

**CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS  
BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING MINUTES  
June 20, 2019**

**MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY** Mayor Tommie Pierson, Sr., at 7:45 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 Helmut Starr (sitting in for Kevin O’Keefe), Chief Jeremy Ihler, City Clerk Deni Donovan, Alderwoman Barbara West, Alderwoman Dinah Tatman, Alderwoman Theresa Reed, Alderman Don Merz, Alderman John Jordan, Alderman Jim Christian, Alderwoman Alease Dailes, and Alderwoman Miranda Avant-Elliott.

**ABSENT:**

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Alderwoman Avant-Elliott moved for the approval of the Agenda, with the following amendments: Remove Bill No. 2547 from the agenda; and remove Bill No. 2548 from tonight’s agenda and put on the June 24, 2019, Special Board of Aldermen Meeting, seconded by Alderwoman Reed. Motion carried.

Alderman Jordan made a motion for the Board to approve the Mayor’s re-appointment seconded by Alderman Christian

**PRESENTATION OF THE UNAPPROVED MINUTES:** Alderwoman Avant-Elliott moved for approval of the June 6, 2019, Minutes of the Board of Aldermen Meeting, with the following amendments:

- Page 4 – Under Youth Board - The Youth Board reappointments was not voted on by the Board. **DELETE:** “Motion carried”.
- Page 5 – Under Parks & Recreation Board – “Due to the resignation of Parks & Recreation Director Mark Dickerson on June 30<sup>th</sup>, Mayor Pierson appointed Craig Scheidker to fill the position of Parks & Recreation Director.
- Page 5 – Under Parks & Recreation Board – “Alderwoman Tatman made a motion for the Board to approve the Mayor’s appointment and to have Craig Scheidker be the ~~Acting Chairman~~ **ADD: Chair** for the Parks & Recreation Board...”

Seconded by Alderwoman Dailes. (Roll call was asked for, but the City Clerk was not able to continue with the roll call).

Discussion followed as to what was meant by Mayor Pierson and Alderwoman Tatman regarding the appointment/recommendation of Craig Scheidker to the position of Parks & Recreation Director and whether Craig Scheidker was appointed by Alderwoman Tatman as Director as the Parks & Recreation Chair of the Parks & Rec Board, or Chairman of the Parks & Rec Board.

A question was raised by Alderwoman Tatman as to why there was a motion to amend public records. The City Attorney explained there seems to have been (2) motions made: Mayor Pierson appointed Scheidker to the position of Director of Parks & Recreation, and Alderwoman Tatman made a motion to approve Scheidker as Chair to the Parks & Rec Board.

Discussion continued. Alderman Merz stated he thought he seconded a motion for Scheidker to be Director of Parks & Recreation.

Alderwoman West had an issue with the recording of the meeting by someone else at the meeting. She asked if the Board wanted to start having a transcript done of the meetings.

Mr. Starr said if there was confusion over the wording of a motion, someone should make a motion to reconsider and then state what you want the motion to be.

Alderwoman West moved to reconsider...she was told there was already a motion on the table.

Mr. Starr suggested breaking down the motion for two (2) motions.

Alderwoman Tatman emphasized her motion from June 6<sup>th</sup> was to recommend Mr. Scheidker be the Chairman of the Parks & Rec Board. Discussion continued as to what was understood by each Board member.

Alderwoman Reed suggested that Alderwoman Tatman and Alderman Jordan both rescind their motion and a new motion is made to reconsider the approval of the appointment.

Mr. Starr pointed out that someone could make a motion to reconsider the action of the last meeting votes. Alderwoman Tatman stated that she would reconsider and rescind the motion because she is the person that made the motion.

The City Clerk reminded everyone there still was not a roll call vote taken from the earlier motion made by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott. City Clerk stated that she believe that the roll call was on the motion of Alderwoman Avant-Elliott amending to question the vote on the Youth and to amend Parks and Rec to Chair instead of Acting Chairman.

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott stated in addition to that, based on the recording, it did not have it recorded that our Mayor said that he was appointing Craig to fill the position on Parks and Rec. The third part to that is there was a general conversation of his consideration but he did not verbally ask for a motion to appoint him for that position.

