

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 21, 2022
6:00 P.M.

The Marshall City Council met in Regular Session at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, March 21, 2022, in the Council Chambers of the City Office Building, 214 N. Lafayette, Marshall, MO 65340, with the following members present: Mayor Julie M. Schwetz; Council Members Dewey Hendrix, Kirk Arends, Leon Thompson, Robert Ashford, Charles Guthrey, Craig Thompson and Phesa Wright; City Administrator JD Kehrman, City Counselor Josh Taylor and City Clerk Julie Lewis. Council Member Dan Brandt present via video conference.

Council Member Hendrix made a motion, seconded by Leon Thompson, to approve the agenda. A roll call vote was taken with Arends, Leon Thompson, Ashford, Guthrey, Craig Thompson, Brandt, Wright and Hendrix voting aye. Motion carried.

Council Member Leon Thompson made a motion, seconded by Arends, to approve the Special Session minutes of March 3, 2022 and Regular Session minutes of March 7, 2022. A roll call vote was taken with Leon Thompson, Ashford, Guthrey, Craig Thompson, Brandt, Wright, Hendrix and Arends voting aye. Motion carried.

BUSINESS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Tim Reeder, 1109 S. Redwing, spoke to the Council regarding the proposal to enter into a contract for solid waste collection services within the City of Marshall. Mr. Reeder urged extreme caution and explained his concerns stating this contract is “all or nothing”. Clearing out the mechanical inventory would leave the City with nothing to use if a need were to arise. Mr. Reeder said he was on the Council 25 years ago when the City received a directive from MDNR to close our landfill and this was entertained at that time but citizens did not want to lose their trash service so they decided to make it work. The City of Marshall serves as a model for towns of our size and once this decision is made, there is no going back. Please consider tabling the ordinance this evening.

Gary Morrow, a non-resident, spoke against the proposed ordinance. He is a roll-off dumpster contractor, along with about 8 or 9 others in this area, and feels the proposed contract will put him and others out of business.

City Administrator JD Kehrman explained it is not applicable to roll-off containers.

Wayne McReynolds, 25 E. Rosehill, asked if paper recycling would still be the same and who would provide dumpster maintenance.

City Administrator Kehrman said paper recycling would continue under the same arrangement and the contractor would be responsible for dumpster maintenance.

Mike Harlow, 405 Shamrock, asked what will happen to Sanitation employees.

City Administrator Kehrman stated many are here this evening. There will be no displacements; they will be given the choice to stay with the City or be employed by RTS Waste Services. No employees will be dismissed.

Mr. Harlow said the railroad tracks behind Eastwood School are overgrown and need to be maintained.

Carter Fawkes, 579 S. Davis, asked if the City will still do the billing and if there will be a rate increase. Also, will the City collect administrative fees for doing the billing for RTS?

City Administrator Kehrman said MMU performs the billing and will continue. There will not be a rate increase passed on to the citizens. He is currently discussing administrative fees with MMU.

Mr. Fawkes asked if this will be cash positive for the City, will RTS perform the services for less?

City Administrator Kehrman said the contract will provide for impact and administrative fees that will be directed to the street fund.

Mr. Fawkes asked how customer disputes will be handled.

Mr. Kehrman indicated the contract language provides for disputes to be settled within 24 hours and complaints will be reported to him. Anyone who has issues with the service can contact the City of Marshall directly.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PROPERTY, FINANCE, BUDGET AND AUDIT COMMITTEE:

No report.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CODE COMMITTEE:

Council Member Leon Thompson reported the Board of Building Code Enforcement will conduct hearings on March 24, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.

The Marshall Park Department is developing a master plan and seeking public input via a survey. Please go to the Park's website or Facebook page to fill out the survey. A total of 600 completed surveys are needed and they currently have approximately 490.

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:

Council Member Hendrix gave the Police Department report for the month of February:

Traffic Stops – 156

Officers Calls for Service – 1065

Arrests – 34

Municipal Court Warrants – 5

Police Reports Taken – 123

Offenses Reported to NIBRS – 89

Public Relations:

The weather is starting to turn warmer during the day and evening hours. This means more people will be outside walking, riding their bicycles or motorcycles. Drivers need to watch for these individuals and give them room on the road.

Drivers also need to slow down and be attentive to children playing in residential neighborhoods.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

City Administrator JD Kerhman explained the Council authorized a contract for street work last year and an additional amendment with pricing locked in. There has been some discussion regarding adding more streets, however, based on the fund balance, the City should stay with the streets already chosen.

Council Member Arends indicated the budget will allow for \$300,000.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

No report.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Schwetz said work is being done to demolish the structure at Morrow and Odell. She thanked Remco Demolition for their work.

DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE FOLLOW UP

MOWING BIDS:

Code Official Mike Morgan said bids were opened on March 15, 2022 for mowing services at the City Office Building, Martin Community Center and Municipal Court Building. It is his recommendation to accept the bid of Goodman Lawncare in the amount of \$100 per mowing.

Council Member Hendrix made a motion, seconded by Arends, to accept the bid as presented. A roll call vote was taken with Ashford, Guthrey, Craig Thompson, Brandt, Wright, Hendrix, Arends and Leon Thompson voting aye. Motion carried.

CHEMICAL LAWN TREATMENT BIDS:

Code Official Mike Morgan said bids were opened on March 15, 2022 for lawn care services at the City Office Building, Martin Community Center and Municipal Court Building. It is his recommendation to accept the bid of E Z Green in the amount of \$1,185.00.

