

March 24, 2020

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the Council meeting is being conducted through the use of a Webinar invite in which all members of the City Council, staff and citizens are participating in the meeting remotely. Section 610.015 of the Mo. Sunshine Law provides that members of the Council who are not physically in the Council Chambers can participate and vote on all matters when an emergency exists and the nature of the emergency is stated in the minutes. Thus, these minutes reflect that the U.S., and the world, is in a state of emergency due to the Coronavirus—COVID-19. The Missouri Governor and the County Executive have issued Orders directing all citizens to “stay at home” and no meetings and gatherings of 10 or more people can take place. These Orders are intended to avoid the spread of the Coronavirus. Therefore, all members of the City Council, and staff, are participating in this meeting electronically as matter of public health and safety for each other and the general public.

The March 24, 2020 City Council meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m., Mayor Barry Greenberg presiding.

ON ROLL CALL, the following members were present: Mayor Greenberg, Councilmember Crader, Councilmember Faulkingham, Councilmember Pardini, Councilmember Schmidt and Councilmember Wood.

MOTION TO EXCUSE COUNCILPERSON: Councilmember Wood motioned to excuse Councilmember Phillips, duly seconded by Councilmember Faulkingham and was approved by the Council.

APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL AGENDA: Councilmember Wood motioned to approve, duly seconded by Councilmember Faulkingham, which motion received the approval of the Council.

PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE INPUT ON HOW THE CITY SHOULD ALLOCATE \$64,000 IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS WHICH WILL BECOME AVAILABLE AFTER JANUARY 1, 2021: No one spoke.

PUBLIC FORUM: No one spoke.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Councilmember Wood announced that Municipal Elections have been postponed from April 7 to June 2, 2020.

**R20-13, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MAPLEWOOD, MISSOURI, AUTHORIZING THE SELECTION OF OATES & ASSOCIATES AND ITS SUBCONSULTANTS TO PROVIDE ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION OVERSIGHT SERVICES FOR STP-5536(613) MANCHESTER ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT** was introduced. It was moved by Councilmember Wood and seconded by Councilmember Faulkingham to approve the resolution, which motion received the following roll call vote: Ayes, Mayor Greenberg, members Crader, Faulkingham, Pardini, Schmidt and Wood. Nays, none.

**R20-14**, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MAPLEWOOD, MISSOURI, AUTHORIZING TO ACCEPT THE BID OF SPENCER CONTRACTING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$829,954.85 FOR STREET, SIDEWALK AND POOL PARKING LOT CONSTRUCTION WITH A CONTINGENCY OF 7% OR \$58,096.84 FOR A TOTAL OF \$888,051.69 was introduced. It was moved by Councilmember Wood and seconded by Councilmember Faulkingham to approve the resolution, which motion received the following roll call vote: Ayes, Mayor Greenberg, members Crader, Faulkingham, Pardini, Schmidt and Wood. Nays, none.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF 2020 MAPLEWOOD FAMILY AQUATIC CENTER FEES: Acting City Manager Traxler indicated the pool fees are being recommended based on an analysis by Parks Director Teresa Proebsting of 14 area pools. The City Council approved the fees by a voice vote.

**BILL 6137**, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MAPLEWOOD, MISSOURI, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A MISSOURI HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION ROAD RELINQUISHMENT AGREEMENT FOR MANCHESTER ROAD BETWEEN BIG BEND BOULEVARD WEST TO BARTOLD AVENUE, A DISTANCE OF 0.41 MILES was given its third and final reading. It was moved by Councilmember Wood, duly seconded by Councilmember Faulkingham, that Bill No. 6137 be approved, which motion received the following roll call vote: Ayes, members Crader, Faulkingham, Mayor Greenberg, Pardini, Schmidt and Wood. Nays, none.

BILL NO. 6137 was approved by the City Council on this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020 as **Ordinance Number 5932**.

DISCUSSION OF 2021 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS: The Council discussed using block grant funds for home improvement and utility assistance. Anthony Traxler indicated we do not need to vote on this until the April 28<sup>th</sup> meeting to meet the submittal deadline for the block grant. Staff was directed by the Council to look into other options for the subsistence program to include other items such as mortgage or rent payments. Both the home improvement loan program and the subsistence payment program will be promoted in a future newsletter.

PUBLIC FORUM: Jim Jordan requested an ADA bench and shower chair be put in the locker rooms at the Maplewood Family Aquatic Center. Anthony Traxler stated staff will make sure this is addressed. Carla DeRousse thanked the Council for having an on-line meeting and discussing the proposed uses for the block grant funds.

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION: Councilmember Faulkingham wanted to make sure Maplewood takes every effort to keep construction projects moving during the COVID-19 situation. Acting City Manager Traxler indicated we are still conducting inspections provided they can be done safely. Councilmember Pardini thanked Anthony Traxler for managing the city during this difficult transition. She also asked how the telecommunication efforts are for other city employees. Anthony Traxler stated that three additional VPN's were installed yesterday and we are continuing

to transition employees to be able to provide services from home. Councilmember Wood wanted to thank MapleGOOD for their efforts throughout the City of Maplewood.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Greenberg indicated if anyone has computers to donate for commissions such as the Senior Commission, the city would gladly accept these. Mayor Greenberg wondered if the county was still conducting inspections. Anthony Traxler stated as of Friday, they were still doing construction inspection.

**CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:** City Attorney Hessel complimented city staff's handling of the COVID-19 situation.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:** Acting City Manager Traxler stated he will send out budgets for a handful of accounts for the budget work session to be held next Tuesday, March 31, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. This will be another virtual meeting. Mr. Traxler suggested the city extend the business license payment deadline from June 30 to September 1, indicating a desire to help businesses during these difficult times. The City Council unanimously agreed. Mr. Traxler indicated the Republic Services trash request of an indefinite suspension of picking up yard waste and bulky trash items due to driver safety concerns. The Council agreed to this extension until April 30 and can re-evaluate at their April 28, 2020 Council meeting if necessary. Councilmember Crader stated there is a large mattress at High and Yale and would like to see such dumped items picked up if possible so they are not sitting out for an extended period of time. Councilmember Faulkingham wondered if it was possible to have yard waste collection during this time. Mr. Traxler said he would contact Republic to see what could be done.

**MOTION TO HOLD A CLOSED SESSION, IF NEEDED, TO DISCUSS MATTERS RELATING TO LITIGATION, LEGAL ACTIONS AND/OR COMMUNICATION FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY AS PROVIDED FOR IN SECTION 610.021(1)RSMO. AND/OR SPECIFICATIONS FOR COMPETITIVE BIDDING UNDER SECTION 610.021(11) AND/OR SEALED BIDS AND RELATED DOCUMENTS AND SEALED PROPOSALS AND RELATED DOCUMENTS UNDER SECTION 610.021(11) AND/OR PERSONNEL MATTERS UNDER SECTION 610.021(13)RSMO. AND/OR EMPLOYEE MATTERS UNDER SECTION 610.021(3)RSMO. AND/OR REAL ESTATE MATTERS UNDER SECTION 610.021(2)RSMO. AND/OR DOCUMENTS RELATED TO A NEGOTIATED CONTRACT UNDER SECTION 610.021(12)RSMO:** No need.

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned.