

**CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS
MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY DECEMBER 15TH, 2022 – 7:30 P.M.**

PRESENT Mayor Tommie Pierson, City Attorney Susie McFarland, Treasurer Rick Rognan, Collector Jeff Howe, City Engineer Clayton Klein, Chief of Police Jeremy Ihler, Parks and Recreation Director James (Jimmy) Kirincich and City Clerk Semmie Ruffin-Hall.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY Mayor Pierson called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGEANCE

ROLL CALL: City Clerk Semmie Ruffin Hall called the roll:

- Alderman Dinah Tatman-Present
- Alderman Theresa Hester-Present
- Alderman Peg Warnusz-Excused Absent
- Alderman Lynette VonSeggern-Excused Absent
- Alderman James Thomas, Sr.-Present
- Alderman Regina Harmon-Ward-Present
- Alderman Alease Dailes-Present
- Alderman Alicia Smith-Present

6 Present/2 Excused-Quorum was met

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor called for a motion to approve the agenda as is. Alderman Alease Dailes motioned to approve the agenda with an amendment that Item # C, Bill # 2661 be tabled until first meeting in January (01/05/23) to do her research and any other board member to do their own research as well. Also to add to the agenda to take a vote from the Board of Aldermen if we can waive the fees for the North County Fire District to waive the fees for the building of 870 Chambers. I would like to add that to the agenda, and I am asking for a second please. Mayor called for a second. Second made by Alderman Alicia Smith. Mayor stated moved and properly second to amend the agenda according to Alderman Dailes. Mayor called for any discussion. None. Mayor called for roll.

- Alderman Dinah Tatman-Yes
- Alderman Theresa Hester-Yes
- Alderman James Thomas, Sr.-No
- Alderman Regina Harmon-Ward-No
- Alderman Alease Dailes-Yes
- Alderman Alicia Smith-Yes

Agenda is amended. Motion to approve the agenda as amended. Alderman Alease Dailes made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Removing Item #C, Bill #2661 to be tabled until the first meeting of January 2023 and add to the agenda a vote to waive the building fees, the permit fees for the North County Fire District of The Board of Alderman of the City of Bellefontaine Neighbors. Alderman Dinah Tatman second. Mayor called for roll.

- Alderman Dinah Tatman-Yes
- Alderman Theresa Hester-Yes
- Alderman James Thomas, Sr.-Yes
- Alderman Regina Harmon-Ward-Yes
- Alderman Alease Dailes-Yes
- Alderman Alicia Smith-Yes

6 Yays/0 No's-Motion passed.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC (With 3-minute time limit)

- **Wanda Lane-99XX Martingale Road**
 - Thanked everyone who came out on Tuesday (12/12/22).
 - Approximately 140 people were in attendance, approximately 15-20 of them were parents.
 - We must do better in getting parents engaged.
 - There are some sobering statics that I will share very briefly.
 - (1) School full accreditation and attendance is an important part of that process.
 - (2) DESE (The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education)-they assign points and attendance is a very big part of that.
 - (3) If 90% of our students are in school 90% of the time we will receive the Maximum points. As of right now the year 2020/2021 34% of our students are in school 90% of the time. Kindergarten, first and second grade are only in school 90% of the time. That needs to be corrected.
 - (4) Second disturbing static involving suspensions. Since August 23, 2022, there have been 1,634 suspensions.
 - The town hall was designed to speak about bullying, safe schools, and positive environments. We have these many people who have been suspended when only 34% of our students are in school 90% of the time so heaven forbid if we got more than that in school 90% of the time what the suspension rate would be.
 - Parents, Alderman Harmon-Ward made a passionate plea to be a parent and responsible for your children, if not the streets will be the one who will raise them.
 - One bright point is, I received several comments regarding social media and telephones in schools. There has been a trial in some districts in our county with a product called a yonder bag which is being trailed in Jennings and Normandy. They were doing pretty good with it until the shooting in South St. Louis at a school when they decided to suspend their trial. We are going to trail that in our Middle and High School. When

Jennings and Normandy did trail it that reported a number of decreases in fights and disturbances.

