

**CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS  
BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING MINUTES  
January 17, 2019**

**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 Mayor Doerr.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Robert Doerr, Attorney Helmut Starr (sitting in for City Attorney Kevin O'Keefe), City Collector Dr. Mark Tranel, Chief Jeremy Ihler, City Clerk Deni Donovan, Alderwoman West, Alderwoman Reed, Alderman Merz, Alderman Jordan, Alderman Christian, Alderwoman Dailes; and Alderwoman Avant-Elliott.

**ABSENT:** Kevin O'Keefe

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Alderwoman West made a motion to amend the Agenda by removing Bill No. 2536, seconded by Alderman Merz. Motion carried unanimously.

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

**PRESENTATION OF THE UNAPPROVED MINUTES:** Alderman Jordan moved for approval of the January 3, 2019, Minutes of the Board of Aldermen Meeting, seconded by Alderman Christian. Motion passed.

**MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:**

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, beginning with the Christmas Award Winners. Alderman Christian announced the following as chosen by the Image & Beautification Board:

**Ward 1**

631 Bagnell Drive	Mr. & Mrs. Perron	Mrs. Perron was present
609 Bagnell Drive	The Nash Family	Not present

**Ward 2**

10429 Toelle Lane	The Bradford Family	Not present
10430 Coburg Lands Drive	Sam & Rhonda Simril	Not present

**Ward 3**

1532 Akron Drive	Reginald & Cynthia Morgan	Both present
1464 Blackhurst Drive	The Raggio-Redd Family	Not present

**Ward 4**

9225 Waldorf Drive	Phyllis Lang-Baker	Present
1141 St Cyr Road	Rose Diana Oliver	Present

Mayor Doerr asked if anyone in the audience would like to make any comments, with a 3-minute time limit, on the Public Hearing only.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** To hear comments on a Conditional Use Permit for a Childcare Center located at 10020 Bellefontaine Road, under the name of Heavenly Hearts Learning Center.

Mayor Doerr introduced Pastor Shadrach Martin who gave a brief history of the Childcare Center. Chief Ihler asked when they were hoping to open; the Pastor said around the middle of February. He answered Alderwoman Avant-Elliott's question by saying the State inspection is due to happen as soon as updates are done.

**GREG WARNUSZ, 100XX CRETE DRIVE:** He asked what the hours of operation would be; Pastor Martin stated 6:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Mayor Doerr asked if anyone in the audience would like to make any comments, with a 3-minute time limit, on any other subject.

**LENORE SIMON, 12XX BLUEGRASS DRIVE:** She questioned what is going on at the lower level of the old Suburban building. Alderwoman Dailes said they may be doing some cosmetic updates, but there is, also, a bookshop/coffee shop planning on going into the building. They may be cleaning and painting.

At this time, part of the Auditing team was introduced.

**ANGELA DORN & ABBY SOWATSKY, HOCHSCHILD, BLOOM & COMPANY Auditors.** (A handout was given to the Board) Ms. Dorn gave an overview of the 2017-2018 Audit findings, along with a review of the Comments and Recommendations. The Auditors checked the internal controls and compliance; there were no significant findings. She did a summary of the City's funds and the Management Letter. There were some problems with making adjustments and timing issues. Overall, the City received a good audit. Ms. Dorn thanked the City for their help and cooperation.

Mayor Doerr confirmed the city met its state requirements for the audit submittal.

Questions from the Board:

- (Avant-Elliott) – Concerned about the recommendations made last year vs. this year. She asked if there was another city that would be a good model for Bellefontaine Neighbors to follow. Ms. Dorn asked Alderwoman Avant-Elliott to call her office since this wasn't public information.
- (Reed) – She was concerned about the length of time it took for the audit. There were some reasons noted, especially issues dealing with timing and adjustments. It was pointed out the Finance Department may need more part-time help. A normal timeframe for an audit would be starting around September and finishing up in about a month. It was noted six (6) out of the sixteen (16) comments were new.
- (Dailes) – Asked if Ms. Dorn could come back at a later date to continue the discussion; Ms. Dorn said she would be able.

Mayor Doerr asked if anyone had any comments on any other issues. Since there were none, the meeting was brought back to the Board.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Due to the Auditors' report, there was no monthly report handed out. City Treasurer, Bill Krenn, thanked the auditors for their help with the audit. He will have six-month figures for the various departments ready for the Board to review at the meeting next Wednesday. Alderwoman Avant-Elliott asked about the challenges the city faces due to the auditors' recommendations. Mr. Krenn noted possibly "time and resources" limitations. Alderwoman Avant-Elliott asked if research could be done regarding better technology. Mr. Krenn said the MML has put out an informational piece. Alderwoman Reed asked if more training is needed. A discussion followed.

**INVOICES OVER \$500:** City Clerk Donovan noted at the workshop meeting there was an error at the bottom of page 5. Chief Ihler was paid \$1000, not \$1682 for his tuition reimbursement. Alderwoman Reed moved to pay invoices, as amended, 1 through 35, dated January 7-15, 2019, in the amount of \$217,192.78, seconded by Alderman Merz. Motion carried.