Mr. Starr recapped his understanding of the motion. Motion carried on the bottom of page 4 should read "Motion denied". Alderwoman Avant-Elliott stated that there was no motion to begin with and Mr. Starr stated that motion carried should be deleted. There was discussion about page 5 under parks and rec Mr. Scheidker was not appointed and the second paragraph should be taken out completely. There was further discussion regarding interpretation of Chair, Director, the votes and statements. Alderwoman Avant-Elliott stated that the Mayor used the word "Chair" and not "Director". Mr. Starr asked how Alderwoman Avant-Elliott would like the following 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph to read: answer from Alderwoman Avant-Elliott - Alderwoman Tatman made a motion for Craig Scheidker to be Chair for the Parks and Rec Board. Not a hiring position.

(Suggested by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott): "Alderwoman Tatman made a motion for Craig Scheidker to be the Chairman for the Parks & Recreation Board, seconded by Alderman Merz. Motion carried.

It was asked of Alderwoman Avant-Elliott if the wording should be **CHAIR** or **CHAIRMAN**; Alderwoman Tatman answered **CHAIRMAN**.

**Upon the roll being called the votes were cast as follows:** Alderwoman Avant-Elliott; yes; Alderwoman Dailes, yes; Alderman Christian, no; Alderman Jordan, no; Alderwoman Tatman, yes; Alderwoman West, no; Alderwoman Reed, yes; and Alderman Merz, yes. With a 5-3 vote, the motion carried.

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott made a motion to approve the June 6, 2019, Board of Aldermen Minutes as amended, seconded by Alderwoman Dailes. Motion carries. Alderman Jordan, Alderman Christin, and Alderwoman West opposed.

**PRESENTATION OF THE UNAPPROVED MINUTES:** Alderwoman Avant-Elliott moved for approval of the June 17, 2019, Minutes of the Special Board of Aldermen Meeting, seconded by Alderman West. 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.

**CARNELL JONES, 11XX WENTWORTH DRIVE:** He announced there is free dental cleaning for Veterans at the St. Louis Clinic on June 29<sup>th</sup>.

**BARBARA JACKSON-WILSON, 12XX ST CYR:** Thanks to the Transportation Department.

**SAMUEL SIMRIL, 10XXX COBURG LANDS DRIVE:** He made comments on the speeding on his street and some fencing issues.

**DARRYL YOUNG, 12XXX BELLEFONTAINE DRIVE:** He commented on the amount of tractor-trailers going up and down Bellefontaine Road. Mayor Pierson said it should have stopped since the roads have opened up due to the flooding issues. Mr. Young said it still has not stopped

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

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

The Board reviewed the July, 2018, through May, 2019, report. Treasurer Bill Krenn is happy to report the city is close to the budget, although the revenues are off. Accruals should make up revenue issue at the close of the fiscal year. He reminded everyone the city has not received their share from the Bissell Hills Park Project. The city is going through the budget process.

**INVOICES OVER \$500:** Alderwoman Reed moved to pay invoices, 1 through 14, dated June 17, 2019, in the amount of \$60,617.85, seconded by Alderwoman Tatman. Motion carried.

**COLLECTOR'S REPORT:** The Board reviewed the May, 2019, Collector's report.

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

- He gave an update on the robbery at U.S. Bank – all suspects were arrested.
- On the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, PD will have a full staff. He would like to go door-to-door to repeat offenders from last year and give them a heads-up that fireworks are not allowed.
- Gun safety is very important.
- He gave an update on the flood issue; the water is receding. The next stage will be to organize the cleanup when the time is right.
- Alderwoman Dailes asked if the officers will be driving on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July with their lights on; Chief Ihler said yes. There was a discussion as to what constitutes giving someone a citation for lighting off fireworks.
- Alderwoman Reed asked where all the fireworks signs from last year were; the Chief said he would look into it.
- Alderwoman Tatman said someone is shooting off a canon in her neighborhood, but they can't figure out where. Chief Ihler will check into it.
- Alderwoman Tatman made a motion to approve Chief Ihler to attend the Police Chiefs Conference from June 23-27, 2019; the cost will be approximately \$700, seconded by Alderman Christian. Alderwoman Reed asked the Chief how the Conference adds value. He said due to participating in all of the regular training, he needs to obtain the executive level of training which is continuing education as Police Chief. Motion carried.

