

MINUTES
PARK HILLS COUNCIL MEETING
REGULAR SESSION
JUNE 13, 2023

The Park Hills City Council met in regular session Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at the Park Hills Council Chambers. Mayor Stacey Easter called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The invocation was given by City Attorney, Nathan Bollinger and Mayor Easter led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was as follows:

Councilman David Easter	Present
Councilwoman Spring Gray	Present
Councilman Alan Coleman	Present
Councilman Carl Courtois	Absent
Councilman Wayne Cook	Present
Councilwoman Cindi Penberthy	Present
Councilwoman Donna Dettmer	Present
Councilman Steve Weinhold	Present
Mayor Easter	Present

Also present were City Attorney Nathan Bollinger, Deputy City Clerk Kathryn Graves, Parks and Recreation Director Eric Marler, Utilities Director David Pizarro, Assistant Utilities Director John Franks, Senior Center Director Holly Buxton, and Fire Chief Brad Weiss.

MINUTES

Councilwoman Cindi Penberthy made a motion, seconded by Councilman Wayne Cook to approve the minutes of May 9, 2023 meetings as presented. *The motion carried with all in favor on voice vote and no one opposed.*

VISITORS AND DELEGATIONS

- a) **Joyce Termares-** Spoke on fireworks being let off in the city and the safety of residents around them. Councilman Weinhold suggested we take a look at the ordinance again and maybe talk to the Police Dept about unsafe conditions.
- b) **John Mayfield-** Spoke on the status of older buildings needing to be demolished due to other buildings being made to be torn down. John provided pictures of buildings that are still standing that are in worse shape than his are.
- c) **Brad Weiss-** Spoke about the current chicken ordinance and how he would like it revisited to allow for roosters and the sale of eggs within the city limits. He also spoke about the petition that has been started and that it has approximately 180 signatures at the time of the meeting.
- d) **Nancy Warren-** Spoke about the need for clarification of whether there is a right hand turn lane at the stop sign in front of Copper Fox Contrived. If it is not a turn lane, then there needs to be a sign or something posted or if it is, then it needs to be marked.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Bill#1578-An ordinance authorizing use of ARPA funds for a water furnace and related parts and services for City Hall. Mayor Easter read Bill# 1578 two times by title. Councilman Cook made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Penberthy to approve Bill#1578 as presented. Roll call was as follows:

Councilman David Easter	Yes
Councilwoman Spring Gray	Yes
Councilman Alan Coleman	Yes
Councilman Carl Courtois	Absent
Councilman Wayne Cook	Yes
Councilwoman Cindi Penberthy	Yes
Councilwoman Donna Dettmer	Yes
Councilman Steve Weinhold	Yes

The motion carried with a vote of 7-0.

Bill #1592 –An ordinance authorizing Clean Water Grant engineering report match for the Utilities Department. Mayor Easter announced that this ordinance was being postponed.

NEW BUSINESS

Bill #1593 –An ordinance amending ordinance 1497-22 pertaining the use of ARPA funds for the purchase of a fire truck. Mayor Easter read Bill #1593 two times by title. Councilman Weinhold made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Dettmer to approve Bill #1593 as presented. Roll call was as follows:

Councilman David Easter	Yes
Councilwoman Spring Gray	Yes
Councilman Alan Coleman	Yes
Councilman Carl Courtois	Absent
Councilman Wayne Cook	Yes
Councilwoman Cindi Penberthy	Yes
Councilwoman Donna Dettmer	Yes
Councilman Steve Weinhold	Yes

The motion carried with a vote of 7-0.

Bill #1594 – An ordinance approving ECC to modify the SCADA system for the Utilities Department. Mayor Easter read Bill #1594 two times by title. Councilman Coleman made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Gray to approve Bill #1594 as presented. Roll call was as follows:

Councilman David Easter	Yes
Councilwoman Spring Gray	Yes
Councilman Alan Coleman	Yes
Councilman Carl Courtois	Absent
Councilman Wayne Cook	Yes
Councilwoman Cindi Penberthy	Yes

Councilwoman Donna Dettmer Yes
Councilman Steve Weinhold Yes

The motion carried with a vote of 7-0.

Bill #1595 – An ordinance approving use of ARPA funds for the Park Hills Public Library Elevator. Mayor Easter read Bill #1595 two times by title. Councilman Weinhold made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Gray to approve Bill #1595 as presented. Roll call was as follows:

Councilman David Easter Yes
Councilwoman Spring Gray Yes
Councilman Alan Coleman Yes
Councilman Carl Courtois Absent
Councilman Wayne Cook Yes
Councilwoman Cindi Penberthy Yes
Councilwoman Donna Dettmer Yes
Councilman Steve Weinhold Yes

The motion carried with a vote of 7-0.

Resolution# 282 -A resolution authorizing and agreement between the City of Park Hills Senior Center and Southeast Missouri Area Agency on Aging. Mayor Easter read Resolution #282. Councilman Easter made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Dettmer to approve Resolution #282 as presented.

The motion carried with an all in favor on voice vote and no one opposed. The Resolution passed by majority.

Bill #1596 – An ordinance approving a mowing contract with R&B Tree Services & Landscaping for Code Enforcement violations. Mayor Easter read Bill #1596 two times by title. Councilwoman Penberthy made a motion, seconded by Councilman Cook to approve Bill #1596 as presented. Roll call was as follows:

Councilman David Easter Yes
Councilwoman Spring Gray Yes
Councilman Alan Coleman Yes
Councilman Carl Courtois Absent
Councilman Wayne Cook Yes
Councilwoman Cindi Penberthy Yes
Councilwoman Donna Dettmer Yes
Councilman Steve Weinhold Abstained

The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

DISCUSSION

- a) **Home Businesses and Kennels-** It was brought up that someone is wanting to have a Bunnies and Bees home based business. City Attorney Bollinger spoke about how there is no city ordinance to allow or deny this kind of business and as well as no clear code pertaining to this subject. Council needs to determine whether or not they are going to be allowed and regulated like chickens. A permit process can be set up like a Special Use Permit to be approved on a case-by-case basis. Councilwoman Penberthy stated that she feels this needs to be discussed further. Mayor Easter has assigned this discussion for the Community Development Committee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

3 Committees had meetings this past month.

Personnel Committee – Chairman Carl Courtois

Councilman Courtois was absent so Councilwoman Gray spoke about how they spoke with our insurance broker and things are looking really good right now as far as.... She also stated that the Personnel manual is still under review at this time.

Public Works, Utilities Committee

Councilman Alan Coleman spoke about how the SCADA system updates were given the go ahead to pass on to City Council, the Clean Water grant that was tabled, and that the Busenbark property that is needing new services is on hold due to some supply chain issues. He also spoke about the storm drains on Reinke pooling up and that the Utilities Dept. is supposed to be dyeing the water to see where it is all coming from but they are not anywhere with that yet.

Community Development, Code Enforcement, Ordinance Committee – Chairman Steve Weinhold

Councilman Weinhold spoke about how Community Development had a meeting to discuss the chicken ordinance that was open to the public but there was no one in attendance to oppose what is being proposed. He stated the current ordinance would have to be amended to allow the sale of chickens and eggs, and to allow the slaughtering of chickens, which would also have to allow at-will inspections for compliance. He also spoke about the nuisance ordinance and that it would need to be more strictly enforced by imposing the max of up to \$500.00 fine and/or 3 months in jail. It was also discussed that owners of animals at large need to be held accountable and that animal control needs to be given more power to deal with the control of wild animals and strays.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S DISCUSSION

City Administrator Zach Franklin spoke about a MODOT Stip Grant and that it is 100% funded for Road & Bridge and Multi-Modal purposes. They will choose 3 projects in the county that will then be scored as to need. There are 1-3 projects that are selected each year by MODOT and must be completed within a 5 year time frame.

He had the chance to tour with EMAA New Foundations Construction and learn about their program to teach and provide resources for individuals to gain experience in the industry for sustainable skills that would help them in the future. New Foundations Construction is a pilot program through EMAA that builds and rehabilitates affordable housing in our area. As a not-for-profit entity, any money received goes back into the program. They currently have approximately 9 projects going within Park Hills.

City Admin Franklin also spoke about how he has been networking with City Administrators from surrounding areas to tap into their institutional knowledge, to learn about their successes and failures, and to collaborate with them so that we can all succeed in our municipalities.

