

CITY OF WILLARD
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING
September 25, 2023
7:00 p.m.

Staff present: Chief of Police, Tom McClain; Project Engineer, Steve Bodenhamer; Director of Parks and Rec, Jason Knight; Operations Manager, Trevor Hoffman; Assistant Public Works Director, Shane Fox; Police Officer, JD Landon; and City Clerk, Dona Slater

City Attorney Ken Reynolds was present.

Citizens in attendance: Steve Cobb, Vanessa Keene, Jen Rowe, Dwight Dodson, David Roggensees, Megan Applegate, Olivia Roggensees, Leonard and Jennifer Smith, Debbie Ihrig, Jim Vaughn, Ethan Gray, Mindy Kirkland, Marta Mize, Jake Spindler, Larry Whitman, Elizabeth Lampe, and Nathan Lampe

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 Hendrickson-present; Alderman Smith-present; Alderman Baird-present; Alderman Keene-present; Alderman Hall-present; Alderman Swatosh-present; Mayor Snider-present.

Mayor Snider Comments

Mayor Snider delivered remarks concerning the recent Public Censure by the Board of Aldermen. He said he accepts responsibility for his actions and is sorry that they have led to this point. He stated that in the days to come he is committed to being a better servant to the Board of Aldermen, to the City of Willard, and to the citizens.

Agenda Amendments/Agenda Approval.

Motion was made by Alderman Baird and seconded by Alderman Keene to approve the Agenda.
Motion carried with a vote of 6-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Hendrickson, Smith, Baird, Keene, Hall, and Swatosh.

Consent Agenda.

Alderman Baird requested item (d) be broken out from the rest of the Consent Agenda.

Motion was made by Alderman Baird and seconded by Alderman Hendrickson to approve the Consent Agenda without item (d).

Motion carried with a vote of 6-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Hendrickson, Smith, Baird, Keene, Hall, and Swatosh.

Alderman Baird inquired about a key service charge on item (d). Mayor Snider said the key to the office was lost and the door had to be re-keyed.

Motion was made by Alderman Baird and seconded by Alderman Hendrickson to approve item (d) of the Consent Agenda.

Motion carried with a vote of 6-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Hendrickson, Smith, Baird, Keene, Hall, and Swatosh.

Discussion/Vote on current Outstanding Invoices, Draft and Check Paid Invoices for August 2023/September 2023.

Motion was made by Alderman Hall and seconded by Alderman Smith to approve the current outstanding invoices, and draft and check paid invoices for August 2023 and September 2023.

Motion carried with a vote of 6-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Hendrickson, Smith, Baird, Keene, Hall, and Swatosh.

Citizen Input.

Megan Applegate – 721 Colby St. – said she is a part of Willard. Her children are in Willard schools. She tries to vote for leaders that will be team players and she feels this is not the case in Willard. There have been dysfunctional emails between the Mayor and Aldermen. She finds this sad and appalling. She can't imagine how City staff feel. She would like the Mayor and Aldermen to come together and show kids and the community what leaders can accomplish. She commended the mayor for his comments and asks all to come together, apologize, and work through their issues.

David Roggensees – 943 Fox River Ave. – He remembers being an Alderman and listening to comments. The community doesn't realize what each elected official gives to the community. Their service is demanding. The community only sees what is communicated but not the sacrifices they make. He said the mayor humbled himself tonight. He cannot understand how people with the best intentions can't communicate. The officials need to come to a consensus. He said they need to head off issues now and take action. The City needs a City Administrator and Director of Planning and Zoning for the community to grow. Don't let pride and anger get in the way of decisions. He hopes they will work together. He thanked the officials for their service.

Olivia Roggensees said she has seen what her father did for the City as an Alderman. She doesn't see what the current Board of Aldermen have done except argue. She thinks this is sad and depressing.

Appointment of Brook Jarvis to the Park Board. Discussion/Vote

Jason Knight asked the Aldermen to consider his recommendation of Brooke Jarvis for appointment to the Park Board. She is a valued member of the community, and he believes she will be a vital asset to the Park Board.

Motion was made by Alderman Baird and seconded by Alderman Hall to appoint Brooke Jarvis to the Park Board.

Motion carried with a vote of 6-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Hendrickson, Smith, Baird, Keene, Hall, and Swatosh.

Resolution to appoint Dona Slater, City Clerk, as Civil Rights Coordinator. Discussion/Vote

Steve Bodenhamer stated the City is required to comply with the Civil Rights Act. If the City has more than fifteen (15) employees, it must have a Civil Rights Coordinator. Alderman Hendrickson asked if Ms. Slater was okay with this appointment. She stated that she is.

Motion was made by Alderman Hendrickson and seconded by Alderman Baird to appoint Dona Slater, City Clerk, as the Civil Rights Coordinator.

Motion carried with a vote of 6-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Hendrickson, Smith, Baird, Keene, Hall, and Swatosh.

Trash service for Willard Citizens. Discussion/Vote

Alderman Hendrickson made a motion to postpone this agenda item until the next Board of Aldermen meeting.

Motion carried with a vote of 6-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Hendrickson, Smith, Baird, Keene, Hall, and Swatosh.

Sanitary System Projects Status Report

Steve Bodenhamer presented and updated on the Community Funding Partnership (94 Lift Station and Force Main). The review team has begun the interview process for the responses to the RFQ for design engineering. The Work Plan calls for financing of the “City Match” no later than April 30, 2024. Issues of asset alternatives regarding collateralization are being addressed.

New Business.

Alderman Baird addressed the citizen comments. He appreciates the people speaking. He also appreciates the Mayor’s comments and apology, but this doesn’t change the need for action, i.e., hiring a City Administrator and Director of Planning and Zoning. Alderman Baird presented a “Bill of Impeachment of Samuel Snider, Mayor of Willard, MO” to the Aldermen and Mayor Snider and called for a hearing to be held October 26, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Building.

Unfinished Business.

None.


Adjourn Meeting.

Motion was made by Alderman Hendrickson and seconded by Alderman Swatosh to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0. Voting aye: Aldermen Swatosh, Keene, Smith, Hendrickson, Hall, and Baird.

The meeting was Adjourned at 7:45 p.m.



Dona Slater, City Clerk



Samuel Snider, Mayor