

CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS
TOWN HALL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY - SEPTEMBER 19, 2019 - 7:00PM

Meeting Was Called To Order at 7:00pm by Attorney Helmut Starr.

Pledge Of Allegiance To The Flag was led by Mayor Tommie Pierson, Sr.

Present: Mayor Tommie Pierson, Sr., Alderwoman West, Alderwoman Tatman, Alderman Simril, Alderman Jordan, Alderman Christian, Alderwoman Dailes, Alderwoman Avant-Elliott, City Attorney Starr, Chief of Police, Ihler, and City Clerk Stevens.

Absent: Alderwoman Reed

Introduction Of Mayor City Attorney Helmut Starr read a bio and introduced Mayor Tommie Pierson, Sr.

Mayor Tommie Pierson, Sr. welcomed everyone to the annual Town Hall Meeting. Mayor Pierson, Sr. then stated the purpose of the Town Hall Meeting, which is to give an overview of the state of the city. He asked for the members of boards and commissions to stand. He gave an update on the following issues of the city:

- **Sergeant Peggy Vassallo Memorial Bench** is located in front of City Hall. The dedication was August 24, 2019.
- **Influence Church** located at 10636 Bellefontaine Road had their Grand opening on Sunday, September 15, 2019.
- **St. Louis Fish and Chips Restaurant** opened September 16, 2019.
- **Bissell Hills Park Ribbon Cutting** dedication will be October 26, 2019 from 2:00pm to 6:00pm.
- **Bellefontaine Staff Retirees:** City Clerk, Park and Rec Director, City Collector and City Treasurer.
- **New Appointments:** Fran Stevens, City Clerk – hired June 26, 2019 and Michelle Everett, City Treasurer – hired September 19, 2019. We are diligently seeking to fill the vacant roles of City Attorney, (acting Attorney is Helmut Starr), Assistant Part time Court Clerk, City Collector and Director of Parks and Rec.
- **Seeking Volunteers for Boards and Commissions** – If residents are interested in serving on any Board or Commission, please fill out a form and bring to City Hall and give to the City Clerk.
- **Bellefontaine Automotive Building Update** – The business is not open because the location is not in code for a liquor license. There is an ordinance in place that prohibits liquor license within 300 feet of a church.

State Of The City Report: Mayor Pierson, Sr.

- City Clean-up event-10/28/19 from 9am to 1pm.
- Impact of Incarceration on Woman and Children (CURE)-9/28/019 from 10am to 4pm,
- National Night Out-10/1/19,
- Back Stoppers Barbeque-10/5/19, Bissell Hills Shopping Center from 10am to 6pm
- Riverview Gardens Homecoming Events and parade-10/12/19 beginning at 10am
- Halloween Dinner-10/16/19-tickets are on sale
- Frightful Family Fun Night-10/18/19 from 6:30 to 8:00pm,
- Bissell Hills Park Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Bonfire-10/26/19 from 2 to 6pm,
- Silver Bells Dinner-11/1/19,
- Metro St. Louis Community Tax Coalition begins-12/1/19,

3. **Peter Carlson – 12XX Bakewell** - Questioned how many policemen worked for City of Bellefontaine Neighbors and commented on the usage of the Prop P monies which was explained by Alderman John Jordan.
4. **Margaret Cook – 89XX Bellefontaine Road** – discussed the manor in which funeral processions are performed and the fact that individuals in the procession are sometimes unruly, i.e. hanging out the automobile windows, etc. Discussed the Bissell Hills Park event on 10/26.
5. **Marcie Gooden – 13XX Duenke** – Thanked the Board of Alderpersons and discussed updating the ordinances.
6. **Wanda Collins – 12XX Duenke** – discussed her displeasure in overgrown grass and loitering.
7. **Marlene Terry – 94XX Adler** - was displeased in the manner of which Ameren cuts down and trim trees. The job done is never done professionally which cast a negative view of the area.
8. **Paula Battle – 10XXX Fox Lair Drive** – discussed transparency, posting of agenda and minutes to the web site, vacant homes, the city’s annual audit and thanked the Police and Fire Chiefs.
9. **Carnell Jones – 11XX Wentworth** – Discussed various topics, i.e. unattended children, lawsuits, and impeachment of the Mayor.
10. **Mr. Williams – 99XX Coach N Six** – discussed community yard sales and the automotive business.
11. **Judy Krenn - 11XX Green Acres** – asked Chief Ihler about dealing with problem houses and Chief explained that situations vary therefore the answer would depend on the issue.

Closing Remarks were made by Mayor Pierson, Sr.

The Town Hall Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

ATTEST:



Fran Stevens, City Clerk

Approved by the Board of Aldermen on Oct. 3, 2019.