

Westphalia Board of Aldermen Meeting Minutes for March 28, 2023

The Westphalia Board of Aldermen meeting was called to order by Mayor Tammy Massman. Aldermen present were Aldermen Delbert Wieberg, Stanley Heckman, Jake Plassmeyer and Lori Asel. Others present at the meeting were Curtis Wheat of Mid Mo Operations, and Theresa Brandt-UD reporter.

The meeting minutes from the February monthly meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Alderman Stanley Heckman and was seconded by Alderman Jake Plassmeyer, to approve the February monthly minutes. Aldermen votes: Delbert Wieberg-yes, Stanley Heckman-yes, Jake Plassmeyer-yes, and Lori Asel-yes.

The March monthly expense report was reviewed. The city expenses note the amount of \$11,543.00, sewer system expenses in the amount of \$7,841.45, special road district expenses in the amount of \$1,569.40. City receipts in the amount of \$10,830.57, sewer system receipts in the amount of \$9,361.71, and special road district receipts in the amount of \$11,154.52. Total city checking account balance of \$167,321.53, total sewer system checking account balance of \$58,494.84, total special road district checking account balance of \$58,667.87, and total special road district savings account balance of \$5,114.48. Total city CDs in the amount of \$440,910.78, total sewer system CDs in the amount of \$523,787.84, and total special road district CDs in the amount of \$524,104.51. A motion was made by Alderman Delbert Wieberg, and was seconded by Alderman Stanley Heckman to approve the March monthly expense report. Aldermen votes: Delbert Wieberg-yes, Stanley Heckman-yes, Jake Plassmeyer-yes, and Lori Asel-yes.

The sewer system report was next on the agenda. Mayor Massman acknowledged that a report was submitted by Mid MO Operations. Sewer operator-Curtis Wheat reported to the council that the plant and all lift stations are currently running well. Wheat continued, stating that soil and sludge samples had been collected and the results were all within normal limits to proceed with land application. Operators were hoping to have sludge removed before all the rain came, but Engineering Survey and Services, the agency that performs the city's testing, had an analysis machine go down and samples had to be sent out to another agency. The delay in obtaining results has now delayed application, due to unfavorable weather conditions and the ground being saturated. Sludge will be hauled as soon as the weather and ground permits. Operators will coordinate sludge hauling with Shawn York-Mid Mo Environmental again. If land application cannot occur within the next 3 weeks, operators may need to look into having sludge hauled out to a disposing plant. Operators will keep Mayor Massman apprised. The UV light system bulbs have been installed and they are up and running. A bolster is out on one of the lamps. Prices are being gathered to have it replaced. Quarterly samples have been collected. Operators will work with Mayor Massman to submit 1st quarter reports to DNR in the next few weeks. Wheat did request that weed killer and large trash bags be purchased. Mayor Massman will order these supplies for the sewer operators.

Alderman Delbert Wieberg reported that since the last meeting, he and sewer operator, Aaron Lachowicz were able to locate all but one of the remaining missing manholes. Wieberg voiced that the manhole near the Mill, noted on the maps to be located near their propane tanks, is buried and needs to be raised to grade. Attempts were made to dig down a foot or so to expose it, but efforts were unsuccessful. Wieberg continued reporting that the camera exploration of the line to the backflow preventer on the Maurice Wilde property proved there are no blockages or breaks in the line. Alderman Wieberg questions now if the valves are working properly on the backflow preventer and would like to see it dug up and physically tested, explaining that water should not be bubbling up at the site when the power is off if the backflow preventer were working properly. Lastly, Alderman Wieberg noted that even though repairs were made to the manhole near the Dollar General store, it appears that the seal is still leaking. Operator Wheat noted that the identified concerns that Wieberg was speaking of are things that could be attended to, but were not urgent items. Operator Wheat reported that even since repairs have been made to the manholes, there is still some I&I being recorded, but the amounts of I&I are much lower and are not affecting the lift stations, especially at the

Westphalia Board of Aldermen Meeting Minutes for March 28, 2023 (continued)

Hwy 63 lift station as it had been before. Mayor Massman requested clarification on what the issue was with the manhole near the Dollar General, since it had been thought to have been repaired. Alderman Wieberg reported that originally it simply was buried, following the construction of the store. Contractor-Mike Moeller did raise the manhole to grade, but did not have time to adequately re-seal it due to weather issues. Wieberg suggested that the manhole be excavated again, in August, during the dry season and more properly sealed again. He additionally recommended application of bentonite in and around the area to address some of the ongoing dampness. Operator Wheat questioned if there was a natural spring in the area where the manhole is located, causing the ground to consistently be damp. Alderman Wieberg motioned to have the 3 issues he raised attended to; the manhole repairs at the Mill and Dollar General sites, and further investigations into the functioning of the backflow preventer. Mayor Massman questioned if Wieberg was wanting Mike Moeller to assist again, or any other contractor; recommending that bid proposals for the projects be obtained so that council members can consider costs associated for the work; noting that the sewer operators are not identifying the issues as emergent needs. Wieberg was agreeable to help with solicitation of bids to present to the council.

Mayor Massman continued the meeting with the next agenda item-Budget. Mayor Massman provided a modified handout, with adjustments made to the proposed budget template following last month's meeting discussions. Council members were reminded that this working document is proposed for the upcoming fiscal year 2023-2024, which outlines each account separately, following a combined proposal page for the city, sewer and special road district. Mayor Massman reviewed and discussed the items on the budget explaining that only potential increases for revenue are anticipated yet were for interest income and a deposit for Osage County Road tax. These will be complete once banking statements are received at the end of the month. Mayor Massman reported that an invoice for salt is still outstanding. No additional expenses are anticipated to close out the current fiscal year. Mayor Massman denoted the proposed combined budget is reflecting a positive balance of \$4,428.00. A motion was made by Alderman Stanley Heckman and was seconded by Alderman Jake Plassmeyer, to approve the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year 2023-2024. Aldermen votes: Delbert Wieberg-yes, Stanley Heckman-yes, Jake Plassmeyer-yes, and Lori Asel-yes. Mayor Massman will sign off on the budget template and forward a copy to the city's accountant and State of Missouri-Auditor's office.

The meeting continued with other business. Alderman Wieberg reported he had not yet had time to arrange a meeting with All Seasons Roofing to look into potential roofing repairs on the city hall building and the salt shed. Roofing estimates from local contractors are also planned to be pursued. The topic will be tabled until next month.

Mayor Massman reported that 27 of the 29 business license renewal invoices have been paid. Second notice letters have been sent. Current business licenses become void after March 31st if renewals are not paid. Phone contact will be initiated by Mayor Massman for those businesses outstanding.

Mayor Massman reminded the council that elections will be held next Tuesday, April 4th and encouraged members to remind community members to go and vote.

The next city meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

A motion to adjourn the regular meeting was made by Alderman Stanley Heckman, and seconded by Alderman Lori Asel. Aldermen votes: Delbert Wieberg-yes, Stanley Heckman-yes, Jake Plassmeyer-yes, and Lori Asel-yes.