

MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
BRIDGETON CITY HALL
12355 NATURAL BRIDGE ROAD
MARCH 4, 2020
7:00 P.M.

The regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Terry W. Briggs on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present: Abram, Fetsch, Grimmer, Hein, Norris, Purcell, Saettele, Zimmer

Absent: None

The Mayor noted a quorum present

AGENDA APPROVAL

Mr. Fetsch moved, second by Mr. Hein, for approval of the agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

PUBLIC PORTION

Ms. Nancy Lupia, 3609 Bridgeton Valley Circle, stated she has lived in Bridgeton for 24 years and never known about AirB&Bs. She thanked Mr. Zimmer for bringing this to our attention. She did not feel Bridgeton was ready for this and needed to deal with cleaning up our own back yard. She asked if the City had some sort of out reach program to help with the clean up in our City. Ms. Lupia also spoke about crime prevention and how residents could help in their own neighborhoods.

Ms. Mary Zeilmann, 3456 Fee Fee Road, spoke about the McBride development on Fee Fee Road. They had expressed concern about security and safety and McBride had said they would put up fencing for her neighbor and her, but when speaking to them about replacing a fence that had mistakenly been taken down (which they agreed to replace), they said the City did not add an amendment or make a motion to include the fence for her or her neighbor in the vote for approval of their plans. Could they be ask to build the fence they originally agreed to before the development began?

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Mr. Mike Sonderman, 11325 Bridgeton Valley Court, stated relative to AirBnBs, we do not need to encourage absentee ownerships in the City. Also, speeding is a problem in the City and we should find a way to stop it.

Mr. Mike Pinson, 11420 Old St. Charles Road, stated there is a new property manager at Bridgeport Crossing. Also, the water company has posted the water is to be cut off in 10 days.

Mrs. Glenda Gibson, 3446 Fee Fee Road, asked why have we been told we are not going to have a fence when McBride agreed to it. We are asking for an explanation.

There being no one else who wished to address Council, the Public Portion was closed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – FEBRUARY 19, 2020

Mr. Fetsch moved, second by Mr. Hein, for approval of the Minutes of February 19, 2020. Motion carried by voice vote.

APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENT/SET PUBLIC HEARINGS

Item 1

ANNOUNCEMENT IN EVENT OF ABSENCE

Mayor Briggs announced that all members of Council are present so any item introduced may be acted on tonight at the discretion of Council

Item 2

APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Briggs nominated Kurt Kientzle, Ward 4, to serve on the Industrial Development Authority. He replaces John Stephens who has moved out of the City.

Mrs. Abram moved, second by Mrs. Norris, for approval. Motion carried by voice vote.

PERMITS, WAIVERS AND APPEAL REQUESTS

Item 3

SIGN VARIANCE-ONCE UPON A CHILD; 12100 ST. CHARLES ROCK ROAD; WALL SIGN

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Mr.. Zimmer moved, second by Mr. Saettele, to approve a request for a sign variance form Once Upon A Child at 12100 St. Charles Rock Road.

The Design and Review Board considered a request for an additional sign for Once Upon A Child at 12100 St. Charles Rock Road. The previous tenant had two signs. The building has two “fronts” – one is the side facing the parking lot where the entry door is located. The other is the frontage along St. Charles Rock Road.

The Design and Review Board forwarded this request to City Council with a favorable recommendation by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Roll Call Vote by Council:

AYES: Zimmer, Abram, Fetsch, Grimmer, Hein, Norris, Purcell, Saettele

NAYS: None

EMERGENCY LEGISLATION/CONTRACTS/BIDS/ETC.

Item 4

**FULL PACKAGE LIQUOR LICENSE-MIDWEST PETROLEUM CO. D/B/A MPC #62;
13767 ST. CHARLES ROCK ROAD; JAMES R. McNUTT, MANAGING OFFICER.
FINAL CONSIDERATION**

Mr. Grimmer moved, second by Mr. Saettele, for final consideration of the above liquor license.

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Abram, Fetsch, Grimmer, Hein, Norris, Purcell, Saettele, Zimmer

NAYS: None

PERFECTION OF BILLS

Item 5

BILL 6237 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRIDGETON, MISSOURI, (APPLICATION #19-PZ-20) ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR “OUTDOOR DISPLAY AND/OR SALE OF MERCHANDISE” TO ALLOW OUDOOR SEATING/DINING AT 947 NORTHWEST PLAZA DRIVE (FREDDY’S FROZEN CUSTARD & STEAKBURGERS)

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Mrs. Abram moved, second by Mr. Norris, for second reading of Bill 6237. Motion carried by voice vote.

Mrs. Abram moved, second by Mrs. Norris, that Bill 6237 become Ordinance 20-08.

Mrs. Abram moved, second by Mrs. Norris, to table Bill 6237. Motion carried by voice vote.

Mrs. Abram moved, second by Mrs. Norris, that the proposed use set forth in Bill 6237 be determined to promote the health, safety, morals or general welfare of the people of the City of Bridgeton in accordance with and in the accomplishment of the comprehensive zoning plan of the City, taking into consideration the effect of such building or use on traffic conditions, fire safety, the character of the neighborhood, the general welfare of the community and public utilities.

Mrs. Abram stated she finds as a fact, the proposed use will have no adverse effect on the health, safety, morals or general welfare of the people of Bridgeton with respect to traffic conditions, fire safety, the character of the neighborhood, the general welfare of the community or public utilities and her vote is Aye.

Mrs. Norris concurs and votes aye.

Mr. Hein concurs and votes aye.

