# **Regular Session**

# **September 14, 2015**

**Notice of Meeting and Agenda**

# An agenda for the regular session meeting for September 14, 2015 for the City of Stockton, Missouri was posted pursuant to RSMo Chapter 610.020 on September 10, 2015.

### Call regular session to order/Roll call

Mayor Thompson called the regular session meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and the City Clerk took roll call. Council members present were Greg Fidler, Barbara Pate, Gary Johnson and Carla Page. It was determined a quorum was present. Attending City Staff were Peter Lee, City Attorney, Vanessa Underwood, City Clerk and Building Inspector/Code Enforcer, Brandon Cahill along with Raymond Heryford, City Superintendent.

**Invocation**

Invocation was given by John Beckett with the Stockton Assembly of God Church.

**Visitors**

Mr. and Mrs. Hamby of Stockton inquired as to the reason for the recent sewer rates increase. Mayor Thompson explained that after great consideration and review of the MRWA study indicating the need to increase sewer rates in order to meet growing sewer system expenses Council agreed and voted to raise sewer rates. The rate increase was necessary to avoid another fiscal loss in the water/sewer fund which the City had continued to bear over the last few years. Mayor Thompson also pointed out the City’s sewer rates had not been raised since 2008. Mr. Hamby expressed his strong disapproval of the rate increase decision and the City’s financial choices however he and Mrs. Hamby thanked the Council for their time but warned they would be contacting the Attorney General.

**Minutes**

Motion made by Page, seconded by Fidler, carried; to approve minutes as read. Unanimously approved.

## Bills

Motion made by Pate, seconded by Page, carried; to approve and pay bills as presented. Unanimously approved.

**Final Comments from the Public**

Mike Langford who recently moved to the area after 17 years in law enforcement offered his services if and when needed for implementing the City’s own police department instead of contracting with the County. Mr. Langford pointed out public relations as a benefit to having a City owned police department as well as the numerous law enforcement grants available to Cities.

Local resident Larry Koch asked Council who was responsible for cutting the tall weeds at a foreclosed property at 310 Walter which sits adjacent to his property. Mayor Thompson said she would place a few phone calls to some local contacts regarding the issue.

**SCHEDULED BUSINESS**

- Bill number 15-487 to be Ordinance 487 setting the tax levy as of September 1st at $.4320 for each $100.00 of assessed valuation of real estate property in the City of Stockton for collection in 2015 was read for the first time by title only. Fidler motioned, seconded by Pate, carried; to accept the first reading of Bill No. 15-487 to be Ordinance 487. Approved with the following votes: Pate, Fidler, Page and Johnson: Yes. None: No. None: Absent.

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- Bill number 15-487 to be Ordinance 487 setting the tax levy as of September 1st at $.4320 for each $100.00 of assessed valuation of real estate property in the City of Stockton for collection in 2015 was read for the second and final time by title only. Page motioned, seconded by Johnson, carried; to accept the second and final reading of Bill No. 15-487 to be Ordinance 487. Approved with the following votes: Pate, Fidler, Page and Johnson: Yes. None: No. None: Absent.

**Reports from Appointed Officials**

City Attorney: Continues to review and compare the Sullivan version of the 2011 Council approved employee handbook and the actual handbook approved. According to Lee the verbiage currently being used in our handbook is better than the Sullivan proposed version i.e. the sick leave pool and outside employment. Lee presented an alternative to our current investments and was going to research to see if the investment opportunity sponsored by the Stockton Community Foundation was FDIC insured and also what the degree of risk involved was. Lee had one personnel issue for closed.

Public works: Nothing for open or closed.

Building Inspector/General Code Enforcer: Two legal items for closed.

City Clerk: Pate motioned, seconded by Fidler, carried; for Arlo Rupke to purchase radio batteries for $497.64 through Batteries & Bulbs for the emergency management department. Unanimously approved. Council instructed Lee to draft an amended ordinance changing the employee’s payroll period from Thursday through the following Wednesday to Wednesday through the following Tuesday. Therefore, payroll can be processed on Wednesday and uploaded to be direct deposited on Fridays.

