

Westphalia Board of Aldermen Meeting Minutes for November 28, 2023

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

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

The November monthly expense report was reviewed. The city expenses note the amount of \$2,288.94, sewer system expenses in the amount of \$6,946.98, ARPA expenses in the amount of \$2,642.00, special road district expenses in the amount of \$369.40. City receipts in the amount of \$11,675.08, sewer system receipts in the amount of \$8,955.15, and special road district receipts in the amount of \$15.00. Total city checking account balance of \$166,958.14, total sewer system checking account balance of \$65,735.13, total special road district checking account balance of \$70,716.52, ARPA checking account balance of \$60,530.57 and total special road district savings account balance of \$5,117.83. Total city CDs in the amount of \$445,633.43, total sewer system CDs in the amount of \$528,815.01, and total special road district CDs in the amount of \$531,539.18. A motion was made by Alderman Delbert Wieberg, and was seconded by Alderman Stanley Heckman to approve the November 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 new blower motor will be in later this week and will be installed by operators. The chain on the clarifier rake has been replaced. The gear box shaft was noticed to have some play in it and a bearing appears to be going out. Operators will do some research into having it replaced and will present costs to Mayor Massman for circulation to council members for approval or will be further discussed at the next meeting if cost is greater than expected. Manhole inspections are 98% complete. Wheat questioned council members if it was necessary to inspect the manholes that are bolted down. It was a concern that if the seal was opened it may risk tearing up the gaskets. Aldermen unanimously agreed it was not necessary to open the manholes bolted down. Wheat noted that there was concern noted with extra flow at the residence along Co Rd 512. The homeowner reported to operators that the water district had been looking in the area for a potential water leak. Alderman Wieberg reported that the area had been investigated previously and noted that there was a drop in the line that is causing the overflow splashing sound between the two manholes in that area. No concerns related for the sewer system was revealed. The plant and lift stations are operating well with no other issues noted. Fourth quarter samples have been collected and results were all passing. The UV lights were pulled November 1st and were placed in storage. Alderman Wieberg addressed the council with a desire to solicit bids to replace the 4x4 air tubing replaced on the air manifolds. Operator Wheat agreed that the repair was warranted given the amount of rusting on the current one. Alderman Wieberg volunteered to work on obtaining bids and develop a scope of work for the project, alongside sewer operators input, and present to council members.

In other business, housekeeping topics were addressed. Mayor Massman noted that publication ads for the 2024 election notice and the Annual Westphalia Christmas Home Decorating Contest have been placed in the UD and on the city's website.

Next, Mayor Massman provided an update regarding a motion approved during the October meeting, to have Linn Street surveyed. Mayor Massman noted that pricing information for the said survey per Central Mo

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Professional Services was anticipated to cost in the area of \$5,000.00. Mayor Massman voiced she paused the request for the work with Central Mo Professional Services until further input could be gathered from council members. Mayor Massman questioned if this was an amount that the council members were agreeable to spending, in hind sight, or whether the motion needed to be rescinded or modified at the least. Mayor Massman provided information as to why the cost was going to be so elated, noting that all properties and deeds of the adjoin properties on both sides of the roadways would need to be investigated and surveyed to establish all lines. Mayor Massman noted further that based on the review thus far of the deeds only associated with the Senior Housing Complex that there was nothing noted in the deed search that constituted a width parameter for right of way and that there were no stipulations for responsibility of repairs or maintenance to the city off street of the roadway itself. Aldermen agreed that they did not anticipate the reported anticipated cost. Alderman Delbert Wieberg made a motion, and was seconded by Alderman Jake Plassmeyer to rescind the motion to have Linn Street surveyed. Aldermen votes: Delbert Wieberg-yes, Stanley Heckman-yes, Jake Plassmeyer-yes, and Lori Asel-yes. The topic was further discussed among council members on how to proceed. Conversation circled back to the need for the Senior Housing Complex property to be surveyed. Mayor Massman shared that per Central Mo Professional Services, any property can be requested to be surveyed by anyone, but that they too questioned why the city would want to pay for a survey of property that was not theirs and there were no plans for the property to be purchased by the city. Recommendations from the city's attorney were reiterated regarding repairs and maintenance of personal property and potential increased concerns for liability risks. Conversation continued. A motion was made by Alderman Delbert Wieberg, and was seconded by Alderman Jake Plassmeyer to approve a survey of the Senior Housing Complex property to establish property lines. Aldermen votes: Delbert Wieberg-yes, Stanley Heckman-yes, Jake Plassmeyer-yes, and Lori Asel-yes. Alderman Plassmeyer questioned if there should be some kind of long-term plan put in place to address roadside maintenance issues, some sort of maintenance agreement for all properties within the city limit. Mayor Massman cautioned how large of a project and how expensive entertaining this kind of proposal would be. Aldermen agreed to continue to look at roadway concerns individually. Alderman Asel expressed concern that Central Mo Professional Services may be more expensive than using a surveyor within Osage County. Mayor Massman offered to verify pricing with both surveying companies and alert board members if there were large discrepancies in pricing.

The next city meeting date was set for Tuesday, December 19, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

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