

**MINUTES
OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF POPLAR BLUFF, MISSOURI
MONDAY, MARCH 1, 2021**

The City Council of the City of Poplar Bluff, Missouri, convened in a regular meeting on Monday, March 1, 2021.

Notice of this regular meeting of the City Council was given in the Daily American Republic, a newspaper of general circulation located in the City of Poplar Bluff. A copy of the agenda of this meeting was posted on a bulletin board located in the City Municipal building at 501 Vine Street in the City of Poplar Bluff, twenty-four hours prior to this meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Robert L. Smith at 7:00 p.m.

The invocation was given by Pastor T.D. Woolard of Bluff First Church.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Robert L. Smith.

A roll call was as follows: Present: Parson, DeGaris, Horton, Cornman, Taylor, Davis and Smith; Absent: None.

Also present were City Manager Matt Winters and City Clerk Nevada J. Young who performed the duties of their respective offices.

**DISCLOSURE
OF
INTEREST**

Each member of the City Council was given the opportunity to disclose any possible conflict of interest dealing either with any item on the printed agenda or with any matter discussed at a previous meeting.

No conflicts were disclosed.

CITIZENS INPUT

Each person in the audience was given the opportunity to address the City Council on any matter not on the printed agenda.

No one from the audience appeared before the Council.

**WORKSHOP
ITEMS FOR
DISCUSSION**

**Downtown
Entertainment
District Open Cup
Ordinance**

The City Council considered a request for a "Downtown Poplar Bluff Entertainment District Open Cup Ordinance".

Downtown Poplar Bluff, Inc. Executive Director Morgan McIntosh appeared before the Council. She stated the Council received information in their packets relative to the creation of the Entertainment District and the Open Cup Ordinance. She stated those purchasing the cups would have to stay within the boundaries of the district. Ms. McIntosh stated the cups will be brightly colored and easy to identify. She stated this will be beneficial to downtown and will increase activity and tax revenue.

Councilwoman Horton asked how this would be controlled.

Executive Director McIntosh stated law enforcement will be involved.

Mayor Pro Tem Davis stated he is concerned with the proposed boundaries of the district, particularly the inclusion of Moran Street and the Railroad Museum. He stated he is concerned with families taking their children to the museum and there being

people drinking in the area. He stated he believes this is a good idea but would like to research the matter further and make the boundaries more restrictive. Mayor Pro Tem Davis stated he would like to see it restricted to certain times of the year and not be available year-round.

Executive Director McIntosh stated she believes this will relatively be used for evenings and weekends.

Councilwoman Taylor suggested the Open Cup Ordinance be in place for Thursday, Friday and Saturday rather than seven days a week.

Executive Director McIntosh stated that is something that can be considered.

Councilwoman Taylor expressed her concern with underage drinking and disruption for the residents of the senior housing complex.

Executive Director McIntosh stated she believes this will mainly be used with events and there will not be events downtown every weekend.

Mayor Pro Tem Davis stated he would like to see this used for events only and not available every day.

Mayor Smith stated he has seen this concept used in different cities and it seems to work quite well with little to no problems. He stated he is excited about and supportive of these changes.

Mayor Pro Tem Davis suggested researched further be done on this matter.

Mr. Steve Halter, who gave his address as 6110 Greenbriar Drive, Poplar Bluff, Missouri, appeared before the Council. He stated we have been working on reviving downtown for a long time now and we are making progress and finally have some momentum. He stated people are excited about downtown again. Mr. Halter encouraged the Council to approve the proposal as presented.

Mr. Michael White, who gave his address 802 County Road 526, Poplar Bluff, Missouri, appeared before the Council. He stated he is supportive of the Entertainment District and Open Cup Ordinance and if passed will allow businesses to be able to hold events with less paperwork and time.

Mr. Tracy Edington, who gave his address as 2629 N. Main Street, Poplar Bluff, Missouri, appeared before the Council and stated he is supportive of these changes and would like to see the momentum keep going in the downtown area.

Councilman Cornman stated he feels there are more positives than negatives that can come from this. He stated any issues that arise can always be addressed and corrected.

