

# "Improving the quality of life for Aurora"

## **AURORA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

*Aurora City Hall, Council Chambers*

*Tuesday, April 14, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.*

### **I. CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Marks called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

### **II. PLEDGE AND PRAYER:**

No pledge and prayer.

### **III. ROLL CALL: Mayor David L. Marks**

*Chairman Pro Tem Rick Boyer*

*Councilman Steve Ramirez*

*Councilwoman Linda Barton*

*Councilwoman Rosemary Henderson*

### **IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

No minutes to approve.

### **V. APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS for March/April**

Councilwoman Henderson moved to approve the appropriations as submitted.

Councilman Ramirez seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Henderson, Ramirez, Marks, Boyer

NAYES: 0

ABSTAIN: Barton (invoice in the bill list)

### **VI. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **VII. COUNCIL FORUM**

None

### **VIII. OLD BUSINESS**

None

### **IX. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **A. Approval for Chamber of Commerce to hold the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual "Light the Night Festival"**

Councilwoman Barton moved to allow the Chamber of Commerce to hold its 6<sup>th</sup> Annual "Light the Night Festival" on June 20, 2015. Chairman Pro Tem Boyer seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ramirez, Henderson, Barton, Boyer, Marks

NAYES: 0

#### **B. First Reading of Bill No. 2015-3027**

*An Ordinance of the City of Aurora, Missouri authorizing the City Manager to execute a Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission Municipal Agreement Job#J7T0043*

This agreement is to construct a bridge over the Route 39 railroad crossing, close the at-grade crossing on Morgan Avenue and Mc Natt Avenue in the Community

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of Aurora, construct a quiet zone crossing on Route K and construct a quiet zone on County Road 1210.

Councilwoman Henderson moved to approve the first reading of Bill No. 2015-3027. Councilman Ramirez seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye on the motion:

AYES: Henderson Marks, Ramirez, Boyer, Barton

NAYES: 0

C. *Second and Final Reading of Bill No. 2015-3027 making Ordinance No. 2015-3027 An Ordinance of the City of Aurora, Missouri authorizing the City Manager to execute a Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission Municipal Agreement Job#J7T0043*

Councilwoman Barton moved to approve the second and final reading of Bill No. 2015-3027 this will now be known as Ordinance No. 2015-3027. Councilman Ramirez seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Henderson, Marks, Ramirez, Boyer, Barton

NAYES: 0

D. *First Reading of Bill No. 2015-3028 An Ordinance of the City of Aurora, Missouri authorizing the City Manager to execute a Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission Municipal Agreement for Route 60 Resurfacing Job#J7P22208*

This agreement is for the improvement of reconstruction of Route 60 extending from Route 37 to Route 14. Originally MoDot was going to use the city's STP funds for sidewalk renovation in regards to a 1955 agreement to city had entered into with them. MoDot bid the project out and failed to issue the city a contract for the use of these funds. In the meantime, the park board was allowed to utilize \$40,000 for Phase I of the Walking Trail Project. MoDot is now issuing this agreement to utilize the city's STP funds in the amount of \$75,683 to fulfill the entity's contribution to the total cost of the project.

Councilwoman Barton moved to approve the first reading of Bill No. 2015-3028. Councilman Ramirez seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye on the motion:

AYES: Boyer, Henderson, Barton, Ramirez, Marks

NAYES: 0

E. *Second and Final Reading of Bill No. 2015-3028 making Ordinance No. 2015-3028 An Ordinance of the City of Aurora, Missouri authorizing the City Manager to execute a Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission Municipal Agreement for Route 60 Resurfacing Job#J7P22208*

Councilman Henderson approved the second and final reading of Bill No. 2015-3028 which will now be known as Ordinance No. 2015-3028. Councilwoman Barton seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ramirez, Boyer, Barton, Marks, Henderson

NAYES: 0

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- F. *Resolution No. 2015-1404*  
*A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, State Revolving Fund Program for loans under the Missouri Clean Water Law (Section 644, RSMo).*

Upon passage the City Manager will now be the designated signer on the Sewer Interceptor Project due to the large amount of documentation that needs to be signed.

Councilwoman Barton moved to approve Resolution No. 2015-1404.  
Councilwoman Henderson seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye on the motion:  
AYES: Henderson, Ramirez, Boyer, Marks, Barton  
NAYES: 0

- G. *Discussion to add a Recreation Coordinator position to the 2015 Budget*  
City Manager Randall started the discussion by stating the during an inspection from DNR at the Wastewater Treatment Plant that additional man hours needed to be added to work at the plant. If Council chose to add a Recreation Coordinator that person could relieve Orvil Maples, Wastewater Superintendent from having to oversee the pool employees. He would still retain maintaining the water quality at the pool.

