

CITY OF WILLARD
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING
June 26, 2023
7:00 p.m.

Staff present: Director of Finance, Carolyn Halverson; City Planner, Scott Hayes; Planning Assistant, Tammy Nephew; Chief of Police, Tom McClain; Police Officer, JD Landon; and City Clerk, Dona Slater.

Attorney Ken Reynolds was in attendance.

Citizens in attendance: Steve Cobb, Larry Whitman, and State Representative. Bill Owen.

Call to Order.

Mayor Snider called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call.

The City Clerk conducted the Roll Call.

Alderman Smith-present, Alderman Keene-present, Alderman Swatosh-present, Alderman Hendrickson-present, Alderman Baird-present, Mayor Snider-present, Alderman Hall-not present.

Agenda Amendments/Approval of Agenda

Motion was made by Alderman Smith and seconded by Alderman Hendrickson to approve the Agenda.

Motion carried with a vote of 4-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Hendrickson, Smith, Keene, and Swatosh. Alderman Baird abstained.

Consent Agenda

Motion was made by Alderman Smith and seconded by Alderman Hendrickson to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion carried with a vote of 4-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Hendrickson, Smith, Keene, and Swatosh. Alderman Baird abstained.

Current and Outstanding Invoices, and Draft and Check Paid Invoices for May/June 2023 Discussion/Vote

Motion was made by Alderman Smith and seconded by Alderman Baird to approve the Current Outstanding Invoices, and Draft and Check Paid Invoices for May/June 2023.

Motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Hendrickson, Smith, Baird, Keene, and Swatosh.

Citizen Input

State Representative, Bill Owen said he has good news. He brought designs for the new intersection for Highway 13 and Interstate 44. He stated there is a proposal to make I-44 six lanes between Highway 13 and Highway 65 in Springfield, Missouri. There is also a study to extend James River Freeway to Willard and around to Highway 65. The focus is to increase the transportation infrastructure. He would like input from the Board of Aldermen.

Larry Whitman, 508 Pine St., said there was a lengthy discussion on trash rates at the last Board of Aldermen meeting. He questions whether the City needs to contract with trash companies and suggests taking trash billing out of City Hall and having citizens deal directly with trash services themselves.

Public Hearing regarding the Amendment of Section 400.460 of City of Willard Municipal Code.

The Public Hearing was opened by Mayor Snider at 7:15 p.m. There were no public comments.

The Public Hearing was closed by Mayor Snider at 7:15 p.m.

Ordinance Amending Section 400.460 of the City of Willard Municipal Code regarding permitted Governmental Uses in "C-1" Neighborhood Business District (1st Read) Discussion/Vote

Discussion was held regarding amending Section 400.460 of the Municipal Code. Lines four (4) and eleven (11) contradict each other. The recommendation is to strike line eleven (11) of the Municipal Code as leaving it in leaves the City in limbo on higher zonings. Some Aldermen believe changing the Code allows the City government to put buildings where they want, even in residential neighborhoods. A Work Study may be needed before proceeding with this amendment.

The first read was conducted by the City Clerk.

Motion was made by Alderman Hendrickson and seconded by Alderman Baird to amend Section 400.460 of the City of Willard Municipal Code regarding permitted Governmental Uses in "C-1" Neighborhood Business Districts. Motion did not carry with a vote of 0-5. Voting aye: None. Voting nay: Aldermen Hendrickson, Smith, Baird, Keene, and Swatosh.

The Ordinance died with no aye votes.

Public Hearing regarding the re-zoning of North Charlotte Avenue, Greene County Parcel #0726201092

The Public Hearing was opened by Mayor Snider at 7:35 p.m. There were no public comments.

The Public Hearing was closed by Mayor Snider at 7:35 p.m.

Ordinance to re-zone North Charlotte Avenue, Greene County Parcel #0726201092, from "R-1" Single Family Residential to "C-1" Neighborhood Business District (1st Read) Discussion/Vote

Mr. Hayes said that residents of this area have voiced concerns about flooding and road maintenance. The area is in the FEMA floodplain so there will always be flooding. The road belongs to the county, so the City does not maintain it. It was asked if anyone had contacted Greene County about annexing North Charlotte Avenue. Mr. Hayes said not to his knowledge.

Motion was made by Alderman Baird and seconded by Alderman Hendrickson to table this Ordinance. Motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Hendrickson, Smith, Baird, Keene, and Swatosh.

Mayor Snider cautioned the Board that they need to figure out a way to move forward on these Ordinances.

Willard Police Department Police Academy Recruitment Agreement Discussion/Vote

Chief of Police, Tom McClain said his department has had an opening for six (6) months and has not received any good applications. Other law enforcement agencies are hiring recruits and then paying for the academy. He feels we need to follow other law enforcement agencies in this. If a candidate drops out of the academy, they will have to repay the cost of the academy.

Motion was made by Alderman Smith and seconded by Alderman Baird to approve a Police Academy Recruitment Agreement.

Motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Hendrickson, Smith, Baird, Keene, and Swatosh.

New Business

Alderman Baird said the Mayor indicated the Board needs to get their act together and needs to get zoning codes straightened out.

Alderman Smith asked if there is any timeline for proceeding forward with discussing sewage? Mayor Snider said this will need to be discussed with Mr. Steve Bodenhamer. Alderman Smith asked when is the Board going to decide to continue sending sewage to Springfield or build a sewage treatment plant? Mayor Snider said a plant hasn't even been talked about. He stated the Board needs a work study with Mr. Bodenhamer to talk about a sewer plant. Aldermen Smith and Swatosh said they want a meeting. Ms. Carolyn Halverson reminded the Board that they need to look at short term and long-term plans for sewage.

Alderman Swatosh stated the Public Works building on Jackson Street has rust holes on the outside façade. Mayor Snider said funds have been allocated to work on the building.

Alderman Smith asked if Economic Development Director, Greg Williams ever give a report? He would like one. Mayor Snider said he will ask Mr. Williams if he has anything he can report at this time.

Old Business

Alderman Baird requests the Aldermen receive the BOA Meeting Packet before Fridays.


Adjourn Meeting

Motion was made by Alderman Smith and seconded by Alderman Keene to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Swatosh, Keene, Smith, Baird, and Hendrickson.

The meeting was Adjourned at 8:10 p.m.



Dona Slater, City Clerk



Samuel Snider, Mayor