

**SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL  
PROCEEDINGS  
REGULAR SESSION  
MONDAY, MAY 5, 2014  
7 P.M.  
CLASBEY CENTER – COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Mayor Connie George presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council Members present: Don Dillman, Greg Wilson, John Parker, and Joy Thompson. Mayor Connie George, City Administrator Bruce Lundy, City Attorney Emily Bauman, Chief of Police David Vincent and City Clerk/Treasurer Beth Kar were also present. The meeting notice was posted at City Hall on May 02, 2014. The meeting was audio recorded.

**Approve Agenda** – Don Dillman motioned to approve the agenda as presented. John Parker seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

**Minutes** – April 21, 2014; April 24, 2014 – Joy Thompson motioned to approve the minutes. Greg Wilson seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

**Public Testimony** – None.

**MRCC Certification Presentation to Deputy City Clerk Brooke Bell** – Representatives from the Northwest division of the Missouri City Clerks and Finance Officers Association (MOCCFOA) were present: Deputy City Clerk Melissa Mattson of Albany, City Clerk Colleen Hinshaw of Mercer, City Clerk Julia Elder of Village of Country Club. Northwest division president Beth Kar commended Deputy City Clerk Brooke Bell for earning the Missouri Registered City Clerk (MRCC) status through all of her hard work and perseverance.

**Financial Advisor Tionna Pooler Presentation** – Pooler analyzed the City's water and sewer rates. The current water rates are sufficient and do not need to be increased for Fiscal Year 2014. The City does need to discuss a sewer increase in either Fiscal Year 2014 or 2015. She provided a rate summary with proposed increases of 3, 4, or 5%. She included the debt ratio for coverage on water/sewer bonds and how well the sewer fund is carrying its own weight. It should be at least 100% but is not. The options are to raise rates in June (Fiscal Year 2014) or October (Fiscal Year 2015). A larger increase now means more flexibility in the future. The rates will be reviewed each year. Long term she expected sewer rates may need to be increased on a fairly regular basis. The next water rate increase would not need to be as much. Rate increase amounts are dependent on the capital needs of Sewer and Water especially as the City addresses updating infrastructure. Raising the sewer rates will be enough to accomplish some of the capital needs. She explained rather than large increases, the City should look at minimal increases on a regular basis. Rate increases can help allow enough funds so eventually the City does not have to borrow for capital improvement projects. Pooler explained that in addition to capital needs, the City should decide on the policy question of whether both the Water and Sewer/Wastewater funds should be able to stand alone. She explained the debt ratio which is water and sewer combined. Look at the individual levels to see how much each is contributing to the total debt. She will have another recommendation for Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 as the City

starts the budget process. Council discussed 4% increase and a start date for either the bills due in June or the ones in October. Greg Wilson asked if we had a 4% raise going into FY 15, would the future increases have to be that much? She would expect a 3 to 4% range for a few years on the sewer rates. Water is benefitting from the large increase a couple of years ago. Her analysis is based on current debt and a moderate amount of capital improvements. With more cash on hand, the City is less apt to have to borrow on projects. Don Dillman motioned to adopt a 4% increase if possible for the bills due by June 10<sup>th</sup> (with two readings at next meeting). Greg Wilson seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Greg Wilson would like the numbers updated for if the increase was started in July, rather than June, for comparison. The last increase for sewer was a few years ago. Don Dillman mentioned building up the funds so the City does not have to borrow for projects. Pooler added that the increase helps with liquidity: bond holders want to make sure we have more money than we have bills.

### **City Administrator's Report**

City Administrator Bruce Lundy reported:

1. Six Month Evaluations. It has been six months since Valorie Bush was made full time and Mike Malhiwsky was hired as Building Inspector. **Valorie** – Last week he spoke with Deputy City Clerk Brooke Bell who works the closest with Valorie and completed Valorie's evaluation. Valorie does a good job and has demonstrated reliability by running City Hall by herself when needed. **Mike** -- He and Lundy have had many opportunities to work together. He is an excellent worker and is always keeping busy. Mike volunteers to help other departments when they need help. He has picked up the job very well and does a great job with the Planning and Zoning Commission, too. Lundy recommended both Valorie and Mike be granted full-time permanent status. Don Dillman motioned to grant Valorie Bush and Mike Malhiwsky full-time status. Greg Wilson seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.
2. Arbor Day Celebration. Friday was the City's local Arbor Day Celebration. The fourth graders from Minnie Cline joined City Officials at Messick Park where they planted four trees and learned the importance of trees to our community. One of the trees was dedicated to former Tree Board Member Ted Estep who recently passed away and another was in memory of James Knorr (Park Manager, Donnie's brother) who also recently passed.
3. Electronics collection. Region D electronics collection will be next Saturday morning at the City lot at 3rd and Price. The drug take-back day was last Saturday at Country Mart. Officer Dalsing was on hand and collected five boxes of old medication. This is about 80 lbs. of old medication that will be destroyed.
4. Midwest Alarm. Tom Davis of Midwest Alarm looked at existing alarms at the golf club house and maintenance shed. He believes the system that is there will work fine. He is going to re-program it, make a few repairs at no charge, then monitor it for us for \$25 month. He is scheduling work needed to complete the repairs. He will be here tomorrow.
5. Public Health Community Disaster Planning Meeting. The Andrew County Health Dept is hosting the annual meeting to discuss and update the Emergency Operations Plan for Andrew County on Thursday May 15th at Noon. Lunch is provided; if anyone is available to go please let me know and he will be contacted.

