

**MINUTES
OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF POPLAR BLUFF, MISSOURI
MONDAY, APRIL 5, 2021**

The City Council of the City of Poplar Bluff, Missouri, convened in a regular meeting on Monday, April 5, 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 Brian Sharp of Grace Christian Fellowship Church.

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

A roll call was as follows: Present: Parson, DeGaris, Horton, Cornman, Davis and Smith; Absent: Taylor.

Also present were City Manager Matt Winters, City Attorney Mark Richardson 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.

Ms. Shannon Midyett, Assistant Director of the Poplar Bluff Municipal Library, 318 N. Main Street addressed the Council. She thanked the Council for their consideration in working through the ownership issues of the building located at 318 N. Main Street. Ms. Midyett stated the Board of Trustees did take a vote in closed session earlier today and are prepared to make a single lump sum payment for the building at 318 N. Main.

**WORKSHOP
ITEMS FOR
DISCUSSION**

**Police
Department
Antiquated
Records**

Mayor Smith thanked Ms. Midyett for that information.

**700 Shelby Road
Annexation**

Mr. Spencer Jones addressed the Council and stated he would like to thank the Council for their efforts in pursuing goals for the future. He stated he would like to continue to see progress relative to having a thoroughfare in town named after Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The City Council considered a request to destroy antiquated records retained by the Poplar Bluff Police Department as presented by the Missouri Secretary State's Records Retention Schedule.

City Manager Matt Winters addressed the Council and stated this is a routine housekeeping item. He stated after a certain amount of time certain records are allowed to be destroyed.

After further discussion, motion was made by Councilman DeGaris, seconded by Councilwoman Horton and carried to move this item to the voting session to be held April 19, 2021.

The City Council considered a request for annexation of property located at 700 Shelby Road.

City Manager Winters addressed the Council and stated Dr.'s Mason and Kathryn Bell are requesting to annex the property located at 700 Shelby Road. He stated a new veterinary clinic is currently under construction at this location. Mr. Winters stated all City utilities are available to the site.

After further discussion, motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Davis, seconded by Councilman Cornman and carried to move this item to the voting session to be held April 19, 2021.

**ACTION
REQUIRED
ITEMS**

Easement at
Roxie Road &
Shelby Road

The City Council took action on an ordinance regarding an easement to place a cathodic well at the intersection of Roxie Road and Shelby Road for Spire Missouri Inc. Motion was made by Councilman DeGaris and seconded by Councilwoman Horton that Bill No. 8297, **AN ORDINANCE GRANTING AN EASEMENT TO SPIRE MISSOURI, INC. ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT THE INTERSECTION OF SHELBY ROAD AND ROXIE ROAD FOR CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF A CATHODIC PROTECTION WELL**, 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 Mayor Pro Tem Davis that Bill No. 8297 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. 8297 be adopted. A roll call vote was as follows: Yes: Parson, DeGaris, Horton, Cornman, Davis, Smith; No: None; Absent: Taylor; Abstained: None. There being a favorable vote the Mayor thereupon declared such ordinance adopted and the bill was thereupon duly numbered Ordinance No. 21 - 12.

Franchise
Agreement with
Spire Missouri,
Inc.

The City Council took action on an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a franchise agreement with Spire Missouri Inc. to operate a natural gas distribution plant and system within the City of Poplar Bluff, Missouri. Motion was made by Councilman DeGaris and seconded by Councilwoman Horton that Bill No. 8298, **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF POPLAR BLUFF, MISSOURI, GRANTING A FRANCHISE TO OPERATE A NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION PLANT AND SYSTEM WITHIN THE CITY TO SPIRE MISSOURI, INC.**, 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 Horton that Bill No. 8298 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 Horton that Bill No. 8298 be adopted. A roll call vote was as follows: Yes: DeGaris, Horton, Cornman, Parson, Davis, Smith; No: None; Absent: Taylor; Abstained: None. There being a favorable vote the Mayor thereupon declared such ordinance adopted and the bill was thereupon duly numbered Ordinance No. 21 - 13.

Show-Me Clean Energy District Program

The City Council took action on an ordinance adopting the Show-Me Clean Energy District Program. Motion was made by Councilwoman Parson and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Davis that Bill No. 8299, **AN ORDINANCE TO ENABLE THE CITY OF POPLAR BLUFF, MISSOURI TO JOIN SHOW ME PACE, PURSUANT TO SECTIONS ss67.2800 to ss67.28235, RSMO, THE "PROPERTY ASSESSMENT CLEAN ENERGY ACT," AND STATING THE TERMS UNDER WHICH THE CITY OF POPLAR BLUFF WILL CONDUCT ACTIVITIES AS A MEMBER OF SUCH DISTRICT**, 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 Councilman DeGaris and seconded by Councilwoman Parson that Bill No. 8299 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 Councilwoman Parson and seconded by Councilman DeGaris that Bill No. 8299 be adopted. A roll call vote was as follows: Yes: Horton, Cornman, Parson, DeGaris, Davis, Smith; No: None; Absent: Taylor; Abstained: None. There being a favorable vote the Mayor thereupon declared such ordinance adopted and the bill was thereupon duly numbered Ordinance No. 21 - 14.