After speaking with Public Works Director Cody Govreau, it was decided that while our Adopt a Sidewalk program is great and has a lot of interest, it needs to be put on hold right now so the Public Works Department can catch up with current projects and deal with more derelict projects.

In housekeeping news, weekly staff meetings are being held with Department Heads which has been great for collaboration and problem solving. One on one check-ins are being held with department heads biweekly.

He also gave an update on the Aquatic Center progress and that everything was going as planned, 70% of the main plumbing was already finished, and that they are still on pace for the project to be finished in April of 2024.

CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Councilwoman Penberthy brought up how some of the city's fire hydrants are really faded and need a facelift. Then discussed that we need to be enforcing that when yard sales are over, the signs need to be removed. She also gave a special thanks to the Water Department for getting the water main break on Watts Street taken care of swiftly. Councilwoman Penberthy then brought up the memorial sign that Greg McWilliams would like to install which was then presented by Mayor Easter.

Mayor Easter spoke about how the sign would be to recognize those in our city government that have passed. Mr. McWilliams would pay for the sign himself and donate it to the city. Horton Wampler will do the engraving for \$1 per letter. He would also like to do a fund raiser making it \$2 per letter with the extra \$1 going back into the memorial fund to possibly cover the cost of a rock boarder going around the granite. It was stated that this needs to be looked into further with no objections.

Councilman Coleman gave a shout out to Public Works for the work that they have done on Dix St and that the 7th St MODOT issue is still on hold.

MAYOR'S DISCUSSION

Mayor Easter met with Police Chief McFarland about implementing a kind of "Park Watch Program" which would be similar to a Neighborhood Watch Program to help curb the vandalism that is happening in our city parks. Councilman Coleman stated that some places have an electronic reporting process to help with that kind of program.

She also discussed how previous work sessions were changed to committee meetings but that she would like to possibly see them going back to work sessions. Councilman Easter expressed that he is good with going back to work sessions and feels that the committee meetings are a waste of time. Councilwoman Penberthy stated that she misses the work sessions. Councilman Coleman stated that he feels the committee meetings are misused as 2nd council meetings. Mayor Easter feels, now that we have City Admin Franklin and City Clerk Brandy Marler, work sessions would be great to have again. Councilman Weinhold and Councilwoman Dettmer stated the are all for it.

Mayor Easter praised City Admin Franklin for doing a phenomenal job so far, stating that he is much needed leadership and that he is guiding staff in a great way!

She ended her discussion stating that this has been a long rough year and thanking everyone for all their hard work.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

No report

ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilwoman Penberthy made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Gray to adjourn to executive session as requested by Mayor Easter to discuss matters pertaining to:

- (a) legal actions, causes of action or litigation involving a public governmental body and any confidential or privileged communications between a public governmental body or its representatives and its attorneys as authorized by Section 610.021 (1) RSMo.
- (b) leasing, purchase or sale of real estate by a public governmental body where public knowledge of the transaction might adversely affect the legal consideration therefore as authorize by Section 610.021 (2) RSMo.
- (c) and hiring, firing, disciplining or promoting of particular employees by a public governmental body when personal information about the employee is discussed or recorded as authorized by Section 610.021 (3) RSMo. Roll call was as follows:

Councilman David Easter	Present
Councilwoman Spring Gray	Present
Councilman Alan Coleman	Present
Councilman Carl Courtois	Absent
Councilman Wayne Cook	Present
Councilwoman Cindi Penberthy	Present
Councilwoman Donna Dettmer	Present
Councilman Steve Weinhold	Present
Mayor Easter	Present

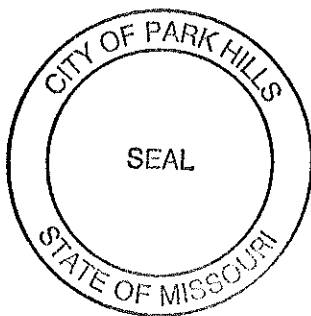
The motion carried with a vote of 7-0. The meeting adjourned to executive session at 7:15p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The City Council reconvened in regular session and Councilwoman Dettmer made a motion, seconded by Councilman Gray to adjourn. *The motion carried with all in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.*

Kathryn Graves
Kathryn Graves, Deputy City Clerk

Approved by City Council this 11th day of July, 2023.



Stacey Easter
Mayor