

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
CITY OF BRANSON, MISSOURI
SEPTEMBER 24, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Branson, Missouri, met in Regular Session in the Council Chambers of the City Hall on September 24, 2024 at 6:00 PM. Mayor Milton called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

An invocation was provided by Fire Chief Ted Martin.

ROLL CALL

City Clerk Briand called roll. Present: Mayor Milton, Alderman Artie Lucas, Alderman Ruth Denham, Alderman Clay Cooper, Alderman Marshall Howden, Alderman Ralph LeBlanc, Alderman Glenn Schulz via Zoom. Absent: none.

AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS:

PROCLAMATIONS:

- A. A PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 24, 2024 AS “BRANSON SCENIC RAILWAY DAY” IN BRANSON.

Mayor Milton presented the proclamation.

- B. A PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 27, 2024 AS "PAM TILLIS DAY" IN BRANSON PRESENTED BY MAYOR LARRY MILTON.

Mayor Milton presented the proclamation.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Milton began the Public Comments section of the Board of Aldermen meeting by stating the Board would hear citizens who signed up in the order they are listed.

Speakers:

Richie Zaitz discussed “Purpose.” He feels the Board has been chosen by God to be here and he expressed concerns for many things happening that could destabilize our country. He challenged them to protect lives and discussed vaccines, related health problems and ways to treat them.

Deanna Slatton discussed “Health safety.” She inquired if the Board has done anything about the LOIs and if

the schools are mandating the Covid-19 vaccines. She expressed concerns about various health safety issues pertaining to the vaccines. She warned the Board against making decisions that come down from leaders who are traitors trying to turn the country communist.

Beth Schulz discussed "Safety on the Roads." She shared her safety concerns pertaining to pedestrians and golf carts on the roads. She likes to walk and discussed how golf carts are now able to cross higher speed roads with traffic. She shared how she's been in crosswalks when cars have illegally turned in front of her or ran red lights. She asked the Board to consider taking a second look at this issue to find a safe solution for drivers of golf carts.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Milton asked if any member of the Board had any items they wished to have removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion. Hearing none, the following items were read by title:

1. APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 10, 2024 STUDY SESSION, SEPTEMBER 10, 2024 REGULAR MEETING AND SEPTEMBER 17, 2024 SPECIAL MEETING.
2. ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES FOR THE JULY 29, 2024 SPECIAL MEETING.
3. ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF ADVISORY PARK BOARD MINUTES FOR THE JUNE 18, 2024 REGULAR MEETING.
4. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DISBURSEMENTS FOR AUGUST 15, 2024 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 13, 2024.
5. FINAL READING OF BILL NO. 6480 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ADOPTED 2024 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BRANSON TO ADJUST MONIES IN THE CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND FROM TOURISM TAX FOR THE CAMPGROUND EXPANSION INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS.

Ordinance No. 2024-0079 was duly enacted.

6. FINAL READING OF BILL NO. 6482 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 42-55 OF THE BRANSON MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO OPEN BURNING REQUIREMENTS.

Ordinance No. 2024-0081 was duly enacted.

7. FINAL READING OF BILL NO. 6483 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 86-102 OF THE BRANSON MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO THE OPERATION OF VEHICLES ON APPROACH OF AUTHORIZED EMERGENCY VEHICLES.

Ordinance No. 2024-0082 was duly enacted.

8. FINAL READING OF BILL NO. 6485 AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING FUNDING FROM THE MISSOURI HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION TRANSPORTATION

ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP) FOR TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT FUNDS FOR PEDESTRIAN CROSSING IMPROVEMENTS AT W. 76 COUNTRY BLVD. AND SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS EXPRESSWAY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$485,386.

Ordinance No. 2024-0083 was duly enacted.

9. FINAL READING OF BILL NO. 6486 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ADOPTED 2024 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BRANSON TO ADJUST MONIES IN THE TRANSPORTATION FUND FOR AN INCREASE IN THE SERVICE CENTER MOTOR VEHICLE REPAIRS ACCOUNT.

