"Improving the quality of life for Aurora"

AURORA CITY COUNCIL TENTATIVE AGENDA
Aurora City Hall, Council Chambers
Tuesday, March 22, 2016 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:*** Councilman Ramirez led the council in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ***ROLL CALL:*** *Mayor David L. Marks*
Chairman Pro Tem Rick Boyer
Councilman Steve Ramirez
Councilwoman Linda Barton
Councilwoman Rosemary Henderson

All council members were noted present.

IV. ***APPROVAL OF MINUTES***

Regular Session held on March 8, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

Councilwoman Henderson moved to approve the minutes from the regular session held on March 8, 2016. Councilwoman Barton seconded the motion. Motion passed with by a 5-0 vote with the following council members voting aye:
AYES: Henderson, Marks, Ramirez, Boyer, Barton
NAYES: 0

V. ***APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS*** *for March*

Councilman Ramirez questioned the bill from PC Alliance. He asked if a limit had not been set. City Manager Randall stated that PC Alliance was asked to repair the hard drive and was not told to go beyond that. The city is very dependent on PC Alliance for computer support. A memo had been sent to all department heads to tighten the control down on calling him for support or for purchasing items from him and to use other vendors when possible. It was felt that he had gone beyond the scope of what had been asked of him. The mother board was replaced and when that didn't work a processor and when all failed a new computer was installed.

Councilwoman Barton thought you need to have an understanding with one another. He should have gone through the proper channels. City Manager Randall stated that we need to get away with purchasing computers from him. It is not in accordance with the city's purchasing policy.

The Mayor thought there had to be more to the story. Councilman Ramirez requested to take that invoice out of the bill list for approval and asked that PC Alliance come to the next meeting to explain the bill.

Councilman Ramirez moved to approve the appropriations as submitted with the exception of the invoice from PC Alliance. Mayor Marks seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with the following council members voting aye:
AYES: Boyer, Henderson, Ramirez, Marks
NAYES: 0

ABSTAIN: Barton (Invoice in bill list)

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Don McWade

Don has been a citizen of Aurora for over sixty years. He has seen growth and loss of growth. He felt the city was not on a path of productivity for appropriations to settle a negative budget that had been passed over the last several years. He thanked the council for their service and appreciated what they did for the community.

However; his main objection was the closure of a main thoroughfare (Carnation Street) which has always been used by its citizens and businesses. He asked what the factor was used in determining to close the street to heavy truck traffic. Councilwoman Barton stated that safety was the factor in closing the street. Mr. McWade thought the city should not interfere or cause inconvenience to any business by closing the street until notification had been received from a higher authority stating the necessity of closing the street to heavy truck traffic for safety reasons. You are forcing ASI to go around other streets causing major delays for their drivers to make local deliveries.

City Manager Randall stated that was not true. The ordinance did give ASI the ability to use Carnation when going to their plant on Carnation. Mr. Mc Wade stated that might be true however they cannot go from their business on Carnation down to Hwy. 60. In addition he stated his concern for bus drivers not being able to use the street. He was informed bus drivers were allowed to utilize the street.

On another note, he was concerned that the city had rehired past employees that had previously been let go and that the city continued to pass deficit budgets. The city had been drawing from reserves for several years to the tune of $200,000 a year. No one else could survive by doing that. The city needed someone trained that should know how to put the budget together. That amount keeps escalating annually. The council keeps passing ordinances that can become headaches for future councils. It's time to draw the line to look forward and to quit deficit spending. Things need to be brought back into order. Projects need to be done by city staff. Staff can chip and seal themselves without contracting it. City streets do not need to be asphalted. He just wanted the town to grow.

Architectural Systems Inc. (ASI) – Charlie Lochner – Co owner of the company

Mr. Lochner stated their company had started in Monett and had been expanding over the last 18 years. They expanded to Aurora 4 years ago because they saw an opportunity for growth. He felt they had made a significant impact on the city. They have hired 152 employees and leased another location in town. They had come to Aurora after being in Monett which is pro-business with the hope of the same attitude. They were very disenchanted when they found out by seeing signs limiting traffic along Carnation. They were never contacted by the city informing them of the change that would not allow their truck traffic through Carnation Street. They run trucks multiple times a day down Carnation to their other location and on to Monett. It is a huge imposition to have to take other routes other than the most direct route. It costs time and money to do so. It's ridiculous to be able to just be able to just go down Carnation to our other facility. It's cumbersome to force drivers' to go another route rather than the shortest distance. It just makes no sense that you can go so far down Carnation but

not all the way to Hwy. 60. He requested council to reconsider their decision and to repeal the ordinance.

