

**CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS
BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING MINUTES
May 16, 2019**

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY Mayor Tommie Pierson, Sr., 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 Pierson.

PRESENT: Mayor Tommie Pierson, Attorney Kevin O'Keefe, Chief Jeremy Ihler, City Clerk Deni Donovan, Alderwoman Tatman, Alderman Don Merz, Alderman John Jordan, Alderman Jim Christian, Alderwoman Alease Dailes, and Alderwoman Miranda Avant-Elliott.

ABSENT: Alderwoman Barbara West, Alderwoman Theresa Reed

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

PRESENTATION OF THE UNAPPROVED MINUTES: Alderman Jordan moved for approval of the May 2, 2019, Minutes of the Board of Aldermen Meeting, seconded by Alderwoman Dailes. Motion carried.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Mayor Pierson 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.

PUBLIC HEARING: To hear public comments regarding the allocation of \$29,500 in Community Development Block Grant funds which will become available after January 1, 2020. City Clerk Donovan explained the process by which the funds are used for the residents of Bellefontaine Neighbors.

No comments were made by the public.

Mayor Pierson asked if anyone had comments on any other subject.

MARCIE GOODEN, 94XX DUENKE DRIVE: She attended the Planning & Zoning Meeting and thought it was very productive although she has some concerns.

BOB DOERR, 98XX SURREY LANE: Congratulations to Mayor Pierson. Thanks to Deni for her years of service and all she has done. Good luck!

WANDA LANE, 99XX MARTINGALE ROAD: She had comments on the job vacancies at City Hall. A City Administrator would be helpful. She commented on the City Clerk's position and the convenience store.

LEE HARDEN, 103XX BELLEFONTAINE ROAD: He commented on the convenience store.

VIVIEN PEOPLES, 970 RAFORD COURT: She commented on her home and the convenience store.

Mayor Pierson asked if anyone had any other comments. Hearing none, he brought the meeting back to the Board.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

INVOICES OVER \$500: Alderman Christian moved to pay invoices, 1 through 14, dated May 16, 2019, in the amount of \$81,170.54, seconded by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the July, 2018, through April, 2019, report. Treasurer Bill Krenn was excused tonight.

COLLECTOR'S REPORT: The Board reviewed the April, 2019, Collector's report prepared by interim Collector, Lori Lenz.

CHIEF OF POLICE: The Board reviewed the April, 2019, Police report. Chief Ihler reported on the following:

- There has been a decrease in auto thefts;
- On May 3rd, a carjacking spilled into Bellefontaine Neighbors – it is being handled by St. Louis County;
- Report on a recent fraud incident;
- Interviews were conducted today along with the Citizen's Panel interviews; and
- Thanks to the support given the police during Police Week especially the Chaplains, Alderwoman Tatman and Peg Warnusz.

CITY ATTORNEY: No report given.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

BILL NO. 2544 – INTRODUCED BY ALDERWOMAN TATMAN (1st reading was on May 2, 2019)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-23 OF THE CITY CODE TO ESTABLISH LIMITATIONS ON THE NUMBER OF LICENSES FOR THE SALE OF INTOXICATING LIQUOR.

Alderwoman Tatman made a motion to Table Bill No. 2544 until the June 6th Agenda, seconded by Alderwoman Dailes. Motion carried.

Alderwoman Tatman made a motion to go into closed session on June 6th at 6:30 p.m., for purposes of consultation with legal counsel, seconded by Alderman Jordan. Motion carried.

Alderwoman Tatman made a motion to reschedule the June 6th closed session to tonight after the Board Meeting, seconded by Alderman Jordan. **Upon the roll being called the votes were cast as follows:** Alderwoman Tatman; yes; Alderman Merz, yes; Alderman Jordan, yes; Alderman Christian, yes; Alderwoman Dailes, yes; and Alderwoman Avant-Elliott, yes. With a 6-0 vote, the motion passes.

NEW BUSINESS:

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott made a motion to place \$29,500, from the Community Development Block Grant, into home improvements for the next year, seconded by Alderman Merz. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OF MAYOR PIERSON:

- He attended a meeting with Professor Kirkland, with Washington University to discuss complaints and crime in our community and the surrounding areas. The Mayor wants to have a citywide plan to make sure this is a good and safe neighborhood for everyone.

- He attended the RGSD SAB Meeting on May 14th;
- Police interviews are ongoing; and
- He announced the resignation of Director Mark Dickerson at the end of June.

a. Appointments

Municipal Judge: Mayor Pierson recommended the appointment of Judge Judy Draper. Alderwoman Avant-Elliott read the bio of Judge Judy Draper and made a motion to approve the Mayor's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Dailes. Aldermen Jordan and Christian opposed. With a 4-2 vote, motion passed.