**Reports from Appointed Boards**

Cemetery: Koch with the Cemetery board has not been able to meet with other cemetery board members to discuss cemetery business.

Park Board: Park Board president Joe Davis also had difficulty getting a Park Board quorum together however he quickly summarized a few budget requests for the upcoming fiscal year and presented Mayor Thompson with Dylan Cain’s formal resignation. Pate motioned, Fidler seconded, carried; to accept Dylan Cain’s Park Board Member resignation. Unanimously approved.

Airport: Not present.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM ELECTED OFFICALS**

Mayor Thompson: Pointed out the 911 Proclamation delivered at the Korth Senior Center in recognition of September 11 and those who lost their lives.

Fidler: Complimented the Sertoma Club for their beautiful bridge donation in the park.

Johnson: Nothing for open.

Pate: Had been approached by an angry constituent about a neighbor’s dog. Council instructed Cahill to notify the provoking dog owner to keep their dog contained on a leash when out and to instruct the dog owner of the biting and barking dog to either contain their dog in a completely enclosed kennel with walls two feet into the ground or have the dog impounded according to Ordinance 210.42 Sect B. Pate inquired as to the number of contractors who had currently purchased licenses for inside the City limits. The number was 17 according to Cahill.

Page: Nothing for open.

**Convene into Close**

Fidler motioned, seconded by Pate, carried; to close regular session and go into closed at 7:37 p.m. for legal and personnel. Approved with the following votes: Fidler, Johnson, Pate and Page: Yes. None: No. None: Absent.

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# **September 14, 2015**

**Reconvene Regular Session**

Fidler motioned, Page seconded, carried; to go back into regular session at 7:58 p.m. Approved with the following votes: Fidler, Johnson, Pate and Page: Yes. None: No. None: Absent.

No votes were taken during closed.

After Council went back into open Fidler motioned, Page seconded, carried; approving Mayor Thompson’s recommended “Welcome to Stockton” sign design and to move forward with erecting the signs pending location approval by MoDOT. Unanimously approved. Mayor Thompson suggested placing the signs on the lot by Woody’s Fast Stop and south of the school.

Cahill enlightened Council he had witnessed Mr. Hamby’s business transaction at City Hall which he claimed he had been treated rudely. However, according to Cahill’s recollection neither Celia nor Dana treated Mr. Hamby rudely.

**Adjourn Regular Session**

Pate motioned, seconded by Page, carried; to adjourn the regular session meeting at 8:13 p.m. Approved with the following votes: Fidler, Johnson, Pate and Page: Yes. None: No. None: Absent.

**ATTEST:**

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**City Clerk Mayor**

**Closed Session**

# **September 14, 2015**

The Stockton Board of Aldermen met in closed session on September 14, 2015 at 7:46 p.m. for the purpose of legal and personnel.

Attending this portion of the meeting was Mayor Patty Thompson, council members Greg Fidler, Gary Johnson, Barbara Pate and Carla Page. Also in attendance were City Clerk, Vanessa Underwood, Building Inspector, Brandon Cahill, City Superintendent, Raymond Heryford and City Attorney, Peter Lee.

**Legal:**

Council discussed a possible insurance claim from a local restaurant owner for lost revenue due to water service interruption back in July. The service interruption was due to an incorrectly marked water main hit by MP Nexlevel while installing fiber optics.

**Personnel:** Council discussed procedure for dismissing an advisory board member from his duties.

**Real Estate**: No discussion.

**Adjourn Close Session Back into Open Session:**

Motion from Pate, Fidler seconded, carried; to adjourn closed session and go back into open at

7:58 p.m. Approved with the following votes: Fidler, Johnson, Pate and Page: Yes. None: No. None: Absent.

**ATTEST:**

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**City Clerk Mayor**