complained about a house nearby, although she did not know what was being done about it. The Mayor will follow up.

ALDERWOMAN REED: She asked for the phone numbers for Dispatch. She inquired about the progress of the salt shed. She would like all the Department Heads, and the Building Department, to submit department goals; she would like them within the next two weeks. Chief Ihler submitted his goals, but never heard from the Board; he would like some feedback. She is seeing a lot of vehicle parts on lawns and cars driving in their front yard. She would like to see an Ordinance passed to address these issues. The City Attorney will research.

ALDERMAN MERZ: On September 22nd, the Knights in Florissant and a Bellefontaine Neighbors family will host a fundraiser to address suicide awareness.

CITY COLLECTOR, MARK TRANEL: Dr. Tranel said the Riverview Gardens School District is required to host Public Hearings on its partial accreditation. It will be held at Westview Middle School on September 13th at 6:30 pm to give the public a chance to voice their opinions on improvements in the District.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Alderwoman West moved to open the meeting to the public, as long as the Mayor deems necessary, with a 3-minute time limit, seconded by Alderman Christian; Alderwoman Reed opposed. Motion carried unanimously.

JENNIE STEWART, 101XX MARALDO PLACE: Comments on the following: 1) wanted to know what was going on at the closed day care (the old Hardees) and the blue house on Bellefontaine Road – the Mayor didn't know, but he will try and find out; 2) she is concerned about the steps it takes to call an officer – she considers the police department as a safe haven and an officer should be available at all times. Chief Ihler is looking into putting a phone on the outside of the building to be used for emergencies; 3) she really misses the Newsletter and would like the Board to reconsider; and 4) she would like the Board to think about the residents – she would like more communication between the residents and the Aldermen.

CARNELL JONES, 11XX WENTWORTH DRIVE: Comments on the police department and its service. He brought up an issue whereby a resident said his son was treated poorly in the court system. Alderwoman West stated the son's side of the story was a total fabrication.

KATHY MASON, 10XX DONNELL AVENUE: She suggested calling the Riverview Fire Department in case of an emergency if the police cannot be contacted.

REV. DINAH TATMAN, 33 GREEN ACRES ROAD: She commended Chief Ihler on his work. She has concerns about the deterioration of the city. She asked the Mayor to drive

through the city and note what he sees. Commented on the Building Inspector and issues in the community; asked if the department needs more help.

Mayor Doerr asked if anyone wished to address the Board. Hearing none, Alderman Jordan moved to bring the meeting back to the Board, seconded by Alderman Merz. Motion carried unanimously.

Alderman Jordan made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alderwoman Reed. Motion carried unanimously.

MEETING ADJOURNED: Meeting adjourned at 10:06 p.m.

ATTEST:

Deni Donovan
Deni Donovan, City Clerk

Approved by the Board of Aldermen on *September 20, 2018*