VII. COUNCIL FORUM

Councilwoman Barton inquired whether the city had a panhandling ordinance. City Manager Randall replied that we did not however we had a pretty strong nuisance ordinance. He offered to research the matter if council wished. No direction was given.

Mayor Marks inquired why seasonal positions had not been filled nor had the full time position for the park been filled. City Manager Randall stated that applications were presently being accepted. The full time position is being put off until money is received and built up in the new fund.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. First Reading of Ordinance No. 2016-3064
An Ordinance of the City of Aurora, Missouri amending Title VII, 'Public Utilities" Chapter 705 "Sewers", Article III "Charges and Rates" Section 705.500 "Monthly Service Charge" Subsection E "Rate Schedule" of the Municipal Code of Ordinances

City Manager Randall explained that at the last council meeting Gene Spears had presented the information from the rate study and had proposed several scenarios. Council had then given direction to bring back an ordinance making those proposed changes. Councilman Ramirez asked Sherri Woods, Collector if she would have any problems collecting that amount. Sherri replied that the public is not going to like the increase and that people on social security or disability would have a hard time paying. She stated that is utilities were turned off it would add an additional $140 dollars to the collection. She felt the deposit was not high enough and should be changed to $100. It was noted that a town average bill of 4,000 gallons of water would go from $17.00 to $30.65 under this increase. She felt that the entire Finance Department would be slammed with phone calls and questions. In addition to that the town average will take effect the same time the rate increase would go into effect which people would not understand.

Marsha Sadler from Empire District Electric stated that if a sheet of questions and answers was derived from the facts of why the increase was necessary that each phone operator could give the same information to everyone that called. It helped them when they did rate increases.

Councilman Ramirez felt that the proposed rate increase was too much. It should be reduced to a $7.50 base and $5.00 per thousand and then gradually increase that amount. In addition he felt the public should be notified before the increase took effect. Council felt that even though it would be a shock it was best to do the rate increase one time rather than multiple times and it would be in the citizens best interest to notify the public before the increase took effect.

Council directed that a new ordinance be prepared with the aforementioned changes and to bring it back to council at their next meeting.

Councilman Ramirez moved to table the matter the matter until their next meeting. Mayor Marks seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0 with the following council members voting aye:
AYES: Ramirez, Boyer, Marks
NAYES: Barton, Henderson

B. *Second and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 2016-3064 making Ordinance No. 2016-3064*
An Ordinance of the City of Aurora, Missouri amending Title VII, 'Public Utilities" Chapter 705 "Sewers", Article III "Charges and Rates" Section 705.500 "Monthly Service Charge" Subsection E "Rate Schedule" of the Municipal Code of Ordinances

No action taken on this item.

IX. *NEW BUSINESS*

A. *Resolution No. 2016-1453*
A Resolution of the City of Aurora, Missouri awarding the contract for the purchase of fifteen sets of Bunker Gear

Councilwoman Henderson moved to approve Resolution No. 2016-1453 which awards the bid on fifteen sets of bunker gear to Feld Fire for $19,965. Councilwoman Barton seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-1 with the following council members voting aye:
AYES: Barton, Marks, Henderson, Boyer
NAYES: Ramirez

B. *Resolution No. 2016-1454*
A Resolution approving specified items for disposal from the Fire Department

Chairman Pro Tem Boyer moved to approve Resolution No. 2016-1454 which approves of disposal of specified items from the fire department. Councilwoman Barton seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0 with the following council members voting aye:
AYES: Ramirez, Boyer, Barton, Marks, Henderson
NAYES; 0

C. *First Reading of Ordinance No. 2016-3065*
An Ordinance of the City of Aurora, Missouri amending Ordinance No. 2007-2751for clerical errors

Councilwoman Henderson moved to approve the first reading of Bill No. 2016-3065. Councilwoman Barton seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0 with the following council members voting aye:
AYES: Henderson, Barton, Marks, Boyer, Ramirez
NAYES: 0

D. *Second and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 2016-3065 making Ordinance No. 2016-3065*
An Ordinance of the City of Aurora, Missouri amending Ordinance No. 2007-2751for clerical errors

Councilwoman Barton moved to approve the second and final reading of Bill No. 2016-3065 this bill will now be known as Ordinance No. 2016-3065.

