

The Board of Alderman met on September 20, 2018 and took the following actions:

The board passed two ordinances, one annexed a property into the city owned by Barry Patton at 1692 W. Highway 47, Troy MO 63379. The other ordinance Amended Section 500.035 to delete Section R302.13 – Fire protection of floors, in its entirety.

The board discussed and authorized the Mayor to sign an amendment to Work Order 005 and Standard Terms and Conditions Agreement with a Scope of Service with Woodard & Curran on Wastewater Treatment Plant Project.

Discussed and authorized the Mayor to sign a Local Public Agency Negotiator Services Agreement with Bill Hampton Enterprises LLC regarding Cherry Street Improvements, Project STP-9900(387). The discussion included a list of those property owners that have still not signed Temporary Construction and Permanent Utility easement documents as well as Right of Way documents as needed along Cherry St.

There was a discussion of employee suggestions in lieu of raises. There were some misunderstandings on how to prioritize the listed suggestions, so this item was tabled until further information could be obtained.

The board approved a home occupation-business license submitted by Lucinda Johnston, applicant, for “Cindy’s Place”, a cosmetology business. This site is located at 611 Grand Teton Dr.

The board approved an Eagle Scout Project submitted by Ben Williams to place a Fish Habitat in the Duck Pond at Fairgrounds Park, as recommended by the Park Board.

The board authorized the Mayor to make a grant application with Missouri Department of Transportation, Transportation Alternatives Program (“TAP”) for a sidewalk along Villa Dr. and Crosswalk from Villa Drive across Highway 47 to Walmart Super Center.

Finally, contracts were awarded to Midwest Service Group for mold and asbestos abatement; and Ductz for HVAC cleaning at City Hall. Midwest’s bid was \$27,360.00 and Ductz’s bid was \$36,727.00.

There has been vandalism at the Fairgrounds Park on several occasions and steps are being taken to apprehend those responsible. At the same time, the concession stand was broken into at Fairgrounds Park and several suspects have been questioned regarding the incident. Apparently one adult and three juveniles were involved.

The department has been in contact with Camilia Lynch, who is the Deaf Community Activist for the Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, offering training specifically for Law Enforcement about working with individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing.

On 08/30/2018, at the Super 8 Motel, Lt. Mauzy, Sgt. Streicher, Lt. Tienter, Officer Church, Officer Northrup and Officer McPeak all assisted on the scene of a man who had a heart attack. The utilized the AED and administered two separate shocks and continued with several rounds of CPR until medics and firefighters arrived. The subject survived the incident but subsequently passed away two weeks later.

Chief Taylor, Lt. Tienter and Lt. Mauzy are currently working on a Citizens/Community Police Academy for young adults and middle teens and above to participate in the academy. The program is designed to help build a stronger community relationship with the Police Department. The plan is to have the academy up and running in the next several months.

In Public Works, 255 tons of asphalt was placed in potholes and full depth repairs. Additionally, 70 cubic yards of concrete was used for street repairs.

The City used 43,042,000 gallons of water with the daily maximum being 1,670,000 gallons. On August 27th there was a water main break on 3rd St. near Houghton, Mifflin and Harcourt. Approximately 30,000 gallons of water were lost. While that sounds like a big loss, keep in mind that there are people during these drought conditions that use 40,000 to 60,000 gallons in a month just to water their grass. Please conserve water where, and when, you can.

In the wastewater collection system, three miles of pipe were smoke tested in the following locations; Eastbrook Subdivision, Bluffview Subdivision, Wedgewood Subdivision and along East Cherry St. From this information, a list of priorities was made so that repairs could be made. Additionally, repairs were made to the Eastbrook lift station; twenty manholes were either repaired or resealed. 7,957 feet of Right of Way was brush hogged.

On September 4th, the tornado sirens were tested and the siren at Third St and Travis Blvd was not working. We are in the process of doing an upgrade on this siren, and we should have it back on line soon.

In the Wastewater Treatment Department, we continue to work with MoDNR and EPA on the design and public comments when it comes to our sewer plant upgrades. Now that the crops are out of the fields, we can resume land applying biosolids as opposed to having to pay to have them hauled away.

Sales tax deposits for September of 2018 were 12.50% more than deposits for September of 2017. The 1% Local Sales Tax was 11.89% more, the ½% Transportation Tax was 14.43% more, and the ½% Capital Improvement's Tax was 11.89% more that September of 2017. For the first quarter of FY 2018-2019 our sales tax deposits are up by 9.13%.

All confirmation letters for the FY2018 audit were mailed out at the end of August. When the auditors receive responses to these letters, we will schedule them for the onsite portion of the audit, most likely in October.

The Building Department reported that during the month of August there were 14 permits issued, three of which were new housing starts, with a total valuation of \$448,500.00. Through the first two months of this fiscal year, there have been 29 permits issued, 12 of which were new housing starts, with a total valuation of \$1,600,366.00.

In the Parks Department, the soccer association has been working with the Police Department in trying to keep people from parking on the grass. All the games are played on Sundays, which helps to minimize damage. The Walk to End Alzheimer's will take place October 13th and they will be starting at Troy Middle School.

The Administrative Department has been following up on business license renewals, preparing for cemetery software training, participating in Leadership Troy and setting up mandatory diversity and harassment training for city employees.

I would like to take a moment to talk about the upcoming election on November 6th. One issue I would like to address is Proposition D, which is the fuel tax proposal. Missouri last raised its fuel tax in 1996, 22 years ago. The current tax of 17 cents per gallon when adjusted for inflation is worth 7 cents in today's dollars. Missouri has the 7th largest road system and the 6th largest bridge system in the country but the fuel tax is ranked 49th in the country. Only Alaska has a lower fuel tax. 1,200 of our bridges are weight restricted and more than 900 are rated poor.

As proposed by Prop D, the fuel tax would increase 2.5 cents each year for four years, costing the average driver \$1.25 more per month. The money would be constitutionally designated to be used on roads and bridges, and it would be regularly audited. More importantly it would allow Missouri to get billions of dollars of Federal Road money. Those Federal dollars are the federal fuel taxes that each of us pay when we fill up and if Missouri doesn't have the necessary matching funds, our federal tax dollars will go to other states to fix and maintain their roads and bridges.

When fully implemented, there will be an additional \$412 million dollars available to repair and maintain Missouri's roads and bridges. The state would receive 70% of the money, and counties and cities would receive the other 30%. That 30%, or \$124 million, would be divided 50-50 between counties and cities based on their population. Lincoln County would receive an additional \$629,399.00 and Troy would receive \$165,785.00. All the other cities in Lincoln County would get a combined \$117,370.00.

I'm no different than anyone else, I don't want to pay any more taxes than necessary, but all you need to do is drive around and you will see that Missouri needs to do something before all of the roads return to gravel. I would hope that no one wants that to happen. So, I ask you to please consider voting YES on Prop D on November 6, 2018 for safer roads and bridges.

That is all I have for this month. If you have any problems or questions, please call City Hall and I will be happy to talk to you. In the meantime, be safe, be kind to one another and God bless you all.