Poplar Bluff Public Library Building Ownership

The City Council took action on an ordinance relative to the ownership of the Poplar Bluff Public Library Building. Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Davis and seconded by Councilman Cornman that Bill No. 8300, **AN ORDINANCE CONVEYING OWNERSHIP OF THE POPLAR BLUFF PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING AND ADJOINING PROPERTY FROM THE CITY OF POPLAR BLUFF TO THE CITY OF POPLAR BLUFF MUNICIPAL LIBRARY DISTRICT**, 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 Mayor Pro Tem Davis that Bill No. 8300 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.

Councilman DeGaris stated he has been contacted by a lot of people regarding this item and he is unable to explain to them why we are selling a building worth at least \$1,000,000 for \$200,000.

Mayor Smith stated he agrees with Councilman DeGaris and has also heard the same negative comments from citizens.

Mr. Winters asked Mr. Richardson if the decision the Library Board made earlier to make a lump sum payment will affect this ordinance.

Mr. Richardson stated the ordinance does state a down payment of \$100,000 and the other \$100,000 to be paid within the next year but it does not prohibit an early payoff.

There being no further discussion, motion was made Councilman Cornman and seconded by Councilwoman Parson that Bill No. 8300 be adopted. A roll call vote was as follows: Yes: Cornman, Parson, Horton, Davis; No: DeGaris, Smith; Absent: Taylor; Abstained: None. There being a favorable vote the Mayor thereupon declared such ordinance adopted and the bill was thereupon duly numbered Ordinance No. 21 - 15.

Sale of City Property at

The City Council took action on a resolution of the City of Poplar Bluff, Missouri, rejecting bids for the purchase of real estate on and along Shelby Road near Roxie Road in Poplar Bluff, MO. Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Davis and seconded by Councilman

Shelby Road &
Roxie Road

DeGaris that Resolution No. 1944, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF POPLAR BLUFF, MISSOURI, REJECTING BIDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE ON AND ALONG SHELBY ROAD NEAR ROXIE ROAD IN POPLAR BLUFF, MO, 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 Councilman Cornman and seconded by Councilwoman Parson that Resolution No. 1944 be adopted. A roll call vote was as follows: Yes: Parson, DeGaris, Horton, Cornman, Davis, Smith; No: None; Absent: Taylor; Abstained: None. There being a favorable vote the Mayor thereupon declared such resolution duly adopted and was thereupon duly numbered Resolution No. 1944 and was thereupon duly signed and approved by the Mayor and attested to by the City Clerk.

Call For a Closed
Session

Mayor Smith stated no closed session is needed tonight.

City Manager's
Report

City Manager Matt Winters addressed the Council and stated a few months ago we submitted a grant application to MoDOT's Transportation Alternative Program and have been awarded \$274,088 to connect the sidewalks at Shelby Road and PP Highway to the Wolf Creek Trail in the National Forest. He stated we have partnered with the County and the Chamber of Commerce on this project. Mr. Winters stated we were awarded less than was requested and are working with the Chamber and MoDOT for alternatives to reduce the match the Chamber has committed to provide. He stated Downtown Poplar Bluff, Inc. Executive Director Morgan McIntosh received the Attorney General Honors Award for her contribution to the community and state with her efforts in revitalizing downtown. He stated upcoming events downtown are Coffee and Cars and the opening of the Farmers Market on May 15 and Burger Battles and a skateboard competition on May 22. He stated upcoming events at the Black River Coliseum include Reza the Magician on April 9, Travis Tritt on April 10 and the circus on April 13. Mr. Winters shared with the Council letters of commendation to members of the Fire Department including Chad Bell, Andrew Fox, Austin Armes, Josh Buhler, and Jonathan Miller for their exemplary services relative to an auto accident on Marcy 5, 2021. Mr. Winters stated there will not be a Buff up the Bluff event this spring but one is being planned for the fall.

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

Mayor Smith declared the meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nevada J. Young
City Clerk

APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL

OF THE CITY OF POPLAR BLUFF,

MISSOURI, THIS 17th DAY

OF May, 2021.