Council Member Ashford made a motion, seconded by Craig Thompson, to approve the bid as presented. A roll call vote was taken with Guthrey, Craig Thompson, Brandt, Wright, Hendrix, Arends, Leon Thompson and Ashford voting aye. Motion carried.

2022 STREET PROGRAM:

City Administrator JD Kehrman said the proposed street program was explained during the Municipal Services Committee report.

Council Member Arends made a motion, seconded by Guthrey, to approve the 2022 Street Program as presented by the Municipal Services Committee in the amount of \$287,998. A roll call vote was taken with Craig Thompson, Brandt, Wright, Hendrix, Arends, Leon Thompson, Ashford and Guthrey voting aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION

A resolution entitled “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF MARSHALL, MISSOURI, TO EXECUTE A CONSENT TO SUBLEASE REGARDING CERTAIN FARM PROPERTY OWNED BY THE CITY OF MARSHALL” was read by title only.

Administrator Kehrman explained the resolution will provide for a sub-lease to allow AgIdeas to expand their operations.

Council Member Wright inquired about the details of the sublease.

Mr. Kehrman explained this gives the City’s consent to the current contract holder to allow for a sublease with AgIdeas, but does not extend past the contract’s original terms.

Council Member Hendrix made a motion, seconded by Ashford, to approve the resolution. A roll call vote was taken with Brandt, Wright, Hendrix, Arends, Leon Thompson, Ashford, Guthrey and Craig Thompson voting aye. The resolution is thereupon declared passed, so endorsed by the President of the Council, approved by the Mayor and numbered Resolution No. 2022-3.

ORDINANCES

An ordinance entitled “AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF MARSHALL, MISSOURI, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MARSHALL AND RTS WASTE SERVICES LLC FOR THE PROVISION OF SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES IN THE CITY OF MARSHALL” was given its first reading by title only.

Council Member Hendrix made a motion, seconded by Wright, to table the ordinance due to some issues he sees with the agreement.

Council Member Arends discussed the number of employees within the Municipal Services Department and the starting pay range.

Council Member Guthrey discussed the possibility of replacing the City’s equipment if the agreement didn’t work out.

Mr. Tim Reeder said some residents are willing to have a rate increase in order to keep the service with the City.

Hobby King asked if other bids were received.

City Administrator JD Kehrman said initially other quotes were sought but it was determined to negotiate strictly with RTS, which is allowable under the City's code.

David Kruger, owner of RTS Waste Services, LLC, encouraged everyone with concerns to contact Kirksville, Missouri regarding the services provided by RTS. RTS has been in Saline County for 21 years with approximately 30,000 customers in 30 cities. He explained they have 32 employees now and are continually expanding. Their average gross weekly pay is \$979.40. The positive consideration of the proposed agreement would give the Municipal Services department the chance to focus on streets.

Council Member Arends discussed additional commercial collections with Mr. Kruger.

Council Member Wright asked Mr. Kruger if there are racial disparities within his organization or if he has had complaints of that nature.

Mr. Kruger indicated his company is not like that and that he has not received complaints of that nature.

Council Member Arends stated most people he has spoken with do not care who picks up the trash, just that it is picked up. He said with the discussion this evening he would agree that the Council needs more information.

Mayor Schwetz asked how do we get caught up on streets?

Bill Anderson said we need to fill the empty spots and work on ways to encourage new hires to stay.

Council Member Leon Thompson spoke about keeping track of street employees that transition to sanitation when there is not enough help in relation to the separate sanitation and street funds.

Mayor Schwetz indicated there is a motion on the floor, made by Hendrix, seconded by Wright, to table the ordinance. A roll call vote was taken with Wright, Hendrix, Arends, Leon Thompson, Ashford, Guthrey, Craig Thompson and Brandt voting aye. Motion carried.

An ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF MARSHALL, MISSOURI, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MARSHALL, MISSOURI, AND SALINE COUNTY, MISSOURI" was given its first reading by title only.

City Counselor Josh Taylor explained the ordinance will provide for an annual agreement with Saline County for the provision of emergency management services. The County will collect an assessment of \$20,930.83 from the City of Marshall.

Council Member Ashford made a motion, seconded by Hendrix, to approve the first reading. A roll call vote was taken with Arends, Leon Thompson, Ashford, Guthrey, Craig Thompson, Brandt, Wright and Hendrix voting aye. Motion carried.

An ordinance entitled “AN ORDINANCE MAKING THE APPROPRIATION FOR THE PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS OUT OF THE DIFFERENT CITY FUNDS” was given its first reading by title only.

Council Member Hendrix made a motion, seconded by Guthrey, to take the ordinance to a second reading. A roll call vote was taken with Ashford, Guthrey, Craig Thompson, Brandt, Wright, Hendrix, Arends and Leon Thompson voting aye. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 8668 entitled “AN ORDINANCE MAKING THE APPROPRIATION FOR THE PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS OUT OF THE DIFFERENT CITY FUNDS” was given its second reading by title only and put to its final passage and approval upon motion of Guthrey, seconded by Craig Thompson. A roll call vote was taken with Guthrey, Craig Thompson, Brandt, Wright, Hendrix, Arends, Leon Thompson and Ashford voting aye. The ordinance is thereupon declared passed and so endorsed by the President of the Council and approved by the Mayor.

OTHER COUNCIL BUSINESS

There being no other Council Business, Council Member Hendrix made a motion, seconded by Arends to adjourn the meeting. A roll call vote was taken with Craig Thompson, Brandt, Wright, Hendrix, Arends, Leon Thompson, Ashford and Guthrey voting aye. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Julie A. Lewis, City Clerk