

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

CITY OF MELVERN

June 3, 2024

The City Council meeting was called to order AT 7:00 PM at City Hall. Council members Dan Bowers, Kim Speer, Frank Warner and Eric Vogeler were present. Derek Haines was absent. Randy Kirkpatrick, Mayor, was also present.

OTHERS PRESENT: Gary Kitt (City Maintenance) and Tamara Massey (City Clerk)

PUBLIC PRESENT: Lisa Litch, Donna Kirkpatrick, Joyce Lacey and Robert Bradley

MINUTES: Warner made a motion to approve the minutes of the May meeting, seconded by Vogeler, Motion carried 4-0.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Vogeler made a motion to approve Treasurer's Report as presented, seconded by Bowers, Motion carried 4-0

PAID BILLS: Motion made by Speer to approve the paid bills and approve payment of unpaid bills, Seconded by Bowers, Motion carried 4-0

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Joyce Lacey She had talked to Bob Olsen and he had said that we could possibly get the trains going through Melvern to quiet down by circulating a petition to the Railroad. He said the constant blaring of horns was a concern for new people moving into Melvern and the petition could get the railroad to change how loud the setting is on the trains for this area. City Council discussed issue but were not interested in pursuing this as there are many railroad crossings in Melvern and we have had deaths because of those crossings.

Robert Bradley – This is the 5th year for Melvern putting up veteran banners. The banners are put up every year for Veterans Day and are guaranteed for 4 years after that time the banners return to whoever had purchased that banner. This year we have had all of the patrons that signed up for banners in 2020, renew for another 4 years. He also said his daughter is in the process of purchasing Kathy's Kitchen.

ATTORNEYS REPORT – Attorney Absent

MAYOR'S REPORT –

Shelley Robinson had applied for a temporary special use permit to sell margaritas at Sunflower days. Discussion was held on rules and Bowers said he and Bradley would put up a snow fence on the basketball court. The quarantined area would hold the liquor sales as well as those who choose to drink. No alcohol would be allowed outside of that area. Vogeler made a motion to

approve the permit for Saturday June 15th from 4pm to 10pm. Seconded by Warner, Carried 4-0.

Several building permits had been turned in for 2024. Wallin put in a garden shed that was approved. Allison was building a Morton building but needed to adjust property lines to be compliant. Allison has been contacted to provide a copy of the updated deed to City.. Bob Olsen has bought a property on Emporia street and is working on remodeling that vacant house.

Citizens have been notified that water bills must be kept current and that balances will not be carried over without a written payment plan with the city.

The City Clerk provided spread sheets on 2024 dog tags purchased and the summons sent out.

A list of mowing letters that have been mailed out along with the addresses of what the city has had to abate and bill owners. Vogeler discussed VanValkenburg's vacant property, which has been referred to court and a hearing set for August 5th.

Kirkpatrick had found a 2005 Ford F150 pickup truck in good condition for sale and asked if the council would consider buying it for use by employees instead of the old diesel dump truck. Warner made a motion to buy the truck with a spending limit of \$5,500. Seconded by Bowers, Carried 4-0.

The mayor would like to start having a work session with the council for the next few months to discuss city improvements and current issues as they come up. A meeting for Monday June 17th at 7pm has been set. City Clerk would put out a notice to public about work session. Clerk is not needed in attendance as no motions can be made at work sessions.

Mayor requested an executive session.

At 8:15 pm, Vogeler made a motion to go into an executive session to discuss non-elected personnel for 10 minutes with the City Clerk and Gary Kitt, Seconded by Warner. Carried 4-0.

At 8:25pm Vogeler made a motion to extend the executive session for another 10 minutes, Seconded by Warner. Carried 4-0.

At 8:35 Vogeler made a motion to return to regular meeting, Seconded by Warner. Carried 4-0. Vogeler made a motion to start accepting applications for the Ordinance Officer position, Seconded by Bowers. Carried 4-0.

EMPLOYEE REPORTS –

Gary Kitt – Mowed Ordinance Violation properties, Discussed new sewer line put in by sewer pond and the concerns of the neighboring property. Mayor asked if the sewer map was updated and Gary said he would update them. Took out pipes running to an old home that was taken down by school. This would help the road from washing out. He has been putting

together the new benches and picnic tables for the park acquired by the Waste Tire Grant. He has been called out several times for loose dogs.

Tamara Massey – April Sheriff’s report reviewed, Water and sewer rate increase effective 6/1/24 mailed out in bills. Had interest in cleaning park bathrooms. Bowers made a motion to approve contracting Destiny Prunty at \$50 per week to clean bathrooms and make sure trash in park was dumped through the 2024 summer season, Seconded by Speer. Carried 4-0. Ordinance reports were discussed. MDCV Senior class had sent a letter requesting a donation for their senior trip. Vogeler made a motion to donate \$200 to the MDCV Senior class, seconded by Bowers. Carried 4-0.

COUNCIL REPORTS –

Vogeler – District attorney recommended a body camera for serving ordinance tickets and court summons. The Sheriff had requested the city have cameras pointed down main street. Bowers made a motion to buy an extra outdoor security camera, seconded by Warner. Carried 4-0. Made council aware that a local teenager has been going around shooting a BB gun at houses and cars. This has been reported to the Sheriff’s office. Discussed enforcing the City Park closed hours as posted. The City Clerk will contact the sheriff about this. Discussion was held on the new homes that are to be built on the northwest side of town. The water lines and streets will need to be updated to support the new homes. Discussion was also held about High and Pine streets being torn up with the school and bus traffic. He suggested the council attend a school board meeting to discuss this issue.

Bowers- Thanked the Council for their help with Sunflower days in providing electricity, water, and trash services to City Park for the event. He also thanked them for paying half on the porta potties.

NEW BUSINESS – None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS- NONE

Bowers made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Vogeler. Carried 4-0

ATTEST:

Tamara Massey, City Clerk

Randy Kirkpatrick, Mayor