-Thanked Major Willis for his presence for Law Enforcement

Mayor shared information sent to him by one of the residents regarding the COVID testing. You can get the home kits at COVIDTESTS.GOV.

- **Terri Case-10XX Addison**

- Shout out to Parks Department for coordinating a delicious Senior Lunch.

PRESENTATION OF UNAPPROVED MINUTES (Regular B.O.A. Meeting Minutes-12/01/22). -

Alderman Dinah Tatman made a motion to approve B.O.A Meeting Minutes for 12/1/22.

Second made by Alderman Alease Dailes. Mayor called for all in favor.

6-Ayes/0-Nayes. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF INVOICES OVER \$500 (11-28-22 through 12-13-22)-Motion made by Alderman

Alicia Smith to approve invoices over \$500, 2nd made by Alderman James Thomas. 6 Ayes/0

Nays. Motion passed.

CITY COLLECTOR REPORT-JEFF HOWE

- **Liquor Licenses to approve**

- ALDI'S

- KD PATROL

- QUIKTRIP

- HOLY NAME OF JESUS-

- KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS-

- Conoco

- No Report

- Will take questions

DISCUSSION:

Alderman Alease Dailes states only have 3 in front of her and received one from Semmie today before close of business today therefore I can only deal with the ones I have in front of me.

Those would be QuikTrip Corporation, Holy Name of Jesus Church, Knights of Columbus, and KD Patrol. In addition, Semmie sent one more before the close of business today. **Jeff Howe** stated that one was Arch 94 LLC, which is the Conoco Station at Chambers and Bellefontaine.

Alderman Dailes asked her colleagues if Arch 94 LLC paperwork is in order (she is unable to pull it up). Alderman Dinah Tatman states QuikTrip Corporation, Holy Name of Jesus Church, Knights of Columbus, and KD Patrol are the only ones that have their paperwork in order.

Alderman Dinah Tatman states Alderwoman Smith made a very precise concern about the insurances. We are not here to prohibit; we are just trying to make people comply. You cannot keep skipping over people not complying, especially if they have the ordinances that were sent to them, and they had these licenses this long and they should know what the requirements are. **Jeff Howe** stated right, in the bonds we require normally will be an addendum to whatever

the main insurance policy that they have. I am sure we are not the only ones asking for a bond from time to time. That's why there could be different dates there. Master insurance policy could have different dates on it from the bond we requested. But the dates that I see on the bond we requested unless they made an error on the starting date on the one document, I think the documents will cover the year we are talking about.

Alderman Dinah Tatman thank you Collector Howe, however what we need because we are not here to prohibit, we are trying to bring them into compliance we need all proper paperwork, so I am going to approve the ones I have in front of me with conditions that the insurances are verified, number one and the policies are in place that's the conditions, that's just for me. And I think as our collector and our representative for the city that you help us to make sure that all the applicable paperwork is in order because we depend on you to check and make sure that they are complying, but for us and on behalf of the citizens we have also do our due diligence. This is a partnership, most of them have all their applicable paperwork and some don't so would you please. **Jeff Howe** stated he doesn't think they would try to pass documents that are not valid, but I will call those companies and make sure they have policies.

Alderman James Thomas-I just wanted to reiterate I would be willing to vote on all the liquor licenses you are presenting tonight, contingent on you verifying that they have all their necessary paperwork. I remember that we had some that did not have their paperwork in order you fulfilled that task. You presented again and said they had all their paperwork in order and their licenses were issued upon that verification. I don't think that we should hold a business, because now if we do not give them their liquor license and the 31st comes and they sale liquor then they will be in violation of our ordinance and probably some state laws. So, if you can help us see that this is done then I will be in support of fulfilling the obligation of the city to issue the liquor license by December 31, 2022. **Jeff Howe** stated I will take care of that, and I should let you know almost all these businesses and I can't think of one that wouldn't have a county liquor license for whatever reason, and they also have a Missouri liquor license.