Ordinance No. 2024-0084 was duly enacted.

The floor was opened for a motion to approve all items on the Consent Agenda. Alderman LeBlanc so moved, seconded by Alderman Cooper.

Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

REGULAR AGENDA:

10. FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6487 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE PUBLIC SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH THE VETERANS MEMORIAL GARDEN, INC. FOR MAINTAINING THE BEAUTY OF THE BRANSON VETERANS MEMORIAL GARDEN AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE DOCUMENTS RELATED THERETO.

The item was read by title. The floor was opened for a motion approving FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6487 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE PUBLIC SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH THE VETERANS MEMORIAL GARDEN, INC. FOR MAINTAINING THE BEAUTY OF THE BRANSON VETERANS MEMORIAL GARDEN AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE DOCUMENTS RELATED THERETO. Alderman Howden so moved, seconded by Alderman Denham.

Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

Discussion.

11. A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THE 2024 MISSOURI LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM ("LAGERS") DELEGATES.

This item was read by title. The floor was opened for a motion to adopt A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THE 2024 MISSOURI LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM ("LAGERS") DELEGATES. Alderman LeBlanc so moved, seconded by Alderman Cooper.

Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

Resolution No. 2024-R059 was adopted.

No discussion.

12. BRIEF PRESENTATION ON COMMUNITY SAFE ROOMS BY FIRE CHIEF TED MARTIN.

A presentation was provided by Fire Chief Ted Martin.

Discussion.

13. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF APPLICATIONS TO TANEY COUNTY, MISSOURI, FOR SEWER SALES TAX FUNDING IN SUPPORT OF THE CITY'S PLANNED 2025 SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS.

This item was read by title. The floor was opened for a motion to adopt A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF APPLICATIONS TO TANEY COUNTY, MISSOURI, FOR SEWER SALES TAX FUNDING IN SUPPORT OF THE CITY'S PLANNED 2025 SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS. Alderman Lucas so moved, seconded by Alderman LeBlanc.

Speakers:

Charles Hillis Sr. expressed his concerns with the \$130,000 upgrades in Country Bluff Estates and tax dollars being spent when a developer or owner should pay the fees. He discussed the new line that's being run to the new parcel and he thinks it should be paid for by the developer and not the taxpayers. He discussed the flooding in Country Bluff Estates and expressed concerns over it getting worse.

Cherry Webster explained her property abuts Mr. Ruda's property and she inquired if the \$1.2 million is necessary to give Mr. Ruda full capacity. She feels developers should be paying their own way and explained she has a big problem with subsidizing private developers with tax dollars. She expressed concerns with Dan Ruda's behavior and the flooding issues in Country Bluff Estates.

State Representative Brian Seitz commended the Board for listening to citizens and he explained we're in crisis mode as far as housing goes and mentioned writing requests for grants. He believes Branson needs to do everything it can to encourage development or else it's going to lose people and he expressed support for an increase in the sewer system if it results in a residential location being built in the future.

Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

Resolution No. 2024-R060 was adopted.

Discussion.

The meeting recessed at 7:34 p.m. and reconvened at 7:44 p.m.

14. FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6488 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 6 OF THE BRANSON MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO SALES OF INTOXICATING LIQUOR.

The item was read by title. The floor was opened for a motion approving FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6488 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 6 OF THE BRANSON MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO SALES OF INTOXICATING LIQUOR. Alderman Howden so moved, seconded by Alderman LeBlanc.

Discussion.

Alderman Howden moved to postpone Bill No. 6488 to October 8, 2024, seconded by Alderman LeBlanc. Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

Bill No. 6488 was postponed to October 8, 2024.

15. PUBLIC HEARING AND FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6489 AN ORDINANCE FOR MUNICIPAL CODE AMENDMENTS THROUGHOUT CHAPTER 94 CHANGING THE TERM NIGHTLY RENTAL TO SHORT-TERM RENTAL.