After further discussion, motion was made by Councilman Cornman, seconded by Councilwoman Taylor and carried to move this item to the voting session to be held March 15, 2021.

**Annual Net
Metering
Disclosure**

The City Council considered a recommendation from the Municipal Utilities Advisory Board regarding the annual net metering disclosure.

Mr. Bill Bach, Municipal Utilities General Manager, appeared before the Council and stated utility companies are required by State Statute to annually submit and disclose the availability of the net metering of each of its customers. He stated there are currently six customers who currently generator power that are served by Municipal Utilities. He stated the report will be available on the City's website once approved by the Council. Mr. Bach stated this was discussed at the Municipal Utilities Advisory Board meeting earlier and is recommended for Council approval.

After further discussion, motion was made by Councilman DeGaris, seconded by Councilwoman Parson and carried to move this item to the voting session to be held March 15, 2021.

**Lease Agreement
with De Lage
Landen Public
Finance LLC**

The City Council considered a lease agreement between the Poplar Bluff Parks and Recreation and De Lage Landen Public Finance LLC for fifty (50) Club Car Precedent Gas golf carts.

Mr. Lanny Corcimiglia, Park and Recreation Director, appeared before the Council and stated the Park Department entered into an agreement with De Lage Landen for the purchase of fifty (50) golf carts in May 2020 and in error he signed the lease. He stated it was brought to his attention that only the Mayor can sign binding agreements with Council approval. Mr. Corcimiglia stated this simply cleans up the error.

After further discussion, motion was made by Councilman DeGaris, seconded by Councilwoman Parson and carried to move this item to the voting session to be held tonight.

**Code of
Ordinances
Amendment**

The City Council considered an amendment to Animal Control Section 205.480, 500, 510, 520, 530 and 560 regarding fees and licensing.

Mr. James Sisk, City Planner, appeared before the Council and stated licensing for dogs and cats has been \$2.00 for quite some time and at this point it is costing the City to license these animals. He stated some of the wording of the ordinance has been cleaned up. Mr. Sisk stated the fees have been increased to \$10 for spayed or neutered animals and \$20 for un-spayed and un-neutered pets.

After further discussion, motion was made by Councilman DeGaris, seconded by Councilwoman Taylor and carried to move this item to the voting session to be held March 15, 2021.

**Historical
Monument at 303
Moran Street**

The City Council considered a recommendation from the Historical Preservation Commission for placement of a historical monument on City-owned property located at 303 Moran Street.

Ms. Katy Ray, who gave her address as 6755 Heritage Drive, Poplar Bluff, Missouri, appeared before the Council and stated the 1927 tornado changed Poplar Bluff in immeasurable ways killing 86 people. She stated Mr. Jay Githens suggested 25 years ago a memorial be placed downtown honoring those lost in the tornado. She stated the proposed site for the memorial is at 303 Moran Street in the grassy area in front of the Frisco Depot Railroad Museum. She stated the Railroad Museum Board is in favor of the memorial. Ms. Ray stated this has been approved by the Historical Preservation Commission with a certificate of appropriateness.

After further discussion, motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Davis, seconded by Councilwoman Parson and carried to move this item to the voting session to be held March 15, 2021.

**ACTION
REQUIRED
ITEMS**

**Airport Runway
Reconstruction
Agreement**

The City Council took action on an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with S.H. Smith and Company Engineers Inc. for construction observation services for the reconstruction of the airport runway. Motion was made by Councilman DeGaris and seconded by Councilwoman Parson that Bill No. 8291, **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF POPLAR BLUFF, MISSOURI, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BETWEEN THE CITY OF POPLAR BLUFF AND S.H. SMITH AND COMPANY RELATIVE TO THE RUNWAY PROJECT AT THE POPLAR BLUFF AIRPORT**, be read for the first time by caption only. Said bill was then placed upon its first reading, was read by caption only and duly passed by unanimous vote. Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Davis and seconded by Councilwoman Parson that Bill No. 8291 be placed upon its second and final reading whereupon such bill was read by caption only and duly passed by unanimous vote. At this time Mayor Smith asked if there was any discussion of this bill. There being no discussion, motion was made by Councilman DeGaris and seconded by Councilwoman Parson that Bill No. 8291 be adopted. A roll call vote was as follows: Yes: Parson, DeGaris, Horton, Cornman, Taylor, Davis, Smith; No: None; Absent: None; Abstained: None. There being a favorable vote the Mayor thereupon declared such ordinance adopted and the bill was thereupon duly numbered Ordinance No. 21 - 06.

