

MINUTES
RAYTOWN BOARD OF ALDERMEN
AUGUST 18, 2015
REGULAR SESSION NO. 9
RAYTOWN CITY HALL
10000 EAST 59TH STREET
RAYTOWN, MISSOURI 64133

OPENING SESSION
7:00 P.M.

Mayor Michael McDonough called the August 18, 2015 Board of Aldermen meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. Pat Jackson of Blue Ridge Presbyterian Church provided the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call

The roll was called and the attendance was as follows:

Present: Alderman Karen Black, Alderman Josh Greene, Alderman Jim Aziere, Alderman Jason Greene, Alderman Janet Emerson, Alderman Mark Moore, Alderman Steve Meyers, Alderman Bill Van Buskirk, Alderman Steve Mock, Alderman Eric Teeman

Absent: None

Proclamations

Mayor McDonough announced that he would be presenting a proclamation on August 21, 2015 to the Raytown Arts Association which would recognize their 50th year anniversary.

Police Chief, Jim Lynch and City Clerk, Teresa Henry, swore in Police Officer Adam Kopek.

Public Comments

John Stiegner spoke regarding code violations in his neighborhood.

Al Maddox spoke regarding the Santa Fe Trail.

Chris Meyers spoke regarding the Festival of the Lost Township on September 5, 2015.

Pat Jackson spoke regarding the Hoops & Dogs Basketball Clinic on August 23, 2015.

Communication from the Mayor

Mayor McDonough reported that he attended Raytown Community Health Fair and the several car shows in the area; all events were successful and well attended.

Communication from the City Administrator

City Administrator, Mahesh Sharma announced that Missouri Department of Transportation gave their approval for the City to start its downtown streetscape project. The bid opening for the project is scheduled for September 22, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.

Mr. Sharma also reported that the bid opening for the Blue Ridge Bike Trails is scheduled for fall 2015.

Committee Reports

Alderman Mock announced that Council on Aging is scheduled to meet August 20, 2015 at 4:15 p.m. Alderman Mock also announced that the Raytown Arts & Music Festival is scheduled for August 29, 2015.

Alderman Emerson announced that the Human Relations Commission is scheduled to meet August 21, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

1. CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Board of Aldermen and will be enacted by one motion without separate discussion or debate. The Mayor or a member of the Board of Aldermen may request that any item be removed from the consent agenda. If there is no objection by the remaining members of the board, such item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered separately. If there is an objection, the item may only be removed by a motion and vote of the board.

Approval of the Regular August 4, 2015 Board of Aldermen meeting minutes.

R-2795-15: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF MIKE APPRILL TO THE BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT. Point of Contact: Teresa Henry, City Clerk.

R-2796-15: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF DWIGHT ROBINSON TO THE PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION. Point of Contact: Teresa Henry, City Clerk.

R-2797-15: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF KEVIN WILSON TO THE PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION. Point of Contact: Teresa Henry, City Clerk.

Alderman Aziere, seconded by Alderman Teeman, made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was approved by a vote of 10-0.

Ayes: Aldermen Aziere, Teeman, Mock, Van Buskirk, Meyers, Moore, Emerson, Jason Greene, Josh Greene, Black
Nays: None

2. DISCUSSION ITEM

Budgeting of current one-eighth (1/8) of one percent Local Parks/Storm water Tax

Alderman Black stated that the intent of the tax has been overlooked and that the Parks Department has been receiving all the funding from the tax. Storm water projects have suffered due to lack of funding from the 1/8 of one percent tax. Alderman Black suggested money from the tax be split 60% for storm water and 40% for Parks.

Alderman Jason Greene strongly encouraged the Board that the City honors the requests of the voters to split the tax. The continuation of Parks receiving the funds would be unethical.

Alderman Josh Greene agreed that the money from the tax should be shared. Alderman Greene suggested that before the Board determines the split, a conversation with Parks should be had to determine their budget needs and what storm water projects need to be completed.

Alderman Van Buskirk discussed the language of the tax and how the money could be used at the Board's discretion for storm water projects. Alderman Van Buskirk stated that it was the Parks understanding that the money would be used for their projects and the tax would be ongoing.

Alderman Van Buskirk agreed with other Board members that funding for storm water projects are needed but the Board needs to evaluate the effect the division of money would have on the Parks Department's budget.

Alderman Aziere urged the Board to think about the impact the split of funds would have on Parks and their ability to maintain City parks and medians. Alderman Aziere discussed whether or not a new tax could be put on the ballot that would separate Parks and Storm water funding.

Alderman Aziere suggested that it was important to let the residents know that money has been spent toward storm water projects and that a lot has been done over the years to improve the storm water systems in Raytown. He urged the Aldermen to be champions of their wards and ask their residents what storm water issues were important to them.

Alderman Teeman suggested that the Board needed to identify specific storm water and Parks' projects first before making a split of funds. He agreed with other Board members that a meeting needed to take place with the Parks Board to address their budget concerns.

Alderman Moore agreed that a split of the funds should be made in order to improve storm water issues and that the Parks Department needed to be involved in the decision making process.

Alderman Meyers suggested that too many assumptions were made in the past about the use of funds from the 1/8 tax and that it is time for storm water projects to get some of the funding from the tax.

Alderman Emerson expressed concerns that the Parks Department used money from the General Fund to fund community surveys from out of state consulting companies and that the Board had already committed to spend \$80,000.00 to Super Splash projects. Alderman Emerson agreed that it was now time for Public Works to use funding from the tax for storm water issues.

City Administrator, Mahesh Sharma, discussed the history regarding the roles and responsibilities of the Parks and Public Works Departments before the tax bill was voted on by the public. Mr. Sharma reported that even though storm water had no steady funds besides the \$25,000 yearly minimum that is required by state statute, the City had spent over \$600,000.00 toward storm water projects over the last few years.

Mr. Sharma also stated that the City had a study/evaluation of the storm water system completed in 1998. The study highlighted over 6-7 million dollars of storm water projects that needed to be completed.

Alderman Mock discussed the 83rd street bridge project and the storm water work that was completed during the project.

Park Board President, George Mitchell, spoke regarding the Parks Department's understanding of the tax funds and how they were supposed to be spent. Mr. Mitchell suggested that the frugal approach to this issue might be set up percentage splits over a period time. He urged that the Board have a meeting with Parks as soon as possible to discuss funds from this tax and how they impact the Parks' budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

Mr. Mitchell also provided clarification regarding funding spent toward the community surveys and the amount of money the Board agreed to fund toward Super Splash projects.

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Emerson, seconded by Alderman Moore made a motion to adjourn. The motion was approved by a majority of those present.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Teresa M. Henry, MRCC
City Clerk