Councilwoman Barton seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0 with the following council members voting aye:
AYES: Henderson, Barton, Marks, Boyer, Ramirez
NAYES: 0

E. *First Reading of Bill No. 2016-3066*
An Ordinance of the City of Aurora, Missouri amending Ordinance No. 2007-2763 for clerical errors

Chairman Pro Tem Boyer moved to approve the first reading of Bill No. 2016-3066. Councilwoman Henderson seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0 with the following council members voting aye:
AYES: Barton, Henderson, Ramirez, Marks, Boyer
NAYES: 0

F. *Second and Final Reading of Bill No. 2016-3066 making Ordinance No. 2016-3066*
An Ordinance of the City of Aurora, Missouri amending Ordinance No. 2007-2763 for clerical errors

Councilwoman Barton moved to approve the second and final reading of Bill No. 2016-3066 this bill will now be known as Ordinance No. 2016-3066. Councilwoman Henderson seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0 with the following council members voting aye:
AYES: Barton, Henderson, Ramirez, Marks, Boyer
NAYES: 0

G. *First Reading of Bill No. 2016-3067*
An Ordinance of the City of Aurora, Missouri rescinding Ordinance No. 2015-3055 regarding "Class A" truck traffic on Carnation Street

Councilman Ramirez moved to approve the first reading of Bill No. 2016-3067 rescinding Ordinance No. 2015-3055. Chairman Pro Tem Boyer seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0 with the following council members voting aye:
AYES: Marks, Ramirez, Boyer
NAYES: Henderson, Barton

H. *Second and Final Reading of Bill No. 2016-3067 making Ordinance No. 2016-3067*
An Ordinance of the City of Aurora, Missouri rescinding Ordinance No. 2015-3055 regarding "Class A" truck traffic on Carnation Street

Councilman Ramirez moved to approve the second and final reading of Bill No. 2016-3067 rescinding Ordinance No. 2015-3055 which will now be known as Ordinance No. 2016-3067. Chairman Pro Tem Boyer seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0 with the following council members voting aye:
AYES: Marks, Ramirez, Boyer
NAYES: Henderson, Barton

Council requested another ordinance be brought back to the next meeting restricting traffic on Carnation to 25 mph.

I. *Resolution No. 2016-1455*
A Resolution of the City of Aurora, Missouri authorizing and directing the City Manager to execute an agreement for the purchase of a mower for the Cemetery

Councilwoman Barton moved to approve Resolution No. 2016-3067 which approves the purchase of a mower for the cemetery from A & R Sales in Washburn. Councilwoman Henderson seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-1 with the following council members voting aye:
AYES: Henderson, Marks, Boyer, Barton
NAYES: Ramirez

Councilman Ramirez requested to add an item to the agenda. Mayor Marks granted permission.

Councilman Ramirez moved to immediately terminate City Manager Randall's employment with the city. Mayor Marks seconded the motion. Motion failed 3-2. The following council members voted aye:
AYES: Ramirez, Marks
NAYES: Boyer, Barton, Henderson

X. REPORTS

A. Board Liaison Reports

Park Board

The park board is working on baseball fields. This is the last year for the school to use Baldwin Park fields. The school is building its own new fields. A hold has been put on any further renovation until the future of the field is known. Phase II of the walking trail is proceeding and they are awaiting notice that the Notice to Proceed has been issued.

Airport Board

The airport board will meet Wednesday evening.

P&Z

The board met this week however Chairman Pro Tem Boyer had not attended. He has overlooked the email notice for the meeting because he did not recognize the name of the new secretary.

B. City Attorney Report

City Attorney Reynolds was not present. His associate Mr. Gold sat in for him. No report was given.

C. City Manager Report

City Manager Randall reported on the following items:

- The City Administrator from Mount Vernon contacted the city requesting a bid proposal for dispatching and 911 services.
- The Aurora Community Foundation of the Ozarks is applying for a grant from the Community Foundation of the Ozarks – Springfield for economic development efforts. They are going to fund $300,000 for three cities. Jump Start has been chosen by CFO to direct recommendations and help to those communities move toward economic development. If the grant is awarded to the Aurora Community Foundation of the Ozarks they will need to participate by making a $5,000 annually for three years. CFO has asked the city to participate in that endeavor. City Manager Randall is recommending the city award them $2,500 annually.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Henderson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 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