- He also asked for Board approval to attend the required MIRMA Conference from July 24-26, 2019. Alderwoman Avant-Elliott made a motion to approve the Chief's attendance at the MIRMA Conference, seconded by Alderwoman West. Motion carried.

**CITY ATTORNEY:** No report given.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott asked for legal advice on how to vote on the reappointment of the Youth Board members which was brought up last meeting, but the Board did not vote on it as a body. She suggested the Mayor not reappoint John DuHadway since he is already on another Board. She would like the seat vacant to fill with a younger person at some point.

Alderman Jordan said the reappointments voted on tonight should be the same members as the last meeting. Alderwoman Dailes would like to see younger members on the Board. Alderman Jordan said if anyone is removed should be due to poor attendance; serving on two Boards should not be the issue. Alderwoman West stated that since Mayor Pierson already announced the reappointments at the last meeting, the same members should be voted on tonight.

Youth Commission: Mayor Pierson announced the reappointment of Rich Pflueger, John DuHadway, Scott Schultz, Wayne Anderson, Jean King, Melanie Sims, Alicia Smith, Tim Compas, and Ken Wilkins to the Youth Commission. Alderwoman Avant-Elliott made a motion for the Board to approve the Mayor's reappointment of the members of the Youth Commission, seconded by Alderman Merz. Motion carried.

A discussion continued with the City Attorney, Alderwoman Avant-Elliott and Alderwoman Tatman regarding the Parks and Rec Chairman position.

Alderwoman West moved to reconsider the Mayor's request for a motion to appoint Craig to fill the position of the Parks & Recreation Director; there was no second so the motion died.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**BILL NO. 2546 – INTRODUCED BY ALDERWOMAN DAILES**

**AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A SUBDIVISION PLAT FOR 667 ST CYR SUBDIVISION AND AUTHORIZING SAID PLAT TO BE RECORDED IN THE RECORDER OF DEEDS OFFICE IN ST. LOUIS COUNTY.**

Alderwoman Dailes read the Bill for the first time and moved for approval of the first reading of Bill No. 2546 and move onto the second reading. The motion was seconded by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott. Motion passed. Alderwoman Dailes read Bill No. 2546 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 Dailes; yes; Alderman Christian, yes; Alderman Merz, yes; Alderwoman West, yes; Alderwoman Reed, yes; Alderwoman Avant-Elliott, yes; Alderwoman Tatman, yes; and Alderman Jordan, yes.

With a 8- 0 vote, the majority of the members elected to the Board of Aldermen having voted for passage of Bill No. 2546, the Bill was passed by the Board and will become Ordinance No. 2456 when and if signed by the Mayor.

**BILL NO. 2547 – INTRODUCED BY ALDERWOMAN AVANT-ELLIOTT**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION FOR PERFORMING THE DUTIES OF THE OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION FOR THE CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS.**

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott made a motion to remove Bill No. 2547 from tonight's Agenda, seconded by Alderwoman Reed. Motion carried.

**BILL NO. 2548 – INTRODUCED BY ALDERWOMAN REED  
AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE 2019-2020 FISCAL YEAR FOR THE  
CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS, MISSOURI.**

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott made a motion to remove Bill No. 2548 from tonight's Agenda and put on the June 24, 2019 Special Board Meeting, seconded by Alderwoman Reed. Motion carried.

**REPORT OF MAYOR PIERSON:**

- He thanked all those for attending tonight and to those who helped with the sandbagging. More help will be needed for the cleanup.
- He attended an MML Meeting for a grant hearing for Parks and the City gained 2 points.
- He's been in office for two months; he still believes Bellefontaine Neighbors will be a model city.

**REPORT OF THE ALDERMEN:**

**ALDERWOMAN AVANT-ELLIOTT:** She thanked everyone for attending tonight. Congratulations to Alicia Smith (Youth Chairman) and Wanda Lane (P&Z member) on attending their Board meetings in their new roles. Accountability is important.

