

**CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
October 3, 2019 – 7:30PM**

PRESENT: Mayor Tommie Pierson, Sr., Alderwoman Barbara West, Alderwoman Dinah Tatman, Alderwoman Theresa Reed, Alderman John Jordan, Alderman Jim Christian, Alderwoman Alease Dailes, Alderwoman Miranda Avant-Elliott, City Attorney Helmut Starr, Police Chief Jeremy Ihler and City Clerk Fran Stevens.

ABSENT: Alderman Samuel Simril

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY Mayor Pierson 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 Pierson, Sr.
Mayor Pierson called for a moment of silence for the residents that lost their lives in a car accident last week.

ROLL CALL: City Clerk called the roll and all members were present except Alderman Simril, Ward 2.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Motion to approve agenda made by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott seconded by Alderman Jordan. Motion carries.

APPOINTMENTS: Mayor asked for a motion to appoint Dorothy White-Coleman as City Attorney. Motion to appoint Dorothy White-Coleman as City Attorney was made by Alderwoman Dailes. There was no second, therefore motion failed. Mayor stated that he appoints Dorothy White-Coleman as interim attorney until which time the Board accepts his appointment. Alderwoman Avant-Elliott made mention that currently there are no provisions in the ordinance for an interim attorney.

PRESENTATION OF THE UNAPPROVED MINUTES:

Motion to approve Special Meeting Minutes of June 24, 2019 as amended made by Alderwoman Reed, seconded by Alderman Jordan. Motion carries.

Motion to approve Special Meeting Minutes of August 29, 2019 made by Alderwoman Tatman seconded by Alderwoman Dailes. Motion carries.

Motion to approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes of Sept. 5, 2019 made by Alderwoman Dailes seconded by Alderman Christian. Motion carries.

Motion to approve Town Hall Meeting Minutes of Sept. 19, 2019 made by Alderwoman Dailes seconded by Alderwoman Tatman. Motion carries.

Motion to approve Special Board Meeting Minutes of Sept. 26, 2019 after adding roll call made by Alderman Jordan seconded by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott. Motion carries.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: The meeting was opened to the public to speak 3 minutes each.

Wanda Lane, 99XX Martingale: Expressed her disappointment that the B.O.A. did not pass the motion for the Mayor's appointment of the City Attorney, Dorothy White-Coleman. Congratulated the Mayor on the success of his first Town Hall Meeting, stated that the Mayor's church should never become B.O.A. topic of conversation while in B.O.A. meetings. Elected Officials should never publicly attack citizens. Discussed Better Family Life's proposed grant to be presented to help youth and young adults in our City.

Carnell Jones, 11XX Wentworth – National Night Out was positive and a success. He enjoyed seeing children playing, laughing and interacting with Police on a positive note.

Peg Warnusz, 100XX Crete Dr. – Stated that the minutes have not been approved in timely fashion.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: Chairman John Koester reported the PD is replacing four vehicles and the purchasing of police body cameras was awarded to Panasonic Corp; desire to install speed bumps at the Cabot entrance to Bissell

Hills Shopping Center; Public Safety Committee is supporting several functions, i.e. 10/5-Back stoppers B.B.Q, 10/26-Bissell Hills Park Dedication and October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month-the PD is running a "No Shave Competition" during the months of October and November.

YOUTH COMMISSION: Chairman Alicia Smith was absent due to family emergency. Alderwoman Avant-Elliott discussed that the Frightful Family Fun Night event is coming up and asked for volunteers.

IMAGE AND BEAUTIFICATION: Alderman Christian thanked everyone that came out and participated in the City Wide Clean Up and the next meeting is October 8th.

PARKS AND REC: City need to appoint a Chair.

PLANNING AND ZONING: Chair Mike Wiese reported that the committee discussed medical marijuana and he explained the regulations, permitted and conditional use. Alderman Jordan suggested an open to the public meeting in November.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Joe Raben – No not have a lot of new commercial business this past month. September has been busy with occupancy inspections and sewer laterals. B.O.A. asked if the inspector drive around, visually inspect homes for violations and issue code violations and the answer was yes. Also, the Ameren tree situation was again presented and the inspector stated that it is indeed an eyesore but, the City has no jurisdiction over county-maintained roads. Residents are given time to handle dead trees on their property.

CITY ENGINEER: Clayton Klein reported that Gateway Food Mart at 3909 Bellefontaine Road meets code and will be given a building permit. There was discussion regarding under-ground tanks as this was previously a gas station. City Attorney suggested that the permit should be held until which time the area is inspected again.

APPROVAL OF INVOICES OVER \$500.00

Motion to pay 5 bills in amount of \$11,462.57 made by Alderwoman Reed seconded by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott. Motion carries.

CHIEF OF POLICE: Chief Ihler reported that there were no problems at the Peace Fest, October is Breast Cancer Awareness month and the PD is allowed to wear pink t-shirts underneath uniforms. National Night Out was well attended and was enjoyable. Fatality at Bellefontaine Neighbors and 270 was caused by head on collision. STLAPC is meeting with St. Louis County Executive Sam Page regarding police mergers with St. Louis Co. and area police departments. Back Stoppers Barbecue this Sat. at 10am-6pm at Bissell Hills Shopping Center Parking Lot.

