

**City of Battlefield
Board of Aldermen
Regular Session Meeting Minutes
October 1, 2024**

Item 1 Ceremonial Matters

Pledge of Allegiance Alderman Rocky Compton led the pledge of allegiance.

Opening Prayer Police Chief Chris McPhail led the opening prayer.

Editorial Note: City Clerk Beth Anne West swore in Matt McNitt as Alderman for Ward I who was appointed at the last board meeting but was absent and could not be sworn in at that time.

Item 2 Roll Call

The following aldermen were present for the meeting: Matt McNitt, Tim Kelley Sr., Rocky Compton, Samantha Forbes, Scott Campbell, and Doug Cunio. City Clerk Beth Anne West determined there was a quorum present upon completing roll call and noted the meeting could proceed. Staff present were City Administrator Tommy Vanhorn, City Clerk Beth Anne West, and Police Chief Chris McPhail.

Item 3 Call to order

Mayor Mark Crabtree brought the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. at Battlefield City Hall located at 5434 S. Tower Drive, Battlefield, MO 65619.

Item 4 Mayor Report

Mayor Mark Crabtree suggested everyone attend MML if they can do so, because he found it quite informational.

Item 5 Board of Aldermen Report

None.

Item 6 Fire/Police Report

Police Chief Chris McPhail noted that he had provided a written staff report and referenced page 2 under the CIT incidents and the increase they have experienced along with opioid overdoses and that the community has access to Narcan and that the policy is to leave a dose behind at the residence should the resident overdose after the visit, so the family member will have to use if the need arises. Chief McPhail noted he would like to get all the officers certified in CIT training due to the increase of citizens that need assistance with drug and alcohol addiction. Mr. McPhail mentioned that he was talking with the City Administrator in addressing some concerns raised on traffic issues specifically by Alderman Campbell and had looked at buying two radar signs to locate in neighborhoods in town first in Alderman Campbell's neighborhood then look at other areas. Mr. McPhail is hoping it will draw attention

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to those that are speeding and give officers the ability to get data, so they can figure out when is the best time to monitor those areas for speeders. Chief McPhail handed out challenge coins to the Board members as a gesture of thanks for all they do in donating their time to the citizens of Battlefield. Chief McPhail stated the Radar signs will cost about \$2,500.00 apiece and can be bolted to a street sign.

Item 7 Adoption and Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion was made by Alderman Rocky Compton to approve and adopt the consent agenda including items a-i: August 27, 2024, Board of Aldermen Regular Session Meeting Minutes; September 3, 2024, Special Session Meeting Minutes; September 3, 2024, Regular Session Meeting Minutes; Bills to approve in the amount of \$134,614.96; Bills paid in the amount of \$168,457.34; Sewer/Parks-Refunds paid in the amount of \$870.52; Sewer Adjustments for August 2024 in the amount of \$336.02; August Bank Reconciliations 2024; August Financial Statement 2024. Motion was seconded by Alderman Doug Cunio. A vote was taken, and the vote was 6 Ayes- Matt McNitt, Tim Kelley Sr., Rocky Compton, Samantha Forbes, Scott Campbell, and Doug Cunio. 0 Nays. All Aldermen were present for the vote. Motion approved.

Item 8 Public Input

Deziree Marsh-4548 W. Cloverleaf Terrace Battlefield, MO 65619 noted her opposition to the need to hire a Public Works Supervisor position and reference the past discussion to the new members of the Board and offered to hand out copies of minutes for the past board meetings and a copy of the budget to reference for the vote. Mrs. Marsh asked if the newest members had received her e-mail where she voiced her concerns for the cost to be added for employee costs to add this position and her opinion that she would go over as to why they should not approve this addition of a new employee. Mrs. Marsh asked why the meetings were not broadcasted live so the public could be aware of the Board activity rather than having to wait for the approved minutes to be posted on the website which does not seem to occur in a timely manner nor do the planning and zoning minutes either. Mrs. Marsh talked about past involvement with surveys and public meetings and the need to provide all this information to the public in better ways so people can be aware of what is going on within in the City.

Item 9a Discussion and Possible Vote to Add Public Works Supervisor Position to Budget for 2024-2025.