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott made a motion to schedule a Special Board of Aldermen Meeting on June 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the 2019-2020 budget and to potentially pass the 2019-2020 Budget Ordinance, seconded by Alderman Jordan. Motion carried.

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott made a motion to cancel the July 4<sup>th</sup> Board of Aldermen Meeting and Workshop, seconded by Alderwoman Dailes. Motion carried. Alderman Christian opposed.

Alderwoman Reed asked that the Finance Clerk include the over \$500.00 invoices for 7/24/19 Special meeting,

**ALDERWOMAN DAILES:** She welcomed everyone. Thanks to those for their help sandbagging. Thanks to Mayor Everett Thomas of Northwoods for donating gift cards to five Bellefontaine families in need due to the flooding. Family Fest volunteers are needed. Everyone have a wonderful 4<sup>th</sup> of July. She is so happy with Mayor Pierson. Welcome to the future City Clerk, Fran Stevens, who was in the audience.

**ALDERMAN CHRISTIAN:** June 24, 2019, is the budget meeting. It is important to find ways to find income for the City.

**ALDERMAN JORDAN:** He asked what is happening with hiring a City Collector; the Mayor has not found anyone yet. Welcome to Fran. Everyone have a safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

**ALDERWOMAN WEST:** No report given.

**ALDERWOMAN TATMAN:** The Family Fest is for the whole community; the date is July 13<sup>th</sup>. There were minutes from the Family Fest meeting available to everyone. The next meeting is scheduled for June 26<sup>th</sup>. She noted, even though the Board of Aldermen approved Craig Scheidker to be the Chairman of the Parks & Rec Board, he is not a resident, which is required. The City Attorney confirmed it. Alderwoman Tatman made a motion to rescind her motion to nominate Craig Scheidker as Chairman of the Parks & Rec Board, seconded by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott. Motion carried.

**ALDERWOMAN REED:** She would like the Mayor to pass along any police matters to the Board when Chief Ihler informs him; she would like to know about matters so she is informed. Mayor Pierson will follow up. She sent an email to the Mayor recommending a Director for Parks and Rec. She asked if the Mayor called to make an appointment with an applicant she recommended for the Collector position; he has not. She asked the Chief what was being done

to stop the 18-wheelers from driving in the City; he explained several options. She confirmed earlier actions from the Board: Bill No. 2547 was removed from the Agenda; Bill No. 2548 was removed and put on the June 24, 2019, agenda. She would like to discontinue the practice of take-home vehicles. They will discuss it at the June 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. She thanked all for attending tonight. She reminded everyone there are job openings at City Hall along with vacancies on some of the Boards/Commissions. She reiterated – no fireworks are allowed in Bellefontaine Neighbors. The City had to increase some of the Rec Center fees. She would like to raise some of the building department fees. She feels City Attorney, O’Keefe keeps putting it off, but Alderman Jordan remembers it may be required to be put on a ballot and voted on.

**ALDERMAN MERZ:** Welcome to Fran. Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July. He asked to be excused from the June 24<sup>th</sup> Special Board Meeting and the July 18<sup>th</sup> Board of Aldermen Meeting due to personal issues.

Mayor Pierson welcomed Fran and is looking forward to working with her.

Alderwoman Dailes mentioned that the number on the address on Ordinance No. 2546 is incorrect – address shown is 667 and should be 665.

**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.

**WANDA LANE, 99XX MARTINGALE ROAD:** Congratulated Rita Days for the 1<sup>st</sup> Council. Riverview Gardens School District is still not fully accredited. She would like to see the Boards/Commission members attend some of the Board of Aldermen meetings. She questioned what the impact would be on Bellefontaine Neighbors if the St. Louis County Pool Tax didn’t exist. Discussion followed.

**EMMETT GREEN, 94XX DUENKE DRIVE:** He had comments on full-time and part-time employees; how payroll is done; and suggested to conduct a payroll audit. Chief Ihler explained the payroll process done by the City and the safeguards which are in place.

Chief Ihler said the Riverview School District is hosting a Back-To-School Bash on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. He was told the Department Heads were not required to be at the June 24<sup>th</sup> Special Board Meeting.

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

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** Meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

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Deni Donovan, City Clerk

Approved by the Board of Aldermen on 9-5-19