CITY OF CHARLESTON

City Council Meeting
November 12, 2024

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30PM by Mayor Rick Toon. Councilwoman Monica Goodin, Councilman Jason Oliver, Councilman Trent Lane, Councilman Jackie Whiteside, City Manager Greg Luehmann, City Attorney Tabatha Graham, City Clerk Ali Morris, Public Works Director, David Harris, Chief of the Department of Public Safety, Robert Hearnes Jr., and Public Safety Officer, Curtis Arnold were present.

Consideration of Prior Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by Councilman Oliver to approve the October 8, 2024, meeting minutes. Councilman Lane seconded the motion. All were in favor. None were opposed. The motion carried and the minutes were approved.

Report of City Business: City Manager, Greg Luehmann, presented his report of business for the month of October to the council. Luehmann discussed many meetings that were held during the month. Mr. Luehmann mentioned that he met with State Representative, Donnie Brown, and they discussed many business opportunities in Charleston, including a senior living facility, a daycare facility, and the new truck stop. He mentioned that the sidewalk replacement (TAP) grant that was applied for was officially granted, and work is set to begin in the spring of 2025 on Hunter Street. Luehmann also mentioned that cameras were installed in the council room, which will record the open session meetings. It was then addressed that it may be necessary to establish guidelines as to where outside recording devices are brought in and placed inside the room from now on.

Old Business: None.

New Business: The first item of new business was to discuss the Preliminary Engineering Report for the Infrastructure Improvements in the City of Charleston. A copy of the report, prepared by Waters Engineering was included in the council packets. The Director of Public Works, David Harris, was in attendance in case anyone had any questions about the report. Mayor Toon acknowledged that a Resolution needed to be passed as the next step in order to pursue the grant funding needed to fund the project.

The next item of business was to discuss Resolution NO. 1115- A Resolution of the City of Charleston, Missouri, Stating Intent to Seek Funding Through the Community Development Block Grant Mitigation Program and Authorizing the Mayor to Pursue Activities in an Attempt to Secure Funding. The city decided to contribute 22% or $450,200 cash and $30,800 in-kind labor. The city chose Waters Engineering as the contractor and Mitzi Dell for the administration of the mitigation program. A motion was made by Councilman Whiteside to approve Resolution NO. 1115. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion. All were in favor. None were opposed. The motion carried and the resolution was approved.

Next on the agenda was Bill NO. 3963 / Ordinance NO. 3104- An Ordinance Calling for A General Election to be Conducted on April 8, 2025, Within and for the City of Charleston, Missouri, for the Purpose of Electing Two Councilpersons-at-Large for Three Year Terms, and One Councilperson-at-Large for a Two-Year Term; Establishing the Opening and Closing Dates for Filing Declarations of Candidacy; Fixing the Dates of said Election, Designating the Mississippi County Clerk as the Election Authority to Conduct said Election; and Directing Publication of Notice When Required. Mayor Toon read the bill/ordinance by title two times. A motion was made by Councilman Whiteside to approve Bill NO. 3963 / Ordinance NO. 3104. Councilwoman Goodin seconded the motion. All were in favor. None were opposed. The motion carried and the election ordinance was approved.

The next item on the agenda was to discuss the annual allowance for training enhancement for both part-time and full-time city employees. Councilman Whiteside made a motion to increase the full-time allowance by $50 and the part-time allowance by $25. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion. All were in favor. None were opposed. The motion carried and the annual training enhancement increases were approved.

The final item on the agenda was to discuss creating a sub-committee to speak with the county commissioners to create a central 911 dispatch. After much discussion, Councilman Oliver made a motion to table the topic. Councilman Lane seconded the motion. All were in favor. None were opposed.

At this time, Mayor Toon announced there would be a short recess/bathroom break.

Introduction of Visitors: Cal Coleman, Hudson Byrd, Nelson Byrd, Jayne Ellen Ray, Sheila Shankle, Tiffiny Shankle, Kenny Hulshof, Amelia Rigney, and Troy Riggens were present.

Three individuals turned in the meeting participation form to speak. Only one was present. Mr. Cal Coleman addressed the council about public safety.

Mayor Toon reminded everyone that when they fill out the meeting participation request form, they need to write more than two words as topic or agenda item of interest.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Councilman Whiteside to adjourn the regular session and go into closed session. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion. All were in favor. None were opposed. The motion carried and the regular session meeting was adjourned.

Richard Toon

Presiding Officer

ATTEST:

Ali Norris

City Clerk

Richard Toon

Mayor

Ali Norris

City Clerk