Alderman Alicia Smith I am pulling up the liquor license that was sent at the close of business day it was actually 4 something in the afternoon by Semmie, the city clerk for Aldi's when you state collector in regards to making sure they have their insurance the insurance was an issue for Aldi's', they do have an addendum and they do have the back page of Travelers but there is no front page for Travelers. I would not know what type of insurance they have only because it is not there. They do have an affidavit of an application and that's all that is issued. For me I am right along with Alderwoman Tatman I am not trying to not vote on the businesses do not have their license, however all the correct information has not been presented so for me I would need everything to be valid for it to be valid they do not have proper insurance at all they did not present any insurance at all. **Jeff Howe** asked which one is that **Alderman Smith** stated Aldi's. Aldi's provided an affidavit and a back page to Travelers but no front page at all. Doesn't provide when insurance takes effect it just says the principal is for Aldi's and that's it.

Alderman Smith asked instead of just voting on these can we have a special meeting once all the paperwork has been presented and we can review it and the city collector has a chance to verify it. Personally, not comfortable voting on something I do not have all the information for.

Alderman Theresa Hester appreciates all the information put out regarding the businesses and the liquor licenses and sounds like renewals. I will have to agree with Alderwoman Smith not enough information provided to consciously or guess on renewing the liquor licenses. I also

think that it is possible to have a special meeting in order to get the liquor license approved within a timely manner because it sounds like it is a time restraint on it we don't want these businesses not to have liquor licenses and to be operating as if Alderman Thomas said in violation of ordinances and state laws. City collector if you can tell us if there is a time crunch or time limit or whatever it is out there. Whatever it is out there where you can get the information you need to receive from the liquor licenses so that we can consciously make a decision where we are all comfortable in making and moving forward. Do you have a check off list, **Jeff Howe** states it is on the front of the application. **Jeff Howe**. **Alderman Hester**, do you have a check off list of your own, like when you receive the information and the things you receive is accurate. We would like to take people's word for it, but we also want to make sure we do our due diligence.

Alderman Alease Dailes would like to make a motion to approve QuikTrip, Holy Name of Jesus Church, Santa Cruz Knights of Columbus, and KD Patrol if in the event these other businesses do not have the proper paperwork and in the event that Lori is unavailable to do this job, because that is who has been doing this job. Therefore, we have the ones in front of us that have completed their paperwork. I would like to know if it is OK for me to make the motion to get the ones that have filled out their paperwork and in the event something happens where she is unable to fulfill this job because she has other things that she has to do for the auditors and she is not fulfil this job by the 31st I don't want to hold up the ones that already have their paperwork done. **Alderman Regina Harmon-Ward** second the motion to approve the licenses that are before us.

KD PATROL
-QUIKTRIP
-HOLY NAME OF JESUS
-KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Mayor called for roll call.

- Alderman Dinah Tatman-Yes
- Alderman Theresa Hester-Yes
- Alderman James Thomas, Sr.-Yes
- Alderman Regina Harmon-Ward-Yes
- Alderman Alease Dailes-Yes
- Alderman Alicia Smith-Abstain

5 Yays/1 Abstain-Motion passed.

Alderman James Thomas, Sr. would like to amend the motion to say that upon verification by the collector that he notifies the mayor, and he will ask the board to call a special meeting, so that the licenses can be issued by December 31, 2022. Mayor asked if there was a second to the amended motion. **Alderman Alicia Smith**, second the motion. Mayor called for any further discussion-none. Mayor called for all in favor-5Ayes/ 1 Nay. Motion passes.

CITY ENGINEER-CLAYTON KLEIN

- Reports in front of you for City Engineer and Building Commissioner.
- Riverview Gardens is applying to renovate one of their toilets to make it A.D.A. compliant.
- Judy will be retiring. We have Shelia who is part-time and Brittney who is full-time.
- Jimmy reported on roof replacement last month for the recreation center.
- Asked for a schedule from the contractor and he said he would get it to me in the next two weeks.
- Also asked for all the other submittals for all the other items that need to be approved by us from the contractor.
- Also been working with the Missouri Association of Building Inspectors to get a job posting for what we need in our department for an inspector.

