

**HELD VIA ZOOM MEETING DUE TO CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC**

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC JOINED VIA ZOOM**

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

**OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

**CITY OF BLACK JACK**

**12500 OLD JAMESTOWN ROAD**

**June 16, 2020**

**7:00 pm**

**ROLL CALL**

The City Clerk called the roll and the following members were present:

Councilman Miller

Councilman Pointer

Councilman Krank

Councilman Hinkle

Councilman McClain

Councilman Grady

**ABSENT**

None

**EXCUSED**

Councilman White

**PUBLIC HEARING**

A public hearing was held to review and discuss the allocation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds in the amount of \$20,000.00 for 2021. The Public Hearing Handout was read in its entirety. Mayor McCourt read other information explaining the programs purpose and how it is administered. He advised that the funds are primarily used for residents to make repairs to their homes. The program is administered solely by St. Louis County. Mayor McCourt requested that the City Council members reach out to their residents and advise them of the funds that are available for 2019.

Councilman Miller moved to close the CDBG Public Hearing. Motion was seconded and passed when a poll of the Council produced the following vote:

Councilman Grady	yes	Councilman Hinkle	yes
Councilman McClain	yes	Councilman Miller	yes
Councilman Krank	yes	Councilman Pointer	yes

**PRESENTATION**

None

**PROCLAMATIONS**

None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor McCourt called for additions, corrections or changes to the Regular Meeting Minutes of May 19, 2020 The minutes were approved as distributed.

**COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, PETITIONS, ETC. FROM THE PUBLIC**

None

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

1. Mayor McCourt reported that for the month of May there were four home purchases, five home rentals and six apartment rentals. Mayor McCourt advised that new construction has begun in Ward 3.
2. For the month of May, the Court revenue was \$3,158.50 and expenses were \$7,613.41 for a shortage of \$4,454.91. Judge Duepner came by today to view the configuration of the Council chambers. We had to reconfigure it to make sure there were 6ft between all spaces. The setup will also work for City Council meetings when needed.
3. He advised that tonight under Miscellaneous business we will discuss Harold Evangelista Park. He stated that people are getting very angry because the park is still closed. We will also discuss Hidden Paradise, which is the Airbnb on Old Jamestown Road.
4. Advised that the officials swearing in will be done by Karen Robinson, City Clerk at City Hall individually and the official results will be read at the July meeting.
5. The vacancy on the City Council left by Councilwoman Muller, will be addressed by allowing residents from Ward 2 to sign up to speak to the Council. The Mayor and the City Council members will decide on the person to be appointed. He will then appoint that person. The individual will have to be elected in 2021 and again in 2022 to keep the two members for Ward 2 separate.
6. He advised of the COVID 19 numbers in Missouri are as follows :
  - a) Individuals with COVID 19 on 6/9 was 14,913
  - b) Individuals with COVID 19 ON 6/12 was 15,585
  - c) The number of deaths increased from 840 to 872
  - d) On 6/9 St. Louis County had 5,123
  - e) On 6/12 St. Louis County had 6,220
  - f) Out of 872, 496 are in St. Louis County
  - g) The worse area in St. Louis County is in the 63033 zip code
7. Year-end Sales tax is down \$14,848.00. Of that amount, the month of June accounts for \$13,037.00. We will probably take a hit of about \$10,000 the first couple of months of our new fiscal year. For the year, court revenue is down \$36,000.00, public safety is down \$5,196. We are trying to postpone any purchases and stretch the income we currently have.

**OFFICIALS**

1. Councilman Miller advised that he was part of a meeting discussing the CARES ACT funds. It was mentioned that municipalities can apply to St. Louis County to receive a portion of the funds received. Mayor McCourt advised that he had heard that but instead that the funds were strictly for public safety. Councilman Miller advised that he would double check on it.

Councilman Miller mentioned the loose gravel problem on Bielefeld. He forwarded photos to the Mayor and Council prior to the meeting for review. Missouri Petroleum has not provided a remedy or explanation for the problem yet. Councilman Miller and some of the other Council members would like the City to hold off on awarding another contract to this vendor until this issue has been resolved.

2. Councilman Hinkle advised that he had a discussion with a resident concerning a tree in the easement that has destroyed 5 slabs of concrete. He would like the ordinance amended to prevent trees from being planted in the easement. Mayor McCourt requested that he send him the street and location of the slabs and they will be added to the list of upcoming sidewalk repairs.