Mr. Fetsch concurs and votes aye.

Mr. Grimmer concurs and votes aye

Mr. Zimmer concurs and votes aye.

Mr. Purcell concurs and votes aye.

Mr. Saettele concurs and votes aye.

Mrs. Abram moved, second by Mrs. Norris, to suspend Council Rules and remove Bill 6237 from the table. Motion carried by voice vote.

Mrs. Abram moved, second by Mr. Hein, that Bill 6237 become Ordinance 20-08.

Roll Call Vote on Bill 6234 becoming Ordinance 20-08:

AYES: Fetsch, Grimmer, Hein, Norris, Purcell, Saettele, Zimmer, Abram

NAYS: None

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Item 6

BILL 6238 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRIDGETON, MISSOURI, AMENDING CHAPTER 610 OF THE BRIDGETON MUNICIPAL CODE, MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SERVICE OCCUPATIONS, SECTION 610.030. LICENSE AND PAYMENT OF TAX PREREQUISITE TO DOING BUSINESS

Mr. Zimmer moved, second by Mr. Saettele, for second reading of Bill 6238. Motion carried by voice vote.

Mr. Zimmer moved, second by Mr. Saettele, that Bill 6238 become Ordinance No. 20-09.

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Grimmer, Norris, Saettele, Zimmer, Abram, Fetsch

NAYS: Hein, Purcell

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Linenbroker had nothing to report at this time.

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Several members of Council commended the Parks and Recreation Department for extending the invitation to residents of Maryland Heights who wanted to continue to work out following the tragedy which occurred at the Maryland Heights Center recently. There have been many kind comments made about Bridgeton's help to our neighboring community.

Mr. Zimmer stated that Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers at Northwest Plaza had requested a sign variance to be forwarded to City Council.

At the Design & Review Board meeting last night the new Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers located at Northwest Plaza requested new signs and building approval for recommendation to Council.

There was a meeting on short term rental (AirBnB's) tonight preceding the Council Meeting. It was very productive and we plan to have a "public forum" during the next Council meeting (March 18th) to allow residents, business owners and concerned people to speak either "for" or "against" having short term rentals (AirBnBs) in Bridgeton.

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.Code Enforcement: I'm strongly recommending that we seriously enforce our ordinances and continue to do so. We have very nice houses in Bridgeton and we also have properties that are clearly not kept to Bridgeton standards. I know the Staff is out there working hard and struggling but we may need to hire/re-delegate duties to help to keep up with the problems. Our home values will go down if we don't. (By the way I think our home values in Bridgeton are increasing more than other nearby cities and they do not stay on the market long) What is the Administration's plan to push for acceptable code enforcement?

Crime and Traffic Enforcement: I recently talked to Chief Hood about the crime statistics and was quite impressed on the number of traffic tickets, ordinance violations, traffic stops, warnings, etc. There were literally over 10,000 over the course of a year (2018 data). They are doing a super great job. However, I am urging that we push even harder to make the Police presence known. One of the biggest complaints (among a bunch of others) that I have had while knocking on doors is that the residents want the traffic controlled in their neighborhoods. I nick named Maryland Heights the "land of enforcement". I don't think we have that type of reputation in Bridgeton but I would sure like to see more of it. I am asking the Administration to please push writing more tickets and making your presence known.

There will be a Ward 1 Neighborhood Watch meeting on March 11 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Mr. Saettele suggested asking businesses to help clean up the City by picking up trash and keeping their property clean. This could help a lot.

Mr. Saettele brought up the fence that residents understood would be replaced by McBride Mrs. Abram stated it should be up to Council to decide what to do about that.

Mr. Purcell expressed concern about enforcing the ordinances that are now on the books.

Mr. Purcell asked about the money put in this year's budget for storm water. It's already the first of March and we need to get started.

Mr. Hein stated the Optimist Club held a raffle and Judge Larrew won two tickets to the Blues hockey game on March 13th.

MAYORS REPORT

Mr. Kane reported that 416 Maryland Heights residents used the Bridgeton Center following the tragedy at Maryland Heights. He said he was very proud of the staff at the Center, greeting them with smiles and welcoming them.

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Chief Hood reported the Polar Plunge was a huge success and donations are still coming in to be included in the total.

Chief Hood spoke about the major delays to be expected in westbound direction this weekend as crews prepare for traffic switch on the I-70 Blanchette Bridge.

He also responded to code enforcement comments and new speed limit signs.

Mayor Briggs announced the next Council meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. on March 18th and during that time before the regular Council meeting begins at 7:00 p.m., there will be a forum for residents to speak about how they feel about short term rentals in the City of Bridgeton.

Relative to the fence on the McBride property, that issue was discussed but was never agreed to be put in the ordinance. When Council did not include it, McBride changed their minds. Mayor Briggs said he would contact McBride and do what he can to get them to build the fence. They will replace the fence that was taken down by mistake.

They will replace the fence that was taken down by mistake. Unfortunately, the money in the budget for storm water may not go as far as Council has hoped.

Relative to TEH Realty and Bridgeport Apartments, the water company has put up a notice that the water will be turned off in 10 days. This action requires eviction as you cannot occupy a living unit without water. Many of these residents have no place to go. Some may have to go miles away but they don't want to do that and take their kids out of school here. The Mayor said he doesn't blame them – this is a good school district.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hein moved, second by Mr. Saettele, for adjournment. Motion carried by voice vote. Meeting adjourned a 8:30 p.m.

Terry W/ Briggs, Mayor

ATTEST:

Carole A. Stahlhut, City Clerk