PLANNING AND ZONING-PAT BARRETT

- Month of December no new business for planning and zoning to take up
- No meeting was held in December
- Nothing to report from our meeting

Pat Barrett had a question; he sees under new business there is a board Appointment/consideration for planning and zoning. We do not have any vacancies right now. **Mayor** asked how many people on planning and zoning. **Pat Barrett** stated six citizen members. **Alderman Alease Dailes** stated it is also not in the budget for additional members so we are hoping that those gentlemen might consider starting up the youth commission until something comes available on the planning and zoning. **Mayor** asked what the ordinance says about how many members should be on there. **Pat Barrett** states six citizen members, Building official, the Mayor and an Alderman Representative.

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT -JEREMY IHLER

- Tested positive for covid last week
- Today is first day back to work
- Crime statics comparing this November to last November
-Zero change in homicide, rape, and robbery which was 0, 0 and 3.
- In terms of assault, we saw a drop in 22% of this year compares to last year.
- We are up seven counts of burglary this year compared to last year.
- We have reduced vehicle thefts by 8%.
- Bellefontaine Neighbors has an ordinance that you cannot run your car unattended in the streets. However, we do not have an ordinance covering private property. You will be getting a visit from a police officer advising you to watch your vehicle while it is warming up.
- Yesterday the St. Louis County Prosecuting Attorney's Office had their grand opening to their satellite office (will let the mayor speak on this when his report comes up)
- The Satellite offices will be staffed by prosecuting attorneys. Two are opening. One in Florissant and one in Chesterfield.

- Four people in our hiring process. One just started, one starts at the end of this month, and potentially two more starting next month. With the caveat they finish a couple of steps in the process.
- I would like to congratulate my administrative assistant, Angie. Most people know her, she is great. This place would not be as great a place as it is without her. This week marks her 20 years of service with the city. In addition, her birthday is this week.

TREASURER'S REPORT- RICK ROGNAN

- RFPs came in today for banking.
- Would it be acceptable to the board if Semmie could give us a detail of the seal packages they have not been opened. So, we are going to look for instructions from the board if Semmie and I can open those packages and present to the board on Thursday, January 5, 2023, the analysis on the banks. It may be advised to consider two banks, but we will see what the results are if that is acceptable.
- **City Clerk Semmie Ruffin-Hall** read the banks that submitted RFP's.
 - St. Louis Bank-Declined to do an RFP
 - Busey Bank-Received December 12, 2022
 - Regions Bank-Received December 14, 2022
 - Simmons Bank-Received December 14, 2022
 - Commerce Bank-Received December 15, 2022
- Rick Rognan will give the board a quick synopsis of where we are. As of October 31, 2022, Semmie has the draft. The reason is it is still a draft; we still have some irreconcilable revenue and expenses we are trying to decide where they are. Keep in mind Lori is one person. Semmie and I have talked about it, but we are getting close. Right now, the city is under budget and that is where you want to be. Through October 31, 2022 (four months in) your threshold would be 33.3% right now we are spending at 24.69%. Significantly under.
- Cash accounts we are almost in the same exact spot we were in last year at this same time and that is good news for the city. So, we are well positioned from a cash position.
- Keep in mind used tax kicks on January 1, 2023, so we will start to measure come February the benefits of used tax.
- On the revenue side we are at 36.01%, we are 3% ahead of where we need to be through the month of October (that is good news).
- When we compare this year to last year, we are only \$26, 000 below where we were last year. So, keep in mind on the revenue side we are \$26,000 below.
- When we look at sales taxes and city taxes, we are only \$696.00 below meaning we are running at the same level we were last year.
- Utility taxes right now are \$12,000 below where we were last year. Most of that sits in electric but keep in mind 4 months in and cannot read a lot of what we are seeing at this point and time.
- Licenses right now are about \$4,700.00 ahead of where we were last year.

