

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MID-YEAR BUDGET SESSION
CITY OF BRIDGETON
12355 NATURAL BRIDGE ROAD
JUNE 11, 2019
12:00 NOON

The City Council Mid-Year Budget Session was called to order by Mayor Terry W. Briggs on Tuesday, June 11, 12:00 noon, in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

ROLL CALL

Present: Grimmer, Norris, Purcell, Zimmer (Mr. Hein arrived at 12:10 p.m.)

Absent: Saettele, Abram, Fetsch

Also present were Mr. Kevin Bookout, City Administrator, Mr. Robert Gunn, Director of Public Works, Chief Don Hood, Police Chief, Mr. Brendan Kane, Director of Parks and Recreation and the City Clerk.

Mr. Bookout distributed the 2019 Budget Revenues Report through May 31, 2019 and briefly went over the items (copy is attached to the original Minutes).

There has been an increase in memberships at the Recreation Center and daily admissions.

The City is hopeful that the development of the property at the corner of St. Charles Rock Road and Natural Bridge will begin soon. The section that belonged to Regions Bank has now been sold.

The search for a new Finance Officer has been slow. Right now we do have some decent candidates and hopefully by the end of July we should narrow it down.

Mr. Gunn reported that Marchuetz has begun a big concrete pour in the City. Throughout the City, potholes patched with asphalt will be replaced with concrete eventually. Westhaven is now being done.

Mr. Gunn also stated that maintenance repairs on their equipment increased during this past winter.

The proposed sidewalk on Natural Bridge will run about \$9,000.

Mr. Kane reported that the new golf carts and some other equipment are now in. The course is open the 4th of July which is why other carts are needed for the parade. A truck for parks maintenance will be in sometime in July.

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New backstops are needed at BMAC.

Mayor Briggs spoke about the SportsPlex project. They are holding negotiations with the bond holders and that's about all we know at this time. This has been going on for one or two years already.

Mr. Kane stated they had had a meeting with staff and listed some items that they would like Council to consider in the future, i.e. a new module that would allow online registration and runs about \$20,000; a new payroll system and scheduling; window tinting in the gym; a new Parks Operations dump truck to replace one from 2001 and send the old one to BMAC; possibly a new van although Mary Lane has informed him that there are no grants available at this time for another van.

Chief Hood reported that at this time they have two vehicles that are totaled. There is enough insurance to buy one vehicle with equipment, but they will still need another one. They are planning to go with Explorers again.

He stated the bidding process for the body camera is in the last phase. It has been about three years since we started this process.

He then spoke about a new product called the StressVest[®] which is the world's first non projectile, force on force, firearm tactical training system capable of creating stress through a pain penalty without fear of projectile injury for training law enforcement officers. He briefly explained how the product works. If he is able to get this for the Police Department he will be taking it to the Missouri Police Chiefs and showing them.

He also passed around some pictures depicting more color on our police cars.

He would like two new officers as trying to keep up with the traffic issues they are now responding to, it has taken a toll on the number of officers answering other calls. They have three candidates, but one is probably going to be deployed soon, and another is still in the academy. It costs about \$100,000 for each officer (salary, benefits, equipment, etc.).

The Department has ordered three more stationary speed signs for Harmann Estates, Smiley and Whitehall Manor, in addition to the trailer.

Mayor Briggs announced the State of Missouri has passed the legalization of medical marijuana. Mr. Greatens is working on a bill to come before Council. This will provide very little revenue for the City.

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There is a developer that has come in to build some houses off of Fee Fee; however there is a house there that is built around an old log cabin that dates back to 1780-1790. The owner is out of state, however, as part of the sale, he has stated they are not to sell the cabin and the City should have first option as to what to do. The City would like to get a grant and have someone dismantle the cabin and then reassemble it possibly in Matthews Park as part of its renovation.

It is referred to as the Hawkins House and the original owner was apparently anti-slavery and may have used the cabin as part of an underground railroad for runaway slaves. There is rumor that a man was actually murdered in the house.

The Historical Commission is very excited to have the chance to preserve some more of Bridgeton's history.

Mr. Hein moved, second by Mr. Purcell, for adjournment. Motion carried by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Terry W. Briggs, Mayor

ATTEST:

Carole A. Stahlhut, City Clerk