Councilman Hinkle advised that he had a discussion with another resident who advised that their neighbor has trash bins overflowing, which results in windblown trash on the lawn. Mayor McCourt suggested contacting the Code Enforcement Officer, Joe Lancey.

Councilman Hinkle gave kudos to Troy Hill Construction for the new home that is being built in Ward 3. He advised that Mr. Hill is easy to work with, the area is very clean and the home being built is beautiful. Also, the Home Owners Association president and Trustee, Attral Hairston has had great things to say about Hill Construction as well.

Councilman Hinkle advised that he would like for the City to take the proactive measures in passing a Resolution to ban choke holds. During discussion of the matter, he and Mayor McCourt mentioned Dr. Thomasina Hassler, who is on the police board and County Councilwoman Rochelle Walton-Gray. It was also mentioned that the Chief of Police is also in favor.

3. Councilman Grady advised that he visited Harold Evangelista Park yesterday and noticed tire tracks in the grass on the church side of the park. As he entered, he encountered individuals in the park smoking blunts and parked on the basketball court. He advised them that the park is closed and that they were violating the law. Councilman Grady advised that due to the COVID-19 numbers, he didn't believe opening the park was necessarily the best thing to do at this time. He stated that the residents elected them as officials to make decisions in the best interest of the residents of the City.

**REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONS/BOARDS**

None

**COMMITTEE**

None

**SPECIAL COUNSEL**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Bill #1241, entitled, AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AND ENACTING THE BUILDING, RESIDENTIAL, EXISTING BUILDING, AND MECHANICAL CODE(S) OF SAINT LOUIS COUNTY AS AMENDED AS THE BUILDING, RESIDENTIAL BUILDING, EXISTING BUILDING, AND MECHANICAL CODES OF THE CITY OF BLACK JACK, MISSOURI was read for the second time. Councilman Miller moved to place Bill #1241 on its passage. Motion was seconded and passed when a poll of the Council produced the following vote:

Councilman Grady	yes	Councilman Hinkle	yes
Councilman McClain	yes	Councilman Miller	yes
Councilman Krank	yes	Councilman Pointer	yes

Bill #1241 became Ordinance #1157

**PENDING LEGISLATION:**

Councilman Hinkle moved to place Bill #1245 under New Business and assigned Councilman Miller as the sponsor, Bill #1246 under New Business and assigned himself as the sponsor, Bill #1247 under New Business and assigned Councilman McClain as the sponsor, Resolution #200601 under Resolutions and assigned Councilman Grady as the sponsor, Resolution #200602 under Resolutions and assigned Councilman Pointer as the sponsor and Resolution #200603 under Resolutions and assigned Councilman Krank as the sponsor. Motion was seconded and passed when a poll of the Council produced the following vote:

Councilman Grady	yes	Councilman Hinkle	yes
Councilman McClain	yes	Councilman Miller	yes
Councilman Krank	yes	Councilman Pointer	yes

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Bill #1245, entitled, AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING FOR MAINTENANCE AND GIVING FINAL APPROVAL OF CERTAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS LOCATED WITHIN JAMESTOWNE PLAT 10 SUBDIVISION, A SUBDIVISION LOCATED IN THE CITY OF BLACK JACK, ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI was read for the first time.

2. Bill #1246, entitled, AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING FOR MAINTENANCE AND GIVING FINAL APPROVAL OF THE STREET IMPROVEMENTS LOCATED WITHIN JAMESTOWNE PLAT 11 SUBDIVISION, A SUBDIVISION LOCATED IN THE CITY OF BLACK JACK, ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI was read for the first time.
3. Bill #1247, entitled, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BLACK JACK, MISSOURI, TO ESTABLISH A PROCEDURE TO DISCLOSE POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND SUBSTANTIAL INTERESTS FOR CERTAIN OFFICIALS was read for the first time.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

1. Resolution #200601, entitled, A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLACK JACK, MISSOURI ACKNOWLEDGING AN INCREASE IN THE COST OF POLICE SERVICES FOR THE CONTRACT YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2020 was read by title only. Councilman Grady moved to place Resolution #200601 on its passage. Motion was seconded and passed when a poll of the Council produced the following vote:

Councilman Grady	yes	Councilman Hinkle	yes
Councilman McClain	yes	Councilman Miller	yes
Councilman Krank	yes	Councilman Pointer	yes

Resolution #200601 is attached and made a part hereof.