- Permits and inspections right now we are \$13,000.00 below from where we were last year through October.
- Court Revenue right now is about \$27,000 below where we were last year currently.
- Recreation Center right now first four months we are below where we were last year about \$12,000.00.
- Remember we still have about \$40,000.00 in revenue that must be allocated.
- Working diligently with Lori to find out what specific categories these go in.
- Expense side
 - Administration right now is 11.73% keep in mind 33.3% is our threshold which means we are right on target for spending.
 - Court at 19.43% again under budget.
 - Streets at 17.99% again under budget.
 - Police 30.14% under budget
 - The only one right now that is slightly above 34.57% is Recreation Center. However, keep in mind the summertime is the busy time for the recreation center. Therefore, you would expect for the first 4 months that we would see this, and we would trend on budget.
 - Right now, we are at 24.69% on our expenses and 33.3% is where we should be so cannot say enough about what is being done here at the city. Great job, great leadership, great management. If we stay on track, we will be under budget for this year revenue is close to where we were last year. By the end of this fiscal year, it should be more because of what transpired with the used tax.

Mayor called for any questions. Alderman Dinah Tatman asked if Mr. Rognan could tell us to date when we might receive the audit. We are still waiting for the audit numbers. **Rick Rognan** stated Angela Dorn who is associated with Sikich (they are the auditors) she was in the other day trying to wrap it up for the city. Her comment specifically was that the fiscal year was a mess. Was not sure what transpired, how it was done or what happened. Therefore, that is what created the big problem. Now keep in mind that same mess is probably going to follow into that next fiscal year. Therefore, we are not going to go through the same problems because we have cleaned up a lot of that mess already. Therefore, we are ready to go. It is not going to be under the same conditions as it would have been, but we are really at her mercy at this point and time when she can conclude. She is working diligently now to try to get this resolved ASAP, but the fact is her coming into the city and working with Lori to get whatever remains to be done. I wish I could give you a date I would suspect since she is working hard to get it done; we will see a report in January.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT -SUSIE MCFARLIND

- **NO REPORT**

NEW BUSINESS: BOARD APPOINTMENTS

A. Planning and Zoning Board Consideration

- **Robert Murphy-Application attached**
- **Roy Ross-Application attached**

Mayor stated we could strike that based on Pat Barrett's (Planning and Zoning) report. That the board is already filled. **Alderman James Thomas, Sr.** had a question. Is it the point that there is no more room on The Planning and Zoning for members because Mr. Murphy and Mr. Ross have stated (they texted me because they are on the line) and they said if it is the point of being paid then they will waive getting paid. They want to be involved in the city. They are citizens who both belong to the carpenters union; they have the skills. I believe it will help us make through these next years and I understand that the people that are on planning and zoning (no idea how long they have been there) it may be time for some fresh blood in there.

B. WAIVING FEES FOR NORTH COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT

Alderman Alease Dailes made a motion that the City of Bellefontaine Neighbors waive all the fees for 870 Chambers for the North County Fire District being built. In return, the NCFD will waive all the fees related to the repairs and renovation of the recreation center. If the board approves it the ordinance will be drafted, and we will vote on it at the first meeting in January (01/05/23). **Alderman Dinah Tatman**, second the motion.

Mayor called for any further discussion. **Alderman Alicia Smith** asked if we know what the total fees are. **Alderman Alease Dailes** stated she does not. **Alderman James Thomas, Sr.** stated when Jennings waived their fees for the fire department, they received (you can confirm or deny it) a building. They received the old fire department for their public works department. If there is, a deal to be struck why was not that considered for us also. Because they will be vacating that building at Jennings Station Road and Bellefontaine Road. Also, without knowing the exact amount of money. How can we entertain what we are going to give up or give to them? **Alderman Alease Dailes** stated it is about partnership it is not about money. It is about taxpayers' dollars. Either way it is about partnership if we pay the fees, we are using our tax dollars. If they pay the fees, the voters in this community in our community voted on it. It is about partnership. **Alderman James Thomas, Sr.** said you made a statement that the people, the citizens. The citizens voted for that proposition and that proposition was passed for money, they asked for to complete that project. Yes, we do partner with the fire department but at the same time we are at the point we're giving up any amount of money because we could not put forth right now two more people on the planning and zoning that have a desire to be on planning and zoning. Now you want us to agree to give away \$17,000 plus dollars to an entity that already has appropriated those funds to my knowledge. **Alderman Alicia Smith** stated she reached out to Chief Goldstein herself to find out what we would be waiving what was on the ballot, the verbiage that was on the ballot. He provided all that information to me. We talked about the amount that would be considered for waiving and I asked him that question only

