

AURORA CITY COUNCIL/STAFF MEETING MINUTES

City Council Chambers

Wednesday, August 16, 2017 at noon

I. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Boyer called the meeting to order at noon.

II. ROLL CALL:

Mayor Rick Boyer
Chairman Pro Tem Larry Marks
Councilman Steve Ramirez
Councilwoman Dawn Oplinger
Councilman Stephen Wiles

All Council members were noted present.

III. CITY COUNCIL/STAFF MEETING

A. Review benefit information with Heather DeHart, Nixon and Lindstrom

Heather DeHart, Nixon and Lindstrom stated she had met with department heads on Tuesday and went over all the renewal numbers with them. Staff liked their present plan and preferred to stay with the present carrier and plan if possible. Heather discussed the renewal numbers for medical, dental, life and insurance benefits with council. To date Humana the city's present carrier has agreed to a 5% reduction in premiums after the initial 22% rate increase was received which takes them to a 17% rate increase over last year's rates. Cigna came in with a 13% rate increase for the exact same plan the city presently has. Heather is still negotiating with Humana and should have a solid answer back from them by Friday. If Humana will not give the city the additional reduction in rates to a 13% level council agreed to go with Cigna.

Met Life provides the city's dental coverage and only a slight increase in rates was received from them.

Vision Care Direct and VSP both bid on the vision plans. VSP came in higher in price but had a better list of providers to choose from. Several employees this year experienced problems with VCD and asked to see a different plan from a different carrier. After reviewing the quotes employees voted and decided to continue with Vision Care Direct.

B. First Reading of Bill No. 2017-3119

An Ordinance of the City of Aurora, Missouri authorizing the Mayor to execute all necessary documentation for the renewal of employee benefits for Heath/Dental/Life/Vision

Councilman Wiles moved to approve the first reading of Bill No. 2017-3119.

Councilwoman Oplinger seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ramirez, Marks, Oplinger, Wiles, Boyer

NAYES: 0

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- C. Second and Final Reading of Bill No. 2017-3119 making Ordinance No. 2017-3119
An Ordinance of the City of Aurora, Missouri authorizing the Mayor to execute all necessary documentation for the renewal of employee benefits for Health/Dental/Life/Vision

Councilman Wiles moved to approve the second and final reading of Bill No. 2017-3119 this bill will now be known as Ordinance No. 2017-3119.

Councilwoman Oplinger seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following council members voting aye:

AYES: Ramirez, Marks, Oplinger, Wiles, Boyer

NAYES: 0

- D. Department Reports

Police Chief Witthuhn

The air conditioning unit has been repaired in the building. Chief Witthuhn and Chief Ward have put together a plan for the solar eclipse in the event it would be needed.

Fire Chief Ward

The transmission has been received for the truck that was down. Glycol was found to be in leaking into the transmission. The repair company is looking for a replacement radiator. One was found at Spartan which would have to be built for \$8,000 or it could be rebuilt at a radiator company in Springfield for \$1,500 up to \$4,000. It would take 90 days to get the one from Spartan. The rebuilt radiator could be back within a week. Robert gave them permission prior to the meeting to pull the radiator to be prepared to get it sent in. He recommends going with the local vendor. Council agreed. Robert asked council to consider raising the fire chief and police chief's credit limit on their credit cards to \$1,500.

Orvil Maples, Wastewater Superintendent

Orvil thanked council for passing the insurance benefits for the employees. Several vendors have come and looked at pumps that were being bid out for repair. Bids will be opened on that bid on August 28th. Another bid is coming in as well for part of the I&I project that needs to have a manhole set prior to the slip lining project.

Sherri Woods, Collector

Sherri reported she was working on monthly billing with a week to get them out. Door hangars were being hung today which are due by the 26th. She reported that with the changeover at Empire with the Canadian company many of the employees she worked with are no longer there. The new employees are struggling with the transition from one company to another.

Mayor Boyer stated he had several complaints from business owners in town on the timeliness of bills being sent out. She explained her goal was to get them out by the 18th to the 19th however lately that had been falling on the weekends. Mayor Boyer felt the bill should go out no later than the 20th of each month. He asked if her assistant had been completely trained to do her monthly billing. She stated she had.

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Betty Baum, Treasurer

Betty reported she had finished payroll and was working on the next appropriations. She was also working on a records request that had been sent state wide requesting information on our vendors for the past five years.

Trent White, Building Inspector

The paperwork is ready to send into DNR for the demolition of the Creamery once the asbestos is removed. Asbestos removal is scheduled for the 1st of the month. Bids have been received for landscaping by a professional landscaper for landscaping around city hall. Bids will be sent on to city council for approval.

Justin Janes, Park Superintendent

The pool is now closed for the season. The parking lot around the skate park is now complete.

Mayor Boyer announced the city council had hired a new city manager, Jon Holmes who will be starting his position within a couple of weeks.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Oplinger moved to adjourn the meeting time noted 1:10 p.m. Councilman Wiles seconded the motion. Motion passed with all members voting aye.

APPROVED:



Rick Boyer, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kathie Needham, City Clerk, MMC/MPCC