

**CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS  
BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING MINUTES  
November 1, 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 for the retired St. Louis City Police Officer killed in an attempted robbery; the Auxiliary Officer killed by a fall in Washington Park chasing after a suspect; and those killed in the Pittsburgh synagogue shooting on October 27<sup>th</sup>.

**ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Robert J. Doerr, Attorney Helmut Starr (sitting in for 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, City Attorney Kevin O'Keefe

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Alderman Jordan moved for the approval of the Agenda, seconded by Alderman Merz. Motion carried.

**PRESENTATION OF THE UNAPPROVED MINUTES:** Alderwoman Avant-Elliott moved to table the October 4, 2018, Minutes until the City Clerk reviews the video and a correction is made.

The City Clerk **ADD: "indicated she"** did review the video, **ADD: "but did not confirm what was actually stated by Alderman Jordan"**. Alderman Jordan had requested the opportunity to review the video. Attorney Starr said the minutes should be an accurate description on what this body agrees occurred at the meeting. The minutes should be corrected as a body if they think there is a mistake.

After much discussion, Alderwoman West said the minutes are not a transcript. She made a motion to replace the word "**Aldermen**" with the word "**employee**" in the following sentence from Alderman Jordan's report, seconded by Alderman Merz. Alderman Jordan and Alderman Christian opposed. Motion passed.

"In the budget, Aldermen training is up 61%, which is good, but the problem is the city paying for those who cancel or not attend an event a scheduled event. He would like the Board to consider charging the ~~Alderman~~ employee if the city is charged any fees. An exception would be something unforeseen and the Board votes to waive the payment to the city".

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott moved for approval of the October 4, 2018, minutes of the Board of Aldermen Meeting, as amended, seconded by Alderwoman West. Alderman Jordan and Alderman Christian opposed. Motion passed.

**PRESENTATION OF THE UNAPPROVED MINUTES:** Alderwoman Avant-Elliott moved for approval of the October 18, 2018, Minutes of the Board of Aldermen Meeting, seconded by Alderwoman Dailes, as amended, to add the following sentence to Alderwoman Avant-Elliott's comments under Planning & Zoning:

**Added:** “Mayor Doerr requested the Building Inspector follow up on the status of the two day cares”.

Alderman Christian opposed. Motion carried.

Mayor Doerr opened the meeting to the public and asked if anyone in the audience would like to make any comments, with a 3-minute time limit.

**ANTHONY SMITH, 12XX KIMBALL COURT:** American Legion Post 335 is sponsoring a Thanksgiving dinner for two or three families. Let the City Clerk know of any families in need.

At this time, Chief Ihler asked Lt. Spieler and Major Willis to come up to the front. Chief Ihler wanted to recognize Lt. Spieler and Officer Katherine Weiss (not present) for their sacrifice and commitment to the community which they displayed on December 14, 2017; they were both shot by the suspect at close range. He presented them with several awards:

- The Chief’s Commendation for Valor;
- The Silver Star for Bravery from the American Police Hall of Fame;
- They are receiving an award from the International Association Chiefs of Police; and
- On November 15<sup>th</sup>, they will be awarded The Medal of Valor from the Crusaders Against Crime during a special ceremony.

Chief Ihler introduced Ted Drysdale, Safariland Group, the company which manufactures the bulletproof vests, and Andy Strebler, Ed Roehr Safety Products, the vendor the police department uses to buy the vests.

Mr. Drysdale explained the importance of the vests and how dedicated the company is to saving lives. Lt. Spieler and Officer Weiss are now a part of the Saves Club which started in 2002. This club recognizes those who have been shot and have lived due to the vests. The employees, throughout the country, recognized and celebrated the induction of Lt. Spieler and Officer Weiss. Mr. Drysdale welcomed Lt. Spieler into the Saves Club and presented him with a plaque.

Mayor Doerr brought the meeting back to the Board.

