

Prior to the Council meeting, a Public Hearing was held for the Savannah R-III School District CDBG grant at 6:30 with Rebecca Thacker from Mo-Kan Regional Council.

SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL
MAY 2, 2016 7:00 P.M.
PROCEEDINGS: REGULAR SESSION
CLASBEY CENTER – COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Mayor Connie George presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council members present: Don Dillman, Joy Thompson, Kenny Maxwell and John Parker. Mayor Connie George, City Administrator Bruce Lundy, City Attorney Emily Bauman and City Clerk Beth Kar were also present. Chief of Police David Vincent was out sick. The meeting notice was posted at City Hall April 28, 2016. The meeting was audio recorded.

Approval of Agenda – Joy Thompson motioned to approve the agenda as posted. Kenny Maxwell seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Minutes – April 18, 2016 – Don Dillman motioned to approve the April 18, 2016 minutes. Joy Thompson seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Public Testimony: Duane Thies, Savannah Reporter, said it was the first public hearing he had attended where no one asked people to say their names when they spoke. City Administrator Bruce Lundy responded that they would take that into account in the future. Doug Johnson was the one who spoke the most at the hearing.

Mr. Potts, who is interested in purchasing the property which includes the City's old animal shelter/pound, was unable to attend the meeting. He asked to know any updates if the City planned to sell. Council discussed having Jeff Pittman sell the property with an online auction like the City did on the police vehicle. The advantage is more people bid with the online auction as opposed to sealed bids and there is the potential for better prices. City Attorney Emily Bauman suggested online auction or courthouse steps would provide a bigger market. John Parker asked if the City ordinances on surplus needed to be updated to include online auctions and other options. Bauman reported that the state statutes provide the City the authority to sell the property; there is not a set procedure in the City Code. A paragraph could be added that mentions electronic online sales. John Parker motioned to proceed with appraisal and allow for electronic bidding on the City's property by the old reservoir which includes the old animal shelter (and is adjacent to Mr. Potts property). Don Dillman seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes; 1 no (Maxwell). The bidding information will be available on the City's sites once it has been listed.

Diner 71 Request for Liquor License – Don Dillman motioned to approve the liquor license request. John Parker seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

City Administrator's Report -- City Administrator Bruce Lundy reported:

Savannah Fire Department -- Will host a Community Breakfast at the Fire station on Saturday May 7th from 7 – 10 a.m. Cost: \$7.00 for pancakes, sausage, and a drink.

Missouri Municipal League -- There is still time to register for the Missouri Municipal League (MML) Conference. No one from City Hall is able to attend this time so it would be especially good if someone from Council could. This event is in Columbia on June 9th and 10th. The agenda includes classes on Budgeting, Ethics, Economic Development, Planning and Zoning and more. The cost is \$130.00.

Arbor Day Celebration -- The 4th grade classes at Minnie Cline Elementary walked over to the Cemetery to help the Savannah Tree Board plant four trees at the City's Cemetery on Friday April 22nd in observance of Arbor Day which is also part of Savannah's Tree City USA membership.

Electronics Pick-up day -- Region D will be in town from 8 – Noon on May 7th to pick-up household electronics. The drop off location is the City Lot at 3rd and Price.

Planning and Zoning Meeting -- Lundy attended last week's Planning and Zoning meeting. Attorney Nancy Blake was on hand to present more information and answer questions about the TIF development property. One issue discussed was if the road into the property could come off of E Hwy rather than City Streets. They were told by Mo-Dot that was not an option because there are too many roads and drives off E Hwy in that area. He called and spoke to a Mo-Dot representative who thought it might be possible. Lundy met onsite with Mo-Dot today to discuss that option and discovered it is possible and not a big deal. The main complaint from the public about the project is the added traffic on Price Street and Cedar Street. This entrance off E Hwy would eliminate those concerns. Puckett will contact his engineer and see about buying the additional property to take care of that issue.

Sidewalk Grant – The City received confirmation that the sidewalk project on Price and 10th could go out for bid. Lundy advertised it in the Savannah Reporter. On May 11th there will be a pre-bid walk through onsite for contractors and bids will be accepted up to and opened on May 20th at 10:00am at City Hall. These will likely be constructed this late summer or early fall.

Missouri City Managers Training – He will attend the Missouri City Managers Training this week on May 4, 5, and 6.

Park Board -- He attended the Park Board meeting. All three of their new members were present. The Board discussed fees and salaries for seasonal help. The pool will open on May 28th.

US Bank -- Three representatives from the US Bank were in town last week. They came by to speak about how Savannah's business operates and to see if there is anything they can do to make things operate more efficiently and save the City time and money. The City talked about financial processes. US Bank took the information and will return in a few weeks to report their suggestions.

