

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

**MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY** Mayor Tommie Pierson, Sr. at 7:05 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.

**ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Tommie Pierson, Sr., Chief Jeremy Ihler, City Clerk Deni Donovan, Alderwoman Barbara West, Alderwoman Theresa Reed, Alderman Don Merz, Alderman John Jordan, Alderman Jim Christian, and Alderwoman Miranda Avant-Elliott.

**ABSENT:** Alderwoman Alease Dailes, Alderwoman Dinah Tatman

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Alderman Merz moved for the approval of the Agenda, seconded by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott. Motion passed.

The Aldermen called the meeting to discuss the 2019-2020 City Budget; the following topics were talked about:

**Street Department (Jeff Ross)**

- Item #5104 – Jeff recommended \$20,000; Bill had \$6,000. It was agreed to keep in the \$6,000.
- Jeff has \$10,000 listed for tree removal for those over 60 feet, because the city's lifts won't go that high. He will get bids to have trees cut down all the way or at least to 60 feet where the lifts can get to them.
- Bond Issue Fund – need to find out how much money is left and what other streets can be done. Reminder, the city is currently requesting, from this fund, its 20% portion of the Ashbrook grant which is then reimbursed back to the city.
- Equipment Maintenance – there is \$17,000 left over from the 2018-2019 budget.
- Discussion on the salt shed (the amount is missing).

**Parks and Recreation (Mark Dickerson and Craig Scheidker)**

- Discussion on which salaries come out of the General Fund and which come out of Capital.
- Discussion on the part-timers salaries – the entire pay plan will have to be adjusted due to the rise of minimum wage.

At this time (7:40 p.m.), Alderwoman Alease Dailes walked into the meeting.

- (continued discussion on the salaries -Item #5321) – Mark said this amount should be \$170,000 from \$109,400.
- Lifeguards' salaries will always fluctuate due to the need for them.
- Discussion on the part-time bus drivers.
- Mark would like to budget to reflect \$40,000 for lighting and another \$8,000 for HVAC. He passed out information to show the savings to the city by using LED lighting.
- Mark is working with Spire to get some sort of rebate for a new boiler.
- There are leftover funds from 2018-2019 which may be used to purchase furniture.
- He is looking to purchase either an F-150 or F-250 truck with the \$25,000 in the current budget, but now sure when.

- Mark OKd the \$25,000 Bill put in for repairs to equipment.
- There is a disparity on item #5520 - Swim Team; this is just a timing issue.
- Miscellaneous item #5223 consists of many things including the Brochure and the swimming pools audit.
- Mayor Pierson would like the Board to check into pricing for the Brochure to include city business/events just like the old Newsletter. Mark will email the Board the pricing information again.
- Discussion on the need for cell phones. Some employees use their personal phones, but Chief Ihler noted if it is broken during business hours, the city will be on the hook to replace them. Phones these days may cost up to \$1500/phone.

**Police Department (Chief Ihler/Angie/Major Williss)**

- The Chief does not agree with the numbers put together by Bill, such as salaries, Prop P monies, MIRMA, and LAGERS.
- Due to the time, the Board will address the police budget at the next Special Board Meeting on June 19<sup>th</sup>.

Funds will be requested for the upcoming Family Fest.

How can Aldermen opt out of their salaries?

Kwanzaa and Black History Celebration have \$2000 in their budget.

Discussion on why Family Fest needs funds, but not National Night Out. Family Fest is a citywide event vs. residents taking it upon themselves to host their own events.

At 9:00 p.m., Alderwoman West left the meeting.

Discussion on June 19<sup>th</sup> will be on the police budget, an Ordinance for the Parks & Rec Director pay, City Clerk issues, Take home vehicles, and if it is in the budget to purchase speed bumps.

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alderman Merz. Motion carried unanimously.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

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Deni Donovan, City Clerk

Approved by the Board of Aldermen on 6-20-19.