#### **COMMISSION AND BOARD REPORTS:**

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION:** The Board reviewed the October 25, 2018, Minutes. Alderwoman West read the minutes. There are several corrections which need to be made to the report. She will have them updated at the next meeting. Chief Ihler corrected the minutes by stating there are (3) holidays whereby the department will have full staffing: 4<sup>th</sup> of July; Halloween; and New Year’s Eve. There were no questions.

**YOUTH COMMISSION:** The Board reviewed the October 15, 2018, Minutes. Alderwoman Avant-Elliott reported they met to update upcoming events March-June, 2019. The next meeting will be November 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

**IMAGE & BEAUTIFICATION BOARD:** Alderman Christian said the minutes will be ready to review at the next meeting.

**PARKS BOARD REPORT:** The Board reviewed the October 16, 2018, Minutes. Mark Dickerson reported on the following:

- The Board is researching Rec Center fees and pricing in other communities;
- Alderwoman Reed had questions about possibly having the Trinity Senior Lock-In event at the Rec Center – they will discuss soon; and

- Mark received (3) bids for two new HVAC units in the Police Department:
  - 1) Vernier \$14,950
  - 2) K&K Metal Works \$16,110
  - 3) St. Louis Sheetmetal Corporation \$17,196

The Board had questions regarding the bid process vs. a Request for Proposal (RFP) and advertising.

Mark recommended Vernier, the low bidder. Per his recommendation, Alderwoman West made a motion to accept the Vernier bid, seconded by Alderman Jordan.

Discussion continued. Mr. Starr gave an explanation as to why a city goes out for bid vs. a Request for Proposal (RFP) and getting Board approval. The bid and Board acceptance takes the place of a contract. Mark said companies are chosen by past experience or recommendation from other cities. This is a capital expense already in the budget.

Motion carried.

A discussion ensued as to how credit card purchases, over \$500, are monitored. The example was a purchase made by the Chief for a rental car over \$1000. Mr. Starr explained the purchases may have been approved, earlier, as budget items.

Chief Ihler remembered the purchase of the rental car was taken out of drug forfeiture funds.

**INVOICES OVER \$500:** Alderman Jordan made a motion to pay invoices 1-17, dated October 22-26, 2018, in the amount of \$61,629.47, seconded by Alderman Christian. Motion carried.

**INVOICES UNDER \$500:** Informational only - October 22-26, 2018, in the amount of \$2,162.65.

**CHIEF IHLER:** Chief Ihler reported on the following:

- The police department attended several Halloween events; they were a lot of fun and there were no problems.
- Last Sunday, there was a BBQ to benefit the Backstoppers. It was not very well attended, but it may have been due to the weather and the location. They may hold the event at the corner of Chambers and Bellefontaine next year.

Mayor Doerr wanted to thank Alderwoman West for her all-day support at the BBQ.

**CITY ATTORNEY:** Attorney Helmut Starr had no report.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**BILL NO. 2528 – INTRODUCED BY ALDERWOMAN AVANT-ELLIOTT**

**AN ORDINANCE CREATING A NEW POSITION IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION RELATED THERETO.**

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott read the Bill for the first time and moved for approval of the first reading of Bill No. 2528 and to go on to the second reading. The motion was seconded by Alderwoman Dailes. Motion carried. Alderwoman Avant-Elliott then read Bill No. 2528 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 Alderwoman Dailes. Motion carried. **Upon the roll being called the votes were cast as follows:** Alderwoman Avant-Elliott, yes; Alderman Jordan, yes; Alderman Merz, yes; Alderwoman Dailes, yes; Alderwoman Reed, yes; Alderwoman West, yes; and Alderman Christian, yes.

The majority of the members elected to the Board of Aldermen having voted for passage of Bill No. 2528, the Bill was passed by the Board and will become Ordinance No. 2443 when and if signed by the Mayor.

Chief Ihler confirmed the position will be posted on the website for (2) weeks. Even though the position is a hybrid, the title is Evidence Manager-Support Coordinator.