**Materials Testing
and Special
Inspections
Police
Department
Project**

The City Council took action on an ordinance approving a request for qualifications for materials testing and special inspections for the Police Department facility construction project. Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Davis and seconded by Councilwoman Taylor that Bill No. 8292, **AN ORDINANCE SELECTING A PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER FOR MATERIALS TESTING AND SPECIAL INSPECTIONS FOR THE POPLAR BLUFF POLICE STATION PROJECT**, be read for the first time by caption only. Said bill was then placed upon its first reading, was read by caption only and duly passed by unanimous vote. Motion was made by Councilwoman Parson and seconded by Councilman DeGaris that Bill No. 8292 be placed upon its second and final reading whereupon such bill was read by caption only and duly passed by unanimous vote. At this time Mayor Smith asked if there was any discussion of this bill. There being no discussion, motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Davis and seconded by Councilman DeGaris that Bill No. 8292 be adopted. A roll call vote was as follows: Yes: DeGaris, Horton, Cornman, Taylor, Parson, Davis, Smith; No: None; Absent: None; Abstained: None. There being a favorable vote the Mayor thereupon declared such ordinance adopted and the bill was thereupon duly numbered Ordinance No. 21 - 07.

**Lease Agreement
with De Lage
Landen Public
Finance LLC**

The City Council took action on a resolution authorizing the City of Poplar Bluff and the Poplar Bluff Parks and Recreation to enter into a lease agreement for fifty (50) Club Car Precedent Gas golf carts. Motion was made by Councilman DeGaris and seconded by Councilwoman Parson that Resolution No. 1943, **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF POPLAR BLUFF, MISSOURI, APPROVING A LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR GOLF CARTS FOR THE POPLAR BLUFF PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**, be read by caption only. Said bill was then placed upon its reading and was read by caption only and duly passed by unanimous vote. At this time Mayor Smith asked if there was any discussion of this resolution. There being no discussion, motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Davis and seconded by Councilwoman Parson that Resolution No. 1943 be adopted. A roll call vote was as follows: Yes: Horton, Cornman, Taylor, Parson, DeGaris, Davis, Smith; No: None; Absent: None; Abstained: None. There being a favorable vote the Mayor thereupon declared such resolution duly adopted and was thereupon duly numbered Resolution No. 1943 and was thereupon duly signed and approved by the Mayor and attested to by the City Clerk.

Call For a Closed Session The City Council of the City of Poplar Bluff called for a closed meeting in which they would discuss such matters which are exempted under the open meetings law Section 610.021.1, RSMo, Section 610.021.2, RSMo, Section 610.021.3, RSMo, Section 610.021.9, RSMo, Section 610.021.11, RSMo, Section 610.021.12, RSMo, Section 610.021.13, RSMo, and Section 610.021.14, RSMo. Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Davis and seconded by Councilman DeGaris that the City Council move into a closed meeting immediately after this regular meeting of the City Council. A roll call vote was as follows: Yes: Parson, DeGaris, Horton, Cornman, Taylor, Davis, Smith; No: None; Absent: None; Abstained: None. The motion carried unanimously to move into closed session immediately after this regular meeting of the City Council.

City Manager's Report City Manager Matt Winters addressed the Council and stated he would like to see growth continue in the downtown area. He stated he appreciates all the hard work from so many people who have contributed to development downtown. He stated Bulls and Bands is this weekend at the Black River Coliseum and encouraged everyone to get their tickets and attend.

There being no further business to come before this meeting of the City Council, motion was made by Councilwoman Parson, seconded by Councilwoman Taylor and carried to adjourn this regular session of the City Council.

Mayor Smith declared the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nevada J. Young
City Clerk

APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL

OF THE CITY OF POPLAR BLUFF,

MISSOURI, THIS 19th **DAY**

OF April, **2021.**