CITY ATTORNEY: No Report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Sewer Easement – M.S.D. Project #12092 - Craig Scheidker reported on the M.S.D. Sewer Easement Project. Alderman Jordan explained that any street or portion thereof disturbed by this project must be replaced entirely. Motion to draft ordinance for M.S.D. easement made by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott seconded by Alderman Jordan. Motion carries

B. Missouri Humanities Council - Alderwoman Tatman reported and explained an available grant opportunity with Mo. Humanities Council. Motion to authorize Alderwoman Tatman to seek grant made by Alderman Jordan seconded by Alderwoman Reed. Motion carries.

C. Bill No. 2554, An Ordinance Regarding Allowed Street Obstruction.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 23-18 OF THE BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS CITY CODE BY PERMITTING THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN TO ALLOW CERTAIN OBSTRUCTIONS IN OR ON STREETS AND SIDEWALKS FOR TRAFFIC CALMING AND CONTROL PURPOSES.

Motion to read Bill No. 2554 for the first time and move on to the 2nd reading made by Alderwoman Tatman seconded by Alderwoman Dailes. Motion carries.

After 1st and 2nd reading of Bill No. 2554 votes are as follows to become an ordinance: Alderwoman West-yes, Alderwoman Tatman-yes, Alderwoman Reed-yes, Alderman Simril-absent, Alderman Jordan-yes, Alderman Christian-yes, Alderwoman Dailes-yes, Alderwoman Avant-Elliott-yes.

The majority of the members elected to the Board of Aldermen having voted for passage of Bill No. 2554; the Bill was passed by the Board and will become **Ordinance No. 2551** when and if signed by the Mayor.

D. Bill No. 2555, An Ordinance Requiring Permits For Street Events.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 23-19 OF THE BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS CITY CODE BY REQUIRING ANY PERSON OR ENTITY TO OBTAIN A PERMIT BEFORE USING ANY PUBLIC STREET OR SIDEWALK FOR A COMMUNITY EVENT.

Motion to read Bill No. 2555 for the first time and move on to the 2nd reading made by Alderwoman Tatman seconded by Alderwoman Dailes. Motion carries.

After 1st and 2nd reading of Bill No. 2555 votes are as follows to become an ordinance: Alderwoman West-yes, Alderwoman Tatman-yes, Alderwoman Reed-yes, Alderman Simril-absent, Alderman Jordan-yes, Alderman Christian-yes, Alderwoman Dailes-yes, Alderwoman Avant-Elliott-yes.

The majority of the members elected to the Board of Aldermen having voted for passage of Bill No. 2555; the Bill was passed by the Board and will become **Ordinance No. 2552** when and if signed by the Mayor.

E. Bill No. 2556, An Ordinance Amending membership for the Public Safety Committee.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-300 OF THE BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS CITY CODE BY REQUIRING, TO THE EXTENT FEASIBLE, THAT MEMBERSHIP ON THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REFLECT EQUAL REPRESENTATION FROM EACH WARD IN THE CITY.

Motion to read Bill No. 2556 for the first time and move on to the 2nd reading made by Alderwoman Tatman seconded by Alderwoman Dailes. Motion carries.

After 1st and 2nd reading of Bill No. 2556 votes are as follows to become an ordinance: Alderwoman West-yes, Alderwoman Tatman-yes, Alderwoman Reed-yes, Alderman Simril-absent, Alderman Jordan-yes, Alderman Christian-yes, Alderwoman Dailes-yes, Alderwoman Avant-Elliott-yes.

The majority of the members elected to the Board of Aldermen having voted for passage of Bill No. 2556; the Bill was passed by the Board and will become **Ordinance No. 2553** when and if signed by the Mayor.

REPORT OF MAYOR: Mayor Pierson reported the Missouri Cure Event and Peace Fest were well attended and enjoyed by everyone in attendance. He also reported that he is receiving a lot of praise for the BFPD. Thanked the Chief for the Department. Better Family Life will have jobs for BN youth and young adults and will work with the Youth Committee to identify individuals. Introduced Michelle Everett, City Treasurer, and mentioned Court Clerk Juanita Sykes and Administrative Assistant Whitney Smith will start on 10/7/19. Motion to accept Mayor's recommendation to appoint City Collector, Patrick Howard made by Alderman Christian seconded by Alderman Jordan. Alderwoman West opposed. Motion carries. Will visit the US Bank next week to speak with the manager regarding the City's account. RGSD Homecoming is 10/12/19, any B.O.A. interested in car magnets should inform City Clerk.

REPORT OF ALDERMEN: Alderwoman Avant-Elliott – Thanked everyone in attendance, mentioned that the date for the next newsletter is approaching, working on gathering B.O.A. votes on ordinances, clarified discussion on impeachment procedures of elected officials from the pre-meeting, shared appreciation to Dorothy White-Coleman in sharing her interest in City Attorney position, expressed that there has not been any timely discussions around the reasons for a new Attorney and stated that the B.O.A. has not expressed interest in changing City Attorney. Have posted October events on the Next-Door web-site.