At this time, Mayor Pierson asked for Board approval to allow the Assistant to the Prosecutor, Helen Bober, and the Court Clerk, Alysa Starz to attend the Missouri Association of Court Administrator's Conference (MACA) the week of May 20th at Tan-Tar-A.

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott made a motion to approve the attendance of Helen Bober and Alysa Starz at the MACA Conference, seconded by Alderman Merz. Motion carried.

REPORT OF THE ALDERMEN:

ALDERWOMAN TATMAN: She encouraged the audience to take the opportunity to speak and thanks for attending tonight. She enjoyed the chance to speak with the officers at the Police Week luncheon. She is working with Chief Ihler to host a citywide event on July 13th to bring everyone together. She welcomes volunteers.

ALDERMAN MERZ: He thanked Kathy for a present she gave him.

ALDERMAN JORDAN: He thanked everyone for showing up tonight. He recognized the boy scouts in the audience who are working on their Citizenship in the Community Merit Badge.

ALDERMAN CHRISTIAN: Thanks to all of the police officers; it's good to visit with them. Thanks to Deni for her help this past year; enjoy your retirement. The Bissell Hills Project seems to be coming along nicely.

ALDERWOMAN DAILES: With the U.S. Census coming up, committees will need to be formed; she will need volunteers. Better Family Life's Peace Fest will be held this fall. They are meeting at City Hall on May 25th at 11:00 a.m. to hear input. She suggested having a separate IT vendor for Administration due to so many issues in the last couple of months. The RGSD representative is Mary Oswald. Thanks to Deni for her service. Thanks to everyone for coming tonight. Thanks to the police department for their service. Alderwoman Dailes said the Chairman of P&Z would like to know if it's possible to go into a closed session to discuss the Mayor's and Commission's vision; they will set something up next week.

ALDERMAN AVANT-ELLIOTT: She made a motion to schedule Special Board meetings on May 22nd and May 30th at 7:00 p.m. to discuss salary scales for the current vacant positions and the budget issues, seconded by Alderwoman Dailes. Motion carried.

Thanks to Deni for all her help. She will be serving as a Judge at the May Day Parade on May 26th. The Bike Rodeo has been rescheduled for May 18th. Thanks to the Police Department for their service.

Alderwoman Avant Elliott said the Board would like to hold workshops on Saturdays, beginning in July, to discuss the city's strategic planning, seconded by Alderwoman Dailies. Motion carried.

At this time, Mayor Pierson wanted to recognize the Boy Scouts in the audience. He thanked them for coming. He invited them to come to city hall anytime.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Mayor Pierson 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.

PEG WARNUSZ, 100XX CRETE DRIVE: She commented on the appointment of Judge Draper. Mayor Pierson said there was a movement made by those who did not like her.

CARNELL JONES, 11XX WENTWORTH DRIVE: He commented on the city moving forward.

WANDA LANE, 99XX MARTINGALE ROAD: She commented on the following: the appointment of Judge Draper; Sunshine requests and the City Attorney's participation; and the preparation of the Agenda.


At this time, City Clerk, Deni Donovan, said a few words about leaving the city. She acknowledged the following: Mayors Rudloff, Doerr, and Pierson; how did she get so lucky to work with these gentlemen. Mark Sanders and the guys in the Street Department and Mark Dickerson and the group at the Rec Center – they have all made my job a lot easier. Thanks to the City Engineer, Clayton Klein; City Treasurer, Bill Krenn; City Collector, Mark Tranel; and Kelsie and Joe in the Building Department. Thanks to Lori, Alysa, Judy, Semmie, Helen, Angie, and Sherry. These ladies wear so many hats without any complaints. Without this group, I could not have done my job. Kudos to Chief Ihler and the Officers. The residents were my main focus; not the politics. Last but not least, thanks to the City Attorney, Kevin O'Keefe and Fire Chief Goldstein. I'm sorry if I missed anyone.

Mayor Pierson thanked Deni for her help the last few weeks and hopes she enjoys her vacation. He asked if anyone had any other comments. Hearing none, he brought the meeting back to the Board.

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott made a motion to adjourn the meeting and go into closed session at this time, seconded by Alderman Christian. Motion carried unanimously

MEETING ADJOURNED: Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

ATTEST:



Deni Donovan, City Clerk

Approved by the Board of Aldermen on June 6, 2019