because I do not have that exact figure. It was \$17,000 and it did not exceed \$18,000. I have just never heard of a city charging fees. That was something new for me and he explained it does happen. Partnership part I think Alderwoman Dailes is speaking of, I went to talk to Chief Goldstein. His thing was when we have different things in the city that require fees from the fire department, they would waive our fees. The other part Alderman Thomas you mentioned about the two other people for planning and zoning. I know being a part of the Youth Commission there is an ordinance that tells you how many seats that each board or commission can have. So not sure what planning and zoning has or what it states only because I haven't read the ordinance, but for the youth commission there is specified number for each board and commissions. So maybe that is what Pat Barrett was speaking of, they do not have any vacancies per the ordinance.

Mayor stated you do what you want to do; you are not going to pay attention to anything I say anyway. However, the citizens voted to approve the amendment to build that firehouse and you cannot tell me that the chief did not know that you need fees, fees were part of that vote and so this is double dipping and if you want to give it to them, you vote to give it to them. **Clayton Klein (City Engineer)** stated he agreed with the mayor. Has no idea why this is even being brought up you were right mayor it is part of a building process. Fees and what we are required to do takes time, which is money, it is a big building, and it is part of our ordinance. Do not understand why we would want o to waive that.

Mayor called for roll:

- Alderman Dinah Tatman-Yes
- Alderman Theresa Hester-No
- Alderman James Thomas, Sr.-No
- Alderman Regina Harmon-Ward-No
- Alderman Alease Dailes-Yes
- Alderman Alicia Smith-Yes

3 Ayes/ 3 Nays. Motion failed.

C. BID PRESENTATION FOR POOL PLUMBING REPAIR -JAMES KIRINCICH

- Bid opening for plumbing repair December 13, 2022
- Two bids that came in. One was Westport Pools, and one was Capri Pools.
- Will read off the base bid amounts that included no alternatives that were put on there that included the discharge of the slide and the play structure. Those pipes are both leaking at the current moment.
- The total bid for Westport \$46,589.54
- The total bid for Capri Pools \$61,700.00
- Westport did include a deduction of \$3,890.08 if the city's maintenance staff were to remove the existing plumbing and all the valves. They would come in and show the staff

where to cut the plumbing at we would remove that material for them so that would save us \$3,800. Therefore, the total cost of the project for Westport bids in at (with us doing the work) \$42,699.00.

- We did receive a grant from the Community Development Block Grant in 2021 for pool repairs for \$30,000. So, I am requesting tonight that we approve Westport's contract that stated with the built alternatives which equaled \$42,699.00 which will cost the city with then the grant money applied, \$12,699.00 which I am requesting that we allocate from the ARPA Funds if possible. So, I can move forward with all the replacement of all this plumbing. The plumbing in the pool is actually down in the pit. Originally plumbing from 1975 when the facility was built. We have a bunch of cast iron valves that do not even work or leaking. Same thing with the outdoor pool. Therefore, this will complete our renovation for the outdoor pool and indoor pool.

Mayor called for any questions.