6. Nuisance Violations. All of the violations on the last list have complied and fixed the nuisances. Lundy is in the process of preparing the next list to be sent out. There has been another complaint from the same people about the North 6th residence. Director of Public Works Kenny Lance and his crew put up the orange fencing around the house in an attempt to keep people away from it. Since then the owner has met with Building Inspector Mike Malhiwsky. There was a question about one of the basement walls leaning. Their concrete guy said the wall was safe because they have anchored it to concrete in the front yard (Dead man anchors). Mr. Moore, the owner, would likely be ready to backfill the foundation next week and should have siding, windows, and doors installed within a month. City Attorney Emily Bauman sent him a notice giving him 30 days that expired Friday May 2nd. Lundy will issue him a summons for the nuisance violation next time he is in town. John Parker was concerned that this issue had been going on awhile. Joy Thompson saw people were working at the address tonight. Parker asked if the police could send summons by mail. Bauman explained it was better to do in person. Chief David Vincent contacted an officer to try and deliver a summons yet tonight.

7. Trash Totes. Feelings were mixed about the new trash and recycling totes. City Hall has had hundreds of calls. Most of the complaints were that the totes were too big; so there was either no place to put it or the tote was too heavy to move. There were a few thankful callers. Deffenbaugh asked City Hall to make a list of who did not want the bins and they are picking them up. On Thursday, Lundy observed neighborhoods with several totes lined up for pick up. He saw the same thing on Friday so maybe with a little time everything will work out. Council discussed what could have been done differently such as, could they have put out flyer. Council discussed the possibility of having trash on Main picked up in the alley instead of out front if Deffenbaugh can maneuver the trucks through the alley. Greg Wilson described that if his trash is picked up in the alley, then the trash trucks would make ruts in the alley. Don Dillman asked if Deffenbaugh might have a solution.

John Parker motioned to approve the City Administrator's report. Joy Thompson seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

**City Attorney's Report** -- City Attorney Emily Bauman reported that in light of the state auditor's recommendation she has updated her ticket log format. She is keeping up with the utilities sales tax exemption issue with LaVerna. Don Dillman asked if it was LaVerna's responsibility to file for the credit. Yes, they have to apply to the Director of Revenue for credit. Residential businesses like La Verna can ask for an exemption for sales tax from utilities. Next Council meeting Bauman will do a short presentation on the Sunshine law section on closed meetings to comply with the state auditor's requests. The Golf and Park Boards will be asked to send members to attend. John Parker mentioned that during the state auditor's presentation, it had been mentioned Bauman could use additional help. What about asking for a student intern through the university to help the city attorney and police department? Police Chief Dave Vincent said to teach someone their processes and complexities then lose that person every 90 days when the semester is over might be challenging. Plus the police have to be careful of who they let into their office since it includes evidence. John Parker stressed the benefits of getting someone in college who might be going into the legal field. Bauman will check into it. Don Dillman motioned to approve the City Attorney's report. Greg Wilson seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

**BILLS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

Bill 2014-15 Amend Golf Fees by removing drought surcharge from memberships was read for the first reading. Golf memberships are due June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Second Public Testimony:** None

**ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS**

**Mayor’s report** – Mayor Connie George thanked all the employees and Council for all the help they have given her and special thanks for Don and Greg for helping her out. Today was the annual City County cookout and it was a great success. Mayor Connie George received several calls complimenting her that everyone is getting along

**Council Discussion** –Joy Thompson reported that at 504 North 6<sup>th</sup> the tree was removed; the stump was supposed to be removed but has not been. She received a lot of calls on the trash bins.

John Parker had not heard anything more on Lager’s proposed bills in Jefferson City. There has been nothing new. He received a lot of calls on the trash/recycling totes.

Don Dillman reported all he had were calls about the totes. He played golf and the City’s course is outstanding. Greg Wilson also played and said the course was in great condition. Golf Course Manager Mark Christopher is doing a fantastic job mowing.

Director of Public Works Kenny Lance reported the construction had started on Main and 8<sup>th</sup> Streets. He said sealing streets needed to be started. Local resident Frank Reece mentioned the City needed to look forward on a comprehensive street plan. John Parker agreed that some of the streets in town need to be completely redone. Lance suggested doing curbs and asphaltting streets; the concrete is not lasting. For the Clasbey Center, Greg Wilson suggested putting a concrete path to the dumpsters and then asphalt for the rest? Joy Thompson motioned for Director of Public Works Kenny Lance and City Administrator Bruce Lundy to review the street program list and bid out for street repairs. Don Dillman seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

**ADJOURNMENT**

No further business to discuss. Council adjourned at 8:36 p.m. on a motion by Joy Thompson and seconded by John Parker. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

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Connie George, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Beth Kar, City Clerk