**REPORT OF THE MAYOR:**

Mayor Doerr started with his recommendations:

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Mayor Doerr recommended Caroline McDonald to the I&B Board; he gave a brief bio from her application.

Per the Mayor's recommendation, Alderman Christian made a motion to approve the Mayor's recommendation, seconded by Alderman Merz. Motion carried.

Mayor Doerr recommended Andrew Fields to the I&B Board; he gave a brief bio from his application.

Per the Mayor's recommendation, Alderman Christian made a motion to approve the Mayor's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman West. Motion carried.

Mayor Doerr recommended Hosea Harville to the Public Safety Commission; he gave a brief bio from his application.

Per the Mayor's recommendation, Alderwoman Dailes made a motion to approve the Mayor's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman West. Motion carried.

Mayor Doerr recommended Clayton Klein as the City Engineer; he gave a brief bio from his resume. He is a professional architect and the Mayor of Bellerive Acres.

Mr. Klein answered he loves being an architect and solving problems. There were some concerns as to his time and availability. Mr. Klein stated he would prepare the monthly report and possibly move around his other commitments. Mr. Klein said he will do whatever it takes to prepare for the meetings. There are no set times for a part-time City Engineer.

Per the Mayor's recommendation, Alderman Jordan made a motion to approve the Mayor's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Reed. Motion carried. Mayor Doerr welcomed Mr. Klein to the city.

**Mayor Doerr reported on the following:**

- He encouraged everyone to vote;
- The city has a "Toys for Tots" box and "Warner's Warm-Up Coat" box for donations;
- The city has information on the "Adopt-A-Vet" Program sponsored by the Veterans Home; and
- There will be a Public Hearing on 11/15/18 for the Burger King proposal.

**REPORT OF THE ALDERMEN:**

**ALDERWOMAN WEST:** She commended Chief Ihler, Major Williss, and Lt. Spieler and the whole police department; she is very proud of our police department. The city is moving in the right direction. It is good the police are able to capture suspects without using their guns.

**ALDERWOMAN REED:** She encouraged everyone to vote. She suggested some sort of a dedication plaque when the Bissell Hills Park Project is done. She apologized for her absences; her grandma passed away.

**ALDERMAN MERZ:** Welcomed Caroline, Andrew, and Hosea as new members and to Clayton Klein. Congratulations to Lt. Spieler.

**ALDERMAN JORDAN:** Welcome to all the new members and thanks to all those who are already serving on the various Boards and Commissions. Welcome to Clayton.

**ALDERMAN CHRISTIAN:** Go vote. Congratulations to the new members, Clayton, and the police officers recognized tonight. He encouraged the Board of Aldermen to get business taken care of instead of worrying about petty things.

**ALDERWOMAN DAILES:** She is grateful for free speech. Welcome to the new members and the City Engineer. It is possible to vote now at the Board of Elections. She enjoyed the Ballot Overview Workshop at the Lewis & Clark Library. Thanks to the Backstopper's BBQ. The Halloween party, in Ward 2, was fun.

**ALDERWOMAN AVANT-ELLIOTT:** Thanks to all those who continue to support the city in its process. Thanks to the City Clerk for her help. Welcome to all new members and those awarded recognition.

**CITY COLLECTOR, MARK TRANEL:** Dr. Tranel said the opening of the Riverview Advanced Medical Service (RAMS) was very well attended.

Mayor Doerr opened the meeting to the public and asked if anyone in the audience would like to make any comments, with a 3-minute time limit.

**TINA WRIGHT, 94XX DUENKE DRIVE:** She thanked the police for being able to enjoy the best 4<sup>th</sup> of July ever; they did a great job. She is finally getting to know the police officers.

**CARNELL JONES, 11XX WENTWORTH DRIVE:** Everyone needs to get out and vote. The St. Louis American has a complete guide to the issues.

Mayor Doerr brought the meeting back to the Board.

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

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

  
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Deni Donovan, City Clerk

Approved by the Board of Aldermen on November 15, 2018