- **Alderman Dinah Tatman** asked Jimmy if he could also add in the total labor cost that will cost us for the employees doing the work add that to the labor cost. **Jimmy** stated he could get that math in there. For the city employees that will cost them for two days, **Alderman Tatman** stated yes just for the record we will have the true cost for the job. **Alderman Alicia Smith** stated you mention we would be using the ARPA Funds; Mr. Rognan I thought renovation for the pool would not be one. Am I wrong or am I right. **Jimmy** stated it is still a facility repair just as if we were using it for the roof. It is still a repair to our facility same thing as HVAC or anything still a repair to our facility. **Alderman Smith** stated even a repair that would not be part of what the Missouri statute states for ARPA Funds to be used for, that is not one. **Rick Rognan** states that should be taken out of Capital Improvements. When we are looking at repair or maintenance that is not qualified for ARPA Funds. We cannot use ARPA Funds to repair or maintain. **Jimmy** said if we can take it out Capital then, that can be allocated of any sort, not sure of what the current numbers are if we have money to do that. If we didn't do the two alternates for the outdoor pool that is currently leaking push that off to next fiscal year would cost us \$4,900.00 out of pocket. **Alderman Tatman** asked Mr. Rognan if we could make the adjustment since we just get this information making that adjustment since we are just getting this information to the ARPA Funds to readjust the budget. **Rick Rognan** stated we would find room because it is important to the city. Not significant enough, it will not alter our budget significantly. **Jimmy** would like the board to vote on adding the alternates so if we can possibly find the money for the \$12,000.00 that way the pool is completely done. Next May once the roof and gym are done, I do not foresee at this point unless something major else happens, like HVAC or anything there be any leftover outstanding repairs to the facility so we can move on next summer with a full working facility and start increasing the revenue.

Alderman Alease Dailes made the motion to accept the bid for Westport Contractors for \$42,699.46 the base bid, two alternates and the labor. **Alderman Regina Harmon-Ward/Alderman Theresa Hester** made the second. Mayor called for roll.

- Alderman Dinah Tatman-Yes
- Alderman Theresa Hester-Yes
- Alderman James Thomas, Sr.-Yes
- Alderman Regina Harmon-Ward-Yes
- Alderman Alease Dailes-Yes
- Alderman Alicia Smith-Yes

6 Yays-/0-Nays. Motion passed.

D. BILL # 2661-AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2196 AND OTHER ORDINANCES DEFINING THE WARD BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS AND FURTHER ESTABLISHING NEW WARD BOUNDARIES FOR ALL FOUR WARDS IN SAID CITY AND CONTAINING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.” (INTRODUCED BY ALDERMAN REGINA HARMON-WARD)-TABLED.

E. CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR EMPLOYEES

- **Diners Delight-\$700-(Menu Attached)**

Alderman James Thomas made a motion to accept the amount of money \$700 to pay Diners Delight for Christmas Party for the employees for the City of Bellefontaine Neighbors. **Alderman Alicia Smith** made the second. **Mayor** called for an all-in favor.

6 Yays/0-Nays. Motion passes.

MAYOR’S REPORT

- Mayor was at the announcement of the county prosecutors satellite office at the Florissant Court House along with Officer Sanders from our City was with me. This will make things a lot easier for law enforcement as we move forward.
- I want to thank Angie for 20 years of service in our city.
- Thanked Jimmy and the Recreation center for the dinner for the seniors.
- Thanked Rick Rognan for cleaning up the budget. It has been tough pulling all that together, but she (Angela Dorn-Auditor) believes she will have it done soon.
- This is business not personal we do not have to fall out over it.
- You guys have done some good work tonight
- Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

ALDERMAN’S REPORT

- **Alderman Dinah Tatman**
 - Commended Angie for her impeccable service with the city.

- Also, Judy has been with our city and held our building department together.
- Commended Director Wanda Lane on her compassion for our children.
- We have created Healthy Lifestyles promoting healthy communities.
- January 17, 2023, be a part of the health summit. Mass meeting with specialists.
- Will be meeting with experts on April 15, 2023 (10am-4pm) held at Riverview Gardens High School Gymnasium.
- Don't be ashamed to wear your mask.
- Happy Holiday, stay healthy and stay safe.