**INVOICES UNDER \$500:** Informational only.

**COLLECTOR'S REPORT:** The Board reviewed the December, 2018, Collector's report. Dr. Tranel explained the year-to-date total figures as of December 31<sup>st</sup>. He, also, explained the Retail Merchants and Manufacturing licenses are based on a calendar year so their licenses may take a little longer to obtain.

**CHIEF OF POLICE:** The Board reviewed the December, 2018, Police report. Chief Ihler reported on the following:

- The suspect in the recent double homicide was apprehended in Chicago – the city is waiting on extradition.
- Due to residents warming up their cars during the cold, the theft of motor vehicles is up. An arrest was made yesterday regarding a person who may be part of a small group to steal cars. Alderwoman Avant-Elliott asked if it was in any particular Ward; the Chief said no.

**CITY ATTORNEY:** Mr. O'Keefe was excused. Attorney Helmut Starr stated the new Show Me Courts procedures and software is creating a lot of frustration; it is not very functional. A petition has begun to put this change on hold until it is fully functional. Chief Ihler suggested Mr. Krenn call Rejis if there is a report needed for auditing purposes through IMDS, the court database. He said they are very accommodating to reporting suggestions.

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott asked Chief Ihler if the Evidence Mgr/Support Coordinator has been filled. The Chief said they are doing a background check on the one (1) applicant who applied.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**BILL NO. 2533 – INTRODUCED BY ALDERWOMAN DAILES**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS, MISSOURI, TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI, FOR THE MOSQUITO CONTROL SERVICE ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS.**

Alderwoman Dailes read the Bill for the first time and moved for approval of the first reading of Bill No. 2533 and go onto the second reading. The motion was seconded by Alderman Christian. Motion passed. Alderwoman Dailes then read Bill No. 2533 for a second time and thereafter made a motion that the Bill be approved by the Board of Aldermen for enactment as an Ordinance.

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott began a discussion on the pricing.

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

The majority of the members elected to the Board of Aldermen having voted for passage of Bill No. 2533, the Bill was passed by the Board and will become Ordinance No. 2446 when and if signed by the Mayor.

**BILL NO. 2534 – INTRODUCED BY ALDERWOMAN REED**

**AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR OPERATION OF A CHILD CARE CENTER FACILITY AT 10020 BELLEFONTAINE ROAD BOULEVARD ESTABLISHING CERTAIN CONDITIONS RELATING THERETO.**

Alderwoman Reed read the Bill for the first time and moved for approval of the first reading of Bill No. 2534 and to go onto the second reading. The motion was seconded by Alderman Merz. Motion passed. Alderwoman Reed then read Bill No. 2534 for a second time and thereafter made a motion that the Bill be approved by the Board of Aldermen for enactment as an Ordinance. **Upon the roll being called the votes were cast as follows:** Alderwoman Reed; yes; Alderwoman Avant-Elliott, yes; Alderman Christian, yes; Alderman Merz, yes; Alderman Jordan, yes; Alderwoman West, yes; and Alderwoman Dailes, yes.

The majority of the members elected to the Board of Aldermen having voted for passage of Bill No. 2534, the Bill was passed by the Board and will become Ordinance No. 2447 when and if signed by the Mayor.

**BILL NO. 2535 – INTRODUCED BY ALDERMAN MERZ**

**AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A SUBDIVISION PLAT FOR VILLARREAL SUBDIVISION AND AUTHORIZING SAID PLAT TO BE RECORDED IN THE RECORDER OF DEEDS OFFICE IN ST. LOUIS COUNTY.**

Alderman Merz read the Bill for the first time and moved for approval of the first reading of Bill No. 2535 and to go on to the second reading. The motion was seconded by Alderwoman Reed. Motion passed. Alderman Merz then read Bill No. 2535 for a second time and thereafter made a motion that the Bill be approved by the Board of Aldermen for enactment as an Ordinance. **Upon the roll being called the votes were cast as follows:** Alderman Merz; yes; Alderwoman Avant-Elliott, yes; Alderwoman Dailes, yes; Alderman Christian, yes; Alderman Jordan, yes; Alderwoman West, yes; and Alderwoman Reed, yes.

The majority of the members elected to the Board of Aldermen having voted for passage of Bill No. 2535, the Bill was passed by the Board and will become Ordinance No. 2448 when and if signed by the Mayor.

**REPORT OF MAYOR DOERR:**

- A new HVAC system was installed at City Hall;
- He will attend the Metro Mayors Meeting on January 29<sup>th</sup> to discuss Better Together's suggestion to merge St. Louis City and County – he would like for St. Louis City to join the County, not merge. He encouraged everyone to do their homework and read the report coming out next week.
- Kudos to the Street crew during the snowstorm; they did a great job. They went through (24) tons of salt last weekend. There is still approximately (275) tons left stored at another facility.
- Filing has closed for the Mayors position;
- Filing for Ward 1 will close tomorrow; and
- He gave information on the upcoming MSD issue which will be on the ballot. They want to raise tax dollars to provide for Project Clear.

- Happy Birthday to Deni.

**APPOINTMENT:**

Mayor Doerr made a recommendation to appoint John DuHadway to the Planning & Zoning Commission for the unexpired term in May, 2019 due to John Baker's resignation.

Alderman Jordan made a motion to approve the Mayor's recommendation to appoint John DuHadway to P&Z, seconded by Alderman Christian.

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott questioned why the Mayor needed to appoint someone; why not let the new Mayor do it. Mayor Doerr explained the position is important and should be filled now. The new Mayor will need to approve his reappointment in May, 2019, along with Pat Barrett. **Upon the roll being called the votes were cast as follows:** Alderwoman West; yes; Alderwoman Reed, no; Alderman Merz, yes; Alderman Jordan, yes; Alderman Christian, yes; Alderwoman Dailes, no; and Alderwoman Avant-Elliott, no.

With a 4-3 vote, the appointment of John Duhadway to P&Z is approved.

**REPORT OF THE ALDERMEN:**

**ALDERMAN CHRISTIAN:** He suggested that during this cold weather be careful and check on your neighbors. Look after each other.

**ALDERWOMAN DAILES:** She wished everyone a Happy Martin Luther King month. She attended the Martin Luther King Memorial Tribute, hosted by Saint Louis University and the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis this morning; it was a wonderful event. The Black History Celebration event was listed in the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Statewide Celebration Kick –Off Program for Missouri Calendar of Events. She warned everyone not to leave your car running. Call the police if you see anything suspicious.

**ALDERWOMAN AVANT-ELLIOTT:** She thanked everyone for coming out tonight. Congratulations to her fellow Alderwomen for being honored at the MLK Tribute. She congratulated the Mayoral candidates. Alderwoman Avant-Elliott expressed her hope for Alderwoman West to have someone to help her in her Ward. Happy New Year to all.

**ALDERWOMAN WEST:** She encouraged everyone to attend the Black History Celebration on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Congrats to those running for Mayor.

**ALDERWOMAN REED:** It was an honor to be awarded recognition at the MLK Tribute along with the other African American women; it was a nice time. She asked the Chief about the open position for Evidence Mgr/Support Coordinator in the police department. The Chief said they only received one application; a background check is being done. They are still recruiting for police officers. She asked about the salt shed. Mayor Doerr said there are problems with this project due to the increased costs which will have to be paid over two budget phases. Discussion followed on the Bissell Hills Project and the sewer lines. Alderwoman Reed explained the reason for her "no" vote regarding the P&Z recommendation was because John is on (2) other Boards – Board of Adjustment and the Youth Commission. Mayor Doerr stated he will have to resign from the Board of Adjustment due to the conflict of interest. The open positions for the Board of Adjustment will be posted on the website tomorrow.

**ALDERMAN MERZ:** No report given.

**ALDERMAN JORDAN:** No report given.

**MARK TRANEL, CITY COLLECTOR:** Dr Tranel reported, on February 1<sup>st</sup> the Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education will release a report regarding the 2017-2018 accreditation points of the Riverview School District. He offered to give a presentation at the February 7<sup>th</sup> Aldermen workshop to explain the results.

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott asked about a transition back to an elected Board. Collector Tranel said it cannot happen until the District is at full accreditation.

At 8:55 p.m., Alderwoman West left the meeting.

**MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:**

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.

**WANDA LANE, 99XX MARTINGALE ROAD:** She had questions regarding the mosquito contract with the County. She said any information about the District's accreditation should be made public. She is concerned about having a smooth transition when the new Mayor is elected. Alderman Jordan and Mayor Doerr will make themselves available to the new Mayor after the election.

**KATHY MASON, 10XX DONNELL AVENUE:** She has her son's old karate trophies she was trying to recycle; she called the Rec Center to see if the karate instructor wanted them.

**PASTOR DC ELLIOTT, 11XX JOLENE DRIVE:** Congratulations to the Alder people who were recognized at the Martin Luther King, Jr. event. Congratulations to the city for a good audit. He would like to know what each of the Mayoral candidates plans are for the city and what their platform is. Thanks to Mayor Doerr for saying he would help with the transition process. Thanks to all those who attend the Board meetings. The community needs to be informed. There's opportunity for growth.

**CARNELL JONES, 11XX WENTWORTH DRIVE:** Reiterated how important it is to attend Board meetings. Comments on the salt shed bids.

**PEG WARNUSZ, 100XX CRETE DRIVE:** Announced meetings have been scheduled with the League of Women Voters of Metro St. Louis to present the Mayoral candidates. She would like to see the dates and times advertised.

**MARCIE GOODEN, 94XX DUENKE DRIVE:** She has the Mayor forums set up at the library and the Riverview Fire House. The dates have not been posted on the League of Women Voters' website yet.

**TOMMIE PIERSON, SR., 12XX SHEPLEY DRIVE:** Congratulations to the Street Department on the job they did during the snowstorm. Congratulations to the ladies on their awards at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Event. He will come to Mayor Doerr for help when he is elected. Congrats to the others who filed for Mayor.

Mayor Doerr brought the meeting back to the Board.

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

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** Meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

*Deni Donovan*  
Deni Donovan, City Clerk

Approved by the Board of Aldermen on *February 7, 2019*