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City Administrator Tommy Vanhorn explained he would like to address the e-mail sent to the Board this weekend from a citizen, because he feels it is only to disrupt the progress made to this point. Mr. Vanhorn stated that he has prioritized the Capital Improvement Plan and is putting together the data to be utilized for the new City Asset program the City recently purchased. Mr. Vanhorn was asked to address the needs of the park specifically maintenance thereof in doing so he hired a part-time employee to focus solely on the park for mowing, etc. Mr. Vanhorn noted that it was also questioned about the requirement for employees to live inside the city limits which is not required per city code and that several employees live outside of the city limits as does the Police Chief, City Clerk, and himself. Mr. Vanhorn stated that his qualifications were questioned by an individual, so he would be willing to share them for reference verbally, he has been in public works for over 22 years, a four year degree from Drury university as a bachelor of science and a graduate certificate from the University of Missouri for Public administration, and he was hired in April 2021 to the City of Battlefield by a unanimous vote of the Board of Aldermen. Mr. Vanhorn noted he is currently in the process of obtaining his MGI (Municipal Governance Institute Certification through MML Missouri Municipal League, while also working on obtaining an Advanced Municipal Governance Institute Certification also through MML, whilst becoming Certified as an EMD (Emergency Management Director), through Emergency Management Agency EMA through the State of Missouri Emergency Management Agency- (SEMA). Alderman Ward II Rocky Compton replied, "That is what we hired you to do." Alderman Doug Cunio stated that Mr. Vanhorn had taken him on a 2-hour tour of the City the other day to familiarize him with all the infrastructure the city is responsible for, and he was quite impressed and amazed at what is to be maintained. Alderman Cunio asked Mr. Vanhorn if the position were to be approved what Mr. Vanhorn feel he would be freed up to do. Mr. Vanhorn explained that he does not have the time to attend several meetings in or around Battlefield to promote and/or work on Economic Development i.e., creating the opportunities to bring new businesses to the City there in bringing more revenue and opportunities for the City of Battlefield. Mr. Vanhorn stated he focuses on managing all the staff and operations within the City minus the Police Department and if there are issues within various departments with employees and/or the inability to work together for personality issues this only takes away from productivity and he would like to simplify this by having one point of contact in public works. Mr. Vanhorn added that one of the employees were hired with the thought of being management potential but that did not work out, so his thought was to pursue hiring a supervisor to assist with the implementation of the new software

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(Asset Management). Mr. Vanhorn outlined a number of the projects that are occurring and planned plus the day-to-day work and meetings that become cumbersome to keep track of and meet everyone's needs fully. Alderman Doug Cunio made motion to approve the addition of the Public Works Superintendent to the 2024-2025 budget. Motion was seconded by Alderman Tim Kelley Sr. A vote was taken, and the vote was 2 Ayes-tim Kelley Sr. and Doug Cunio. 4 Nays-Scott Campbell, Rocky Compton, Matt McNitt and Samanta Forbes. Motion denied. All Board members were present for the vote.

Item 10a Marketing Survey Update by City Administrator.

City Administrator Tommy Vanhorn reviewed the results with the Board noting that 2,800 Flyers were sent out with 473 responses. Mr. Vanhorn explained with the data the Marketing Company planned to put together a package to promote Battlefield. Discussion occurred on the cost of the survey process, which was upwards of \$50,000.00, which was approved by the Board of Aldermen in the budget.

Item 10b Discussion and Possible Vote to Approve Sale of Vehicle for Police Department.

Alderman Samantha Forbes made motion to approve the sale of vehicle for Police Department, a 2016 Ford Explorer. Alderman Rocky Compton seconded motion. A vote was taken, and the vote was 6 Ayes-Doug Cunio, Scott Campbell, Samantha Forbes, Rocky Compton Tim Kelley Sr. and Matt McNitt. 0 Nays. All Board members were present for the vote. Motion approved.

Item 10c Discussion and Possible Vote to Approve the City Administrator to Renew Line of Credit with Legacy Bank.

Alderman Rocky Compton made motion to approve the City Administrator to renew a line of credit with legacy Bank. Alderman Samantha Forbes seconded motion. A vote was taken, and the vote was 6 Ayes-Doug Cunio, Scott Campbell, Samantha Forbes, Rocky Compton, Tim Kelley Sr., and Matt McNitt. 0 Nays. All Board members were present for the vote. Motion approved. City Administrator Tommy Vanhorn noted the purchases that had been made with the line of credit in the past year for the public works department and the Police Department that were approved in the budget. Mr. Vanhorn explained it was easier to cut a check for the purchase of the vehicles and get the outfitted rather than having to cut multiple checks that would normally happen when not using the line of credit at legacy bank. Mr. Vanhorn explained that the city is paying for the interest. Police Chief Chris McPhail noted that

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the installer for the emergency equipment in the new police interceptor was backed up with other vehicles so that portion of the outfitting of the new vehicle had not been paid for yet because of the delay. Mr. Vanhorn stated that it was time to renew the line of credit option since it is tied to the CD's the city has invested in and it was allowed the city to use the 2.5% interest. Mr. Vanhorn stated that the CD's are in 3-, 6- and 12- month increments.

Item 11 Adjournment.

Alderman Rocky Compton made motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. Alderman Samantha Forbes seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the vote was 6 Ayes- Doug Cunio, Scott Campbell, Samantha Forbes, Rocky Compton, Tim Kelley Sr., and Matt McNitt. 0 Nays. All Board members were present for the vote. Motion approved.

Mark Crabtree Mayor-Mark Crabtree 10/15/24 Date

ATTEST:
Beth Anne West City Clerk Beth Anne West 10/15/2024 Date

Reading and Vote to Approve Minutes: 5 Ayes - Doug Cunio, Scott Campbell, Rocky Compton, Tim Kelly Sr., and Matt McNitt. 0 Nays. Alderman Samantha Forbes was absent for the vote. 10-15-2024.
Minutes Approved: October 15, 2024,