- **Alderman Theresa Hester**

- Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to everyone.
- I attended this past Tuesday the Riverview Gardens Board meeting and Town Hall meeting. Which was amazing.
- I do not think I do enough (I do a lot). If you can, try to attend the Riverview School Board meetings that they have twice a month. On second and fourth Tuesday at 7pm.
- Thank you everyone for attending the zoom meeting.

- **Alderman James Thomas**

- Great need for our children in our community.
- Kudos to Director Wanda Lane and all the Directors that sit on the board.
- Three seats are available on the Riverview District School Board.
- We need strong representation on that board for the children.
- I think as we grow together, we will grow better.

- **Alderman Regina Harmon-Ward**

- I too was at the meeting.
- The one teacher pleaded with tears in her eyes to feel what she felt.
- I believe we need to come into collaboration to use what we know, use our wisdom and our experiences to make things better.
- Parenting classes are needed. Not to condemn anyone but it cannot hurt.
- We need to come together to help our children.
- Congratulated Angie and Judy for your service.
- Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

- **Alderman Alease Dailes**

- Thanked everyone for staying on the meeting.
- Toys are still needed for our children that are coming on Saturday.
- Fire District donated \$250 today.
- A lot of citizens have been asking me about police officers not showing up for non-emergency calls. Every citizen that calls our police department should be answered.

-A lot of our citizens have been burning leaves. If you see that call the police or the fire department.

-Merry Christmas to everyone. It seems like sometimes we do not get along, but we do love each other on this board. We have a very good board and a good Mayor. I think we all are working together.

-We are in a political season you do not have to take sides we are still going to care about each other and the citizens.

-Come January 1 will have to update your occupy information.

- **Alderman Alicia Smith**

-Thank you everyone for staying.

-I have so many slogans that are floating through my mind; Reach 1 teach one, Fear ends where faith begins.

-I would like to first thank Director Wanda Lane for inviting the Board and the Mayor to the town hall meeting.

-Very excited to hear about how many elective officials showed up and how many spoke.

-Congratulations to Amy for her 20 years of service and Judy for her retirement.

-Seasons greetings and happy holidays to all.

-For those that need masks we still have some at City Hall

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC (With 3-minute time limit)

- **Marcie Gooden-94XX Duenke**

-Great meeting this evening and Happy Holidays to everybody and be safe.

-I did miss the board meeting but from a taxpayer's perspective, the critical piece is engagement.

-Whatever we can do as a community I will be all in.

-Planning and zoning. As Alderman James Thomas stated is this a time to review the ordinance to see if we need to expand the members on that committee because we do need to pull in those peoples, citizens and residents who have the knowledge that can help. I think we can expand that ordinance by adding those two people and the committee can work together.

- **Wanda Lane-99XX Martingale Road**

-You people are warming my heart because all I did was ask and you all answered.

-Kudos there were more elective officials from Bellefontaine Neighbors than any other municipality that River Gardens School District serves.

-Theresa and Ms. Marcie I appreciate your passion and just hoping you make the right decisions, and I will do everything I can to help you in those endeavors.

-Three seats that will be on the April 4 election. Therefore, we really need people that have the heart and passion for the city.

-Regarding Ms. Marcie's comment regarding Planning, Zoning, and not going to ask you attorney for an answer. I have always wondered if there is a Missouri revised statute, there is the city statute, and I know one outweighs or takes priority over the other. Missouri Statute is broader, and we do not follow it completely anyway because it states there should be no compensation for planning and zoning members, and we of course do. We do have a member that donates their energy and time and receives no compensation.

-I do agree when we have citizens that are interested showing some concerns. I think we should do everything that we can to embrace that. I hope we can come back and address that.

-Never judge a book by its cover.

ADJOURNMENT: Mayor called for a motion to adjourn, Alderman Alicia Smith made a motion to adjourn, second made by Alderwoman Alease Dailes -9:38 P.M.

ATTEST:



Semmie Ruffin-Hall, City Clerk

Approved by the Board of Aldermen on 01-25-23