

SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL
JUNE 19, 2017 7:00 P.M.
PROCEEDINGS REGULAR SESSION
CLASBEY CENTER – COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Mayor Don Dillman presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council members present: Connie George, Kirk Larson and Joy Thompson. Nick Sheppard was absent. Mayor Don Dillman, City Administrator Bruce Lundy, City Clerk Beth Kar, City Attorney Emily Bauman, and Chief of Police David Vincent were also present. The meeting notice was posted at City Hall June 16, 2017. The meeting was audio recorded.

Approval of Agenda – Connie George motioned to approve the agenda as posted. Kirk Larson seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

Minutes – June 5, 2017 -- There were no changes, so Mayor Don Dillman stood that the minutes were approved as presented.

Public Testimony -- Linda Hayward, 1602 W. Andrew, wanted to use a cargo container as a shed. It follows the size regulations for storage shed. Hayward lives in a slab home. She would like additional storage as well as a potential storm shelter. She described in detail how she would make it fit in well with the rest of the yard. It is a single-use shipping container made of structured steel. She has a 54 inch deck mower that will not fit into a regular shed. Hayward had spoken to the City's building inspector. City Code prohibits steel buildings. The storage unit meets the definition for a temporary storage unit but that only is good for 30 days. She had tried the zoning board but it had not met that month. The Code prohibits metal or steel sheds. Council discussed the regulations. Kirk Larson who has served on the Zoning board recommended that the city needs to do research and find more current stipulations. The containers are much cheaper than having someone build a small garage. It looks like a tractor trailer bed with no axles under it. Mike Malhiwsky, the building inspector, will research the topic

Police Chief's Report – Chief of Police David Vincent reported he didn't have anything new. It had been business as usual. The officers had been busy with several arrests.

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

July Council Meetings – Reminder the July meetings will be the 2nd and 4th Mondays (July 10th and July 24th) due to the Holiday and his vacation.

Heroes for Heroes Rodeo -- The group that brought the rodeo to town last year is coming back on July 3rd and 4th. Mr. McDaniel stated they will be having helicopter rides this year from July 1st thru the 4th. Gary Swanson has agreed to allow them to land their helicopter on his property on the East side of Orschelns.

6th Street Project -- This was held up for a bit waiting for Mo-DOT's notice to proceed. Notice to proceed was received and it has been advertised and put out for bid. A pre-bid meeting was at City Hall last Tuesday the 13th where Contractors looking to bid had the ability to ask questions

of the engineer about the project. Bid opening will be June 21st. Hopefully construction could start the middle of July.

Street Paving -- Street paving for this year is complete. Keller Asphalt did a great job and he has heard a lot of compliments. There is a limited amount of money available for paving but this year with the money Savannah was able to pave East Price Street, South 1st Street, South 11th Street, West Benton Street, and portions of South 13th, 14th, and West Davis.

Accepting Applications -- With the retirement of Water Plant Operator Ann Wilkerson after 16 years of service, there was an opening. Wastewater Operator Dellie Dunn transferred to the water plant. He advertised for applications for the wastewater position until Friday June 16th. The City accepted applications for the Public Works position until June 9th. The Mayor, the Public Works Director Tim Spoonmore, Deputy Clerk Brooke Bell, and he went over the applications and interviewed for that position. They selected Wesley Schopfer and he will be coming to this meeting.

Wastewater -- At the last Council Meeting a Citizen of the community came and proposed a change in the way waste water fees are tabulated. Currently the City charges by the amount of water that goes through the meter. He said that other communities figure the average water usage then charge that average usage through the summer for some relief for those that water gardens and flowers. City Clerk Beth Kar has reached out to the City's Financial Advisor about this but when this was discussed in the past another resident who is retired from the water and wastewater industry wrote stating that the way we currently bill is the best and fairest way to bill. He included a copy of that letter in the packet.

Speed Trailer --With the new pavement around town we are receiving even more complaints about speeders. The City budgeted \$8000 for a speed trailer that would be used to make motorists aware of their speed. This is not an alternative to Police Officers running radar and writing speeding tickets but Officers don't have a lot of time to sit and run radar. This device can be moved around and put at different locations where we have received complaints about people driving too fast.

Use Tax / Sales Tax --The Mayor and he have had a couple discussions about the sales tax increase that has been denied by the voters on two occasions. The discussion has been on the USE TAX and if this is something that voters would approve. Local businesses may support a use tax as online shopping is a form of competition. At a recent training he went to the presenter said that for every \$1 spent at Wal-Mart \$10 is spent on Amazon. This is a statistic that cannot be ignored and a source of revenue that needs to be considered. A decision needs made by the end of August if the USE Tax question will go on the ballot. The use tax will not create as much revenue as the increased sales tax the City asked for so it is not a solution but it will certainly help.