From the Code -- Representative Hicks of St Charles introduced HB 1811. His plan is to prohibit Cities from having breed specific dog ordinances. There are a lot of Missouri Cities ordinances that regulate the keeping of Pit Bulls. House Bill 1811: Authorizes villages, towns, and cities to prohibit dogs from running at large or to regulate dogs otherwise if the regulations are not breed specific. This bill passed right through the House and has been sent on to the Senate for consideration. The Missouri Municipal League is following this and is opposed to it as well. Lundy read parts from Savannah's Pit Bull ordinance “§ 205.280 Keeping of Pit Bull Dogs — Prohibited. It shall be unlawful to keep, harbor, own or in any way possess within the corporate limits of the City of Savannah, Missouri, any pit bull dog, provided that pit bull dogs

residing in the City.” Savannah’s law was passed in 1987. Lundy emailed Senators about this and explained that Savannah’s Pit Bull Ordinance is not Doggie Discrimination as Rep Hicks has labeled it but it is a means of trying to keep the public safe. Pit Bull attacks are frequently in the news and a lot of times the victims are its owners.

Don Dillman motioned to approve the City Administrator’s report. Kenny Maxwell seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

City Attorney’s report -- City Attorney Emily Bauman receives a few pitbull tickets every year on the docket. She did a little research. There are some cities that are being challenged as discriminatory as breed specific. Cities have been losing. She is indifferent; will uphold laws. Bauman had a few ordinances on this meeting’s agenda. She researched cities selling land. She registered for Missouri Municipal Attorneys conference. John Parker motioned to approve the City Attorney’s report. Joy Thompson seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:

Resolution 2016-3 CDBG Application for Savannah School District -- The updated resolution was provided to Council. The Savannah School District requested the City serve as an applicant for the CDBG grant, as a pass through grant, since schools cannot apply directly. This would be similar to when the Senior Center did a CDBG grant with the City. The school is applying for a million dollars. There is only two million dollars available for the whole state and about a dozen applicants. Joy Thompson asked why the school could not use one of the existing buildings. Julie Schmitz, Savannah School District, explained that the current buildings available would not pass the strict fire and other codes required for licensing. Rebecca Thacker, Mo-Kan Regional Council, described the additional in-kind monies required from the City would be \$5,000 per grant requirements. The City would provide its in-kind share through the inspections by the city inspector. Kenny Maxwell did not understand why the grant did not include bussing or why some of the kids receive bussing through the current early childhood program. Julie Schmitz explained that the children’s IEP dictate services including bus transportation (individual education plan). The grant does include not the cost for busses. Schmitz also described that \$100,000 for the project is a grant from Duncan foundation. There will be a sub applicant agreement that spells out the requirements between the City and school. City Attorney Emily Bauman is working on the agreement. The agreement specifies in-kind responsibilities and other details including if there is an audit which entity would pay for it. Don Dillman motioned to approve Resolution 2016-3. Joy Thomson seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes; 1 no (Maxwell).

BILLS FOR CONSIDERATION:

Bill 2016-13 Sidewalk Maintenance was read for first and second readings. Council discussed the portion that included condemning sidewalks. Don Dillman asked on page 2 about places where trees have lifted the sidewalk. Who is responsible?

ORDINANCE: 2696

This ordinance pertains to updating the City’s Code on sidewalk maintenance. Don Dillman motioned to adopt ordinance no. 2696. Joy Thompson seconded. Vote: Dillman: aye; Maxwell: aye; Parker: aye; Thompson: aye. Motion carried.

Bill 2016-14 Sanitation Updates was read for first and second readings.

ORDINANCE: 2697

This ordinance updates the City Code on sanitation, trash removal policies to bring it up to date with current practices. Joy Thompson motioned to adopt ordinance no. 2697. John Parker seconded. Vote: Maxwell: aye; Parker: aye; Thompson: aye; Dillman: aye. Motion carried.

Bill 2016-15 Solid Waste Definitions was read for first and second readings.

ORDINANCE: 2698

This ordinance includes definitions for residential and commercial solid waste/trash. The old code differentiated. When the City codified, it did not include both definitions. Don Dillman motioned to adopt ordinance no. 2698. Joy Thompson seconded. Vote: Parker: aye; Thompson: aye; Dillman: aye; Maxwell: aye. Motion carried.

Second Public Testimony: None

ELECTED OFFICIALS DISCUSSION

Mayor's Report – Mayor Connie George reported that she attended planning and zoning plus park board meetings. She read a proclamation for the Arbor Day celebration. The City pool opens May 28. She will be out of town May 5 and return on the 9th.

Council Members Discussion -- Joy Thompson attended the park board meeting. She had a suggestion: look at adding sidewalk on Park Avenue. The road is narrow and people try to walk on it. Or even a sidewalk from the cemetery to 3rd or 1st Street. She received a complaint that a large truck is parking overnight in the alley on the west side of the Town Square. It would obstruct emergency and other vehicles. City Administrator Bruce Lundy will check it out.

Mayor Connie George added that there was a tree limb hanging at 207 S. 5th Street that needed trimmed.

Adjournment -- No further business to discuss. Council adjourned at 7:47 p.m. on a motion by Joy Thompson and seconded by John Parker. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Connie George, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Beth Kar, City Clerk