Alderwoman Dailes – Good evening to everyone. Thanked everyone for coming out. Stated that a resident informed her of an incident on her street. October 26th from 3-5pm there will be a Town Hall Meeting with Rita Days and Tommie Pierson, Jr. at the Lewis and Clark Library, St. Louis University Students did a food audit in the City, Ward 4 National Night Out was a success, speeding in the city is out of control. Motion to have a Public Informational Meeting on 11/4/19 at 7pm made by Alderwoman Dailes seconded by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott. Motion carries.

Alderman Christian – Happy Birthday Fran. Welcome Treasurer Everett and all the new hires. Ward 3 National Night Out at Hermann Residence and the pictures of all the National Night Out events are great. Nice to see Bellefontaine Road has been stripped. Thanked everyone for participation in the City Wide Clean Up.

Alderman Jordan – Motion made by Alderman Jordan to develop a policy for use of City Hall facilities to include notice to be at least four weeks in advance, fee added if not a City event and requirement of BOA approval seconded by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott. Motion carries. Questioned the status of the salt shed and was told that there is progress. Thanked everyone for coming and welcomed Samuel Simril, also thanked everyone working on boards and commissions.

Alderman Simril – Absent

Alderman West – Happy Birthday to Fran. Stated that we need to get a Parks and Rec Director. Street Department should be at these meetings to answer questions regarding the Street Department. Wanted clarification of the payment of car magnets. Mentioned that at the meetings, rules should remain the same for everyone.

Alderman Tatman – Thanked colleagues for passage of the three ordinances presented at this meeting. Motion to allow speed bumps to be placed on Cabot at Bissell Hills Shopping Center entrance after Street Department does a study and research investigative work done by City Attorney seconded by Alderman Avant-Elliott. Alderman Christian opposes. Motion carries. Have a fabulous time with the grant writing class which was extended from three weeks to six weeks and was well attended. Plans to do another class. Thanked everyone, especially Ward 1 for attending the Public Safety Meetings. Happy Birthday Fran and welcome to new City Treasurer, Michelle Everett and other new hires.

Alderman Reed – Thanked everyone in attendance and those who participated in the clean-up. The Peace Fest was really nice. Thanked the two residents in Ward 2 for the National Night Out events. Motion to use the Rulers left-over gift card funds from the BFF made by Alderman Reed seconded by Alderman Tatman. Motion carries. Motion for Chief to allow her to use the left-over water and charcoal made by Alderman Reed seconded by Alderman Avant-Elliott. Motion carries. Bissell Hills Park Ribbon Cutting and Bonfire is 10/26/19 from 2-6pm. Strategic Planning Meeting 10/10/19 from 7-9pm. Mayor stated that he has a prior engagement for 10/10/19, 5:30 to 9pm. Alderman Jordan will not be in attendance on 10/17/19. Boiler update-we are really close to the boiler finishing point. Motion to approve the \$2018.10 for 2 new computers for new hires made by Alderman Reed seconded by Alderman West. Motion carries. Motion to approve the desk top printer for City Clerk's office made by Alderman Reed seconded by Alderman Jordan. Motion carries. Everyone sang Happy Birthday To Fran.

Alderman Avant-Elliott added that the Youth Commission's Event is from 6:30 to 8:00pm on 10/18/19.

MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC - The meeting was opened to the public to speak 3 minutes each.

Kimberly Jones – 34 Green Acres – Question the procedure for alleviating abandoned buildings and derelict cars. Joe Raben, Street Department explained the process.

Wesley Gillespie – 6XX Marshfield – Thanked the Police Department for their timely response but noted that special attention should be brought to sensitivity training, discussed incidents of kids running through back yards and stated that the ring doorbell cameras is a huge help to PD.

Carnell Jones – 11XX Wentworth – stated that inconsistency comes with the package.

Mary Mentzer – 13XX Shepley – questioned if Shepley Drive will be closed because of the homecoming parade and stated that residents should be notified.

Alicia Smith – 94XX Duenke – presented the Mayor with a plaque from the CURE Foundation. Will send out emails in regards to Youth Commission. She made a request for Alderman Avant-Elliott or Alderman Reed to serve as Aldermanic Rep. Alderman Avant-Elliott was selected to serve as Unofficial Alderman Rep. for Youth Commission by common consensus by the Mayor. Still working on written plans for Youth Commission. Mayor added that he wants Alicia Smith to help him with the BFL Jobs For Youth. Burger King should break ground on Lewis and Clark behind Advance Auto in January 2020. Mayor added condolences to Alicia in the lost of her family member.

Wanda Lane 99XX Martingale – Stated she would personally communicate any misunderstandings with individuals. She will help with the census. Questioned if inspectors can mention while doing home inspections, that it is mandatory to have smoke detectors installed.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Alderman West seconded by Alderman Jordan. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 10:15PM.

ATTEST:


Fran Stevens, City Clerk

Approved by the Board of Aldermen on Oct. 17, 2019