Councilman Ramirez thought the title for the position should be Activity Director rather than Recreation Coordinator.

The position would become effective with the 2016 budget. The director would assume the responsibility for all the programs that are presently being performed by the YMCA. In addition new programs could be added such as Hunter Safety Programs, Summer Camp, horseshoe pitching and other after school activities such as a chess club.

Park Board President, Theresa Pettit asked the city to form a steering committee to see exactly what the community wants.

Councilwoman Henderson stated the county was going to lower the sales tax by 3/8 of a cent as the Justice Center was now paid for. She felt this might be the right time for the city to consider putting a park sales tax on the ballot. It would not only benefit the park but would also allow for storm water drain improvements.

- H. *Discuss entering into an agreement with Richard Perry to run a summer tennis program for Aurora in 2015*

Richard Perry approached the city with wanting to provide a twelve week summer tennis program at the city's tennis courts. His plan included a \$3,000 fee from the city to help him get his business started. The money would be used to pay for liability insurance, to purchase equipment and to help offset transportation costs for him to and from Joplin.

Several council members felt it inappropriate to give him money to start his business when no one gave them startup money for their business. City Manager Randall stated he had attended the park board meeting and it was agreed that if

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the city approved the usage of the courts the registration would go directly to him and the city would not have to pay for his services. Additional suggestions were to have his clients assist in providing equipment and balls.

Councilman Ramirez suggested the possibility of giving smaller stipend such as \$1,500 to help him get started. Councilwoman Barton insisted that he needed to work harder to get his registration up to a level that he could start the course with no assistance from the city. Mr. Perry stated he wanted to start off by giving his clients a relaxed feeling rather than one of having them to help pay for equipment.

Park Board President Pettit asked council to consider the tennis program would be a much longer program than what the YMCA was offering and what they had paid for those programs to be offered. She stated it takes two hours of preparation for one hour of presentation.

Councilman Ramirez moved to approve the tennis agreement with a \$2,000 stipend for the program. Councilman Boyer seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:  
AYES: Barton, Henderson, Boyer, Ramirez, Marks  
NAYES: 0

### **X. *REPORTS***

#### *A. Board Liaison Reports*

##### Hospital Board

Several new doctors will be joining the hospital staff to include an OBGYN and a sleep specialist via tele health. Hospital employees donated over 1,000 items to the Christian Service Center. Skaggs facilities in Joplin and Branson are now complete.

##### SWMD

Crane will be hosting a recycling event on April 25<sup>th</sup>. This is one of two that will be offered this year.

##### Park Board

The board discussed a tennis agreement, an eagle scout project, cause momentum and the use of community service workers. President Pettit inquired whether the city had a waiver to sign off for injury. City Attorney Reynolds stated the city had governmental immunity in all things. She asked if the school needed to provide the city with a waiver form. City Attorney Reynolds stated if council requested him to provide a form he would do so.

A Grand Opening will be held on June 6 for the walking trail. A Play Day will also be held at the tennis courts offering free play. In addition it was suggested that council may be asked to approve a free swim day that day as well.

#### *B. City Attorney Report*

City Attorney Reynolds stated he had been working with the City Manager on several issues.

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### *C. City Manager Report*

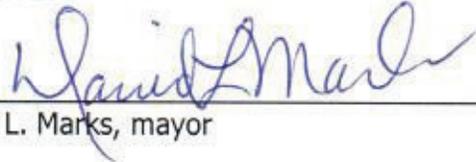
City Manager Randall reported on the following items:

- Public Works cleaning out ditches, drains and filling in potholes in alleys due to heavy rains.
- The Building Inspector has been busy issuing licenses to numerous contractors that are in the area due to hail damage.
- Heavy damage was sustained to several city vehicles within the city. Roofs are being inspected for damage.
- PD has gone to twelve hour shifts. A beat system will be started in a couple of weeks.
- The Neighborhood Watch Program has hit a glitch and is slow to get started.

### *XI. ADJOURNMENT*

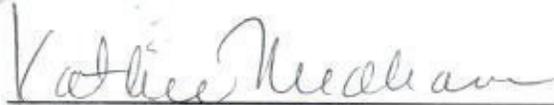
Councilwoman Henderson moved to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. Councilwoman Barton seconded the motion. Motion passed with all members voting aye.

APPROVED:



David L. Marks, mayor

ATTEST:



Kathie Needham, City Clerk, MMC/MPCC