2. Resolution #200602, entitled, SUPPORT OF WAYFAIR INTERNET SALES LEGISLATION WITHOUT A REVENUE NEUTRAL CLAUSE was read by title only. Councilman Pointer moved to place Resolution #200602 on its passage. Motion was seconded and passed when a poll of the Council produced the following vote:

Councilman Grady	yes	Councilman Hinkle	yes
Councilman McClain	yes	Councilman Miller	yes
Councilman Krank	yes	Councilman Pointer	yes

Resolution #200602 is attached and made a part hereof.

3. Resolution #200603, entitled, MUNICIPALITIES WITHIN ST. LOUIS COUNTY RECEIVE AN EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF THE \$175 MILLION IN FUNDING – 2020 CARES ACT FUNDS – COVID-19 was read by title only. Councilman Krank moved to place Resolution #200603 on its passage. Motion was seconded and passed when a poll of the Council produced the following vote:

Councilman Grady	yes	Councilman Hinkle	yes
Councilman McClain	yes	Councilman Miller	yes
Councilman Krank	yes	Councilman Pointer	yes

Resolution #200603 is attached and made a part hereof.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

1. Councilman Miller moved to award the contract for Violation Grass Cutting to AmbeReen Lawns for the 2020 cutting season. Motion was seconded and passed when a poll of the Council produced the following vote:

Councilman Grady	yes	Councilman Hinkle	yes
Councilman McClain	yes	Councilman Miller	yes
Councilman Krank	yes	Councilman Pointer	yes

2. Councilman McClain moved to poll the City Council on whether to open Harold Evangelista Park or for the park to remain closed. Motion was seconded.

The second was withdrawn and Councilman McClain withdrew the motion.

Councilman McClain moved to keep Harold Evangelista Park closed. Motion was seconded and passed when a poll of the Council produced the following vote:

Councilman Grady	yes	Councilman Hinkle	yes
Councilman McClain	yes	Councilman Miller	no
Councilman Krank	no	Councilman Pointer	yes

3. Councilman Krank moved to award Spencer Contracting the contract for Concrete and Asphalt CAP-20001 in the amount of \$200,000.00. Motion was seconded and passed when a poll of the Council produced the following vote:

Councilman Grady	yes	Councilman Hinkle	yes
Councilman McClain	yes	Councilman Miller	yes
Councilman Krank	yes	Councilman Pointer	yes

4. Councilman Miller moved to table awarding Missouri Petroleum Products Company contract for Bituminous Seal Coat CAP-20002 in the amount of \$75,000.00, until Missouri Petroleum Products Company presents to the City Council the remedy for the issues on Bielefeld. Motion was seconded

The second was withdrawn and Councilman Miller withdrew the motion.

Councilman Miller moved to postpone awarding Missouri Petroleum Products Company contract for Bituminous Seal Coat CAP-20002 in the amount of \$75,000.00, until Missouri Petroleum Products Company presents to the City Council the remedy for the issues on Bielefeld. Motion was seconded and passed when a poll of the Council produced the following vote:

Councilman Grady	yes	Councilman Hinkle	yes
Councilman McClain	yes	Councilman Miller	yes
Councilman Krank	yes	Councilman Pointer	yes

5. Mayor McCourt advised that pursuant to the City's Code of Ordinances, there will not be a City Council meeting on the first Tuesday in July.
6. Karen Robinson, City Clerk/Executive Assistant to the Mayor, provided an update to the City Council concerning Business License issues. Family Dollar currently has a 90 Temporary Business License because of numerous code violations. This cycle will continue because the violations have not been resolved. Ms. Robinson spoke with a new representative that has advised that the issues will be resolved.

Hidden Paradise – Airbnb received a citation from the police over the weekend and apparently has been using the location as an event venue. Public Works will send a letter advising that the business was not approved for such activity.

Also, a resident called today very upset and afraid of the fact that deer are habitating on her property. She will not allow her grandchildren out for this reason. The Mayor suggested having the resident call Missouri Conservation.

**FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR**

None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

THE JUNE 16, 2020 CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES WERE APPROVED AS AMENDED DURING THE JULY 21, 2020 CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

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Norman C. McCourt, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Karen E. Robinson, MRCC-S/CMC  
City Clerk  
Executive Assistant to the Mayor