What exactly is the Missouri use tax? The Missouri use tax is a special excise tax assessed on property purchased for use in Missouri in a jurisdiction where a lower (or no) sales tax was collected on the purchase. The Missouri use tax should be paid for items bought tax-free over the internet, bought while traveling, or transported into Missouri from a state with a lower sales tax rate. The Missouri use tax rate is 4.23%, the same as the regular sales tax. Including local taxes, the Missouri use tax can be as high as 5.125%. MML calculated use tax data and showed Savannah approximate 4 million sales – about \$86,000 in use tax. He noted that will not replace our need to raise sales tax someday. Mayor Don Dillman would like to attend Chamber and other meetings to provide information.

One of our previous city employees looking to purchase a cemetery plot wondered if he could get a discount. It is not in the code to allow discounts.

Fire Truck -- He talked to Tyler Swink about the fire truck leaking. The fire department used it the other day. The leak is getting worse. If the truck is going to be used, it needs to be fixed. They talked to different companies that work on trucks. It was estimated at \$6500 by the company that does the pump tests. Another company in Springfield said \$3000 but someone would have to drive it there. Joy Thompson motioned to fix the truck and do it with the \$6500 company. Connie George seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

Hire Street Maintenance Worker -- City Administrator Bruce Lundy recommended Wesley Schopfer to fill the full-time position in the Public Works department at \$14.50/hour. Kirk Larson motioned to approve hiring Wesley Schopfer at \$14.50. Connie George seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

City Attorney's Report – City Attorney Emily Bauman described the ordinances on the agenda. It is similar to Camdenton's. City Administrator Bruce Lundy read a report of pitbull attack in Detroit. Connie George asked about the current policy. City Administrator Bruce Lundy reported that on the second incident, the dangerous dog has to be removed. Pitbulls are still not allowed at all. Joy Thompson saw a pitbull mix at a garage sale. She talked to Paul Garrison and Cliff Black regarding vacate alley procedures. Any vacated alley has to be filed with the recorder's office. She added in the updated ordinance that requirement along with publication costs. Garrison said property values would be reassessed when the alley is vacated. Next meeting there will be an ordinance adding a time frame on signs put up for events. Joy Thompson suggested finding what other cities do. It would include the amount of time before and after an event. Kirk Larson suggested the regulations could include the condition of the sign, also.

Joy Thompson motioned to approve the reports. Kirk Larson seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

BILLS FOR CONSIDERATION:

Bill 2017- 15 Vacate Alley Procedures was read for the second reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 2728

This ordinance establishes the procedures on vacating alleys. Kirk Larson motioned to adopt ordinance no. 2728. Joy Thompson seconded. Vote: George: aye; Larson: aye; Thompson: aye. Motion carried.

Bill 2017-16 Vicious Dogs was read for the first reading.

Second Public Testimony: Linda Hayward asked about grass and weeds and how often fields should be mowed. City Admin explained twice a year. The one behind her house was only mowed once last year. Code recommends June. City Admin will send them a letter.

ELECTED OFFICIALS DISCUSSION

Mayor's Report – Meeting on CDBG grant for school is tomorrow. He doesn't know if Mike wants to go since he will be doing the inspections. It is at the Mo-Kan office. He sent one to Bob Caldwell.

Council Members Discussion -- Connie George heard more complaints about the Chamber of Commerce event sign with the noise it made. Mayor Don Dillman contacted Rural Electric to take it down since the event has passed.

Kirk Larson mentioned it would be good to review the regulations on upkeep at construction sites. He will bring it up at the zoning meeting. Also, he will look at adopting new construction erosion water rules that will prevent mudslides.

Joy Thompson reported that over the weekend she had calls about the sports complex. Complaints were that when cars pulled up to the complex, there were people parking on the sidewalk. One of the boys got hit by a baseball. Thompson was concerned it would be challenging for an emergency vehicle to get through. She suggested No Parking signs be put up and enforced. Mayor Don Dillman suggested it was something the Park Board would handle. He asked when they would be doing their annual report. City Administrator Bruce Lundy asked Clerk Beth Kar to contact Park Board President Mike Yuille about the annual report. Chief of Police David Vincent reported that there is a fire hydrant there, too, so no one should be parking in that area. Joy Thompson asked if the area was painted red, would that help. Mayor Dillman mentioned a work session to address these issues. There was discussion about moving the high school graduation to St. Joseph. Her concern was that after graduation, Savannah's area businesses such as the Dairy Queen, and more are packed with people. Businesses rely on that. She asked about 10th and Price. Dirt was scraped away and they are planting new grass. Direct of Public Works Tim Spoonmore and the street department put a tube in the drive. Now the residents can mow their yard. **1607 W Chestnut**—She reported there are two abandoned trucks and grass needs mowed. City Administrator Bruce Lundy has talked to them and sent a letter. **8th and Main** —Someone is living there and leaving cut trees and stacking brush that needs picked up. Joy Thompson thanked those who picked up trash in the alley. The parking lot next to the police station has mattresses there.

Adjournment -- No further business to discuss. Council adjourned at 7:56 p.m. on a motion by Joy Thompson and seconded by Connie George. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

Don Dillman, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Beth Kar, City Clerk