Mayor Milton opened the public hearing and asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of or opposing this matter. Hearing none, Mayor Milton closed the public hearing.

The item was read by title. The floor was opened for a motion approving FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6489 AN ORDINANCE FOR MUNICIPAL CODE AMENDMENTS THROUGHOUT CHAPTER 94 CHANGING THE TERM NIGHTLY RENTAL TO SHORT-TERM RENTAL. Alderman Howden so moved, seconded by Alderman Denham.

Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

No discussion.

16. FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6490 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BRANSON MUNICIPAL CODE FOR SHORT-TERM RENTAL REGULATIONS IN CHAPTER 18 – BUILDINGS AND BUILDING REGULATIONS REGARDING SECTIONS 18-27 SUBSECTIONS 903 AND 907 PERTAINING TO THE REQUIREMENTS FOR SPRINKLER AND ALARM SYSTEMS; IN CHAPTER 42 – FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION REGARDING SECTION 42-55, SUBSECTIONS 903 AND 907 PERTAINING TO THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE TO REMOVE THE PARKING MAP REQUIREMENT; AND IN CHAPTER 90 – UTILITIES REGARDING SECTION 90-81 PERTAINING TO SYSTEM CONNECTION CHARGES TO CHANGE THE TERM NIGHTLY TO SHORT-TERM.

The item was read by title. The floor was opened for a motion approving FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6490 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BRANSON MUNICIPAL CODE FOR SHORT-TERM RENTAL REGULATIONS IN CHAPTER 18 – BUILDINGS AND BUILDING REGULATIONS REGARDING SECTIONS 18-27 SUBSECTIONS 903 AND 907 PERTAINING TO THE REQUIREMENTS FOR SPRINKLER AND ALARM SYSTEMS; IN CHAPTER 42 – FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION REGARDING SECTION 42-55, SUBSECTIONS 903 AND 907 PERTAINING TO THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE TO REMOVE THE PARKING MAP REQUIREMENT; AND IN CHAPTER 90 – UTILITIES REGARDING SECTION 90-81 PERTAINING TO SYSTEM CONNECTION CHARGES TO CHANGE THE TERM NIGHTLY TO SHORT-TERM. Alderman Howden so moved, seconded by Alderman Cooper.

Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

No discussion.

17. FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6491 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 22 OF THE BRANSON MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO SHORT-TERM RENTALS TO REMOVE CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS AND ADD FIRE INSPECTION FEE TO APPENDIX A.

The item was read by title. The floor was opened for a motion approving FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6491 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 22 OF THE BRANSON MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO SHORT-TERM RENTALS TO REMOVE CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS AND ADD FIRE INSPECTION FEE TO APPENDIX A. Alderman Lucas so moved, seconded by Alderman Howden.

Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

Discussion.

18. FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6492 AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE REVISED QUIT CLAIM DEED WITH THE REVISED LEGAL DESCRIPTION FOR THE DONATION OF LAND AND LIFT STATION TO THE CITY OF BRANSON FROM POINTE ROYALE PROPERTY OWNER'S ASSOCIATION, INC.

The item was read by title. The floor was opened for a motion approving FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6492 AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE REVISED QUIT CLAIM DEED WITH THE REVISED LEGAL DESCRIPTION FOR THE DONATION OF LAND AND LIFT STATION TO THE CITY OF BRANSON FROM POINTE ROYALE PROPERTY OWNER'S ASSOCIATION, INC. Alderman LeBlanc so moved, seconded by Alderman Cooper.

Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

No discussion.

REPORTS

Alderman Lucas commented on the great City Staff. He gave kudos to Chief of Staff Alex Girard thanking him for always addressing any issues he's brought to him and he provided a recent example.

Alderman Ruth Denham thanked Bob Smither for his work with veterans and his trumpet playing at various events in town. She appreciates how he reaches out to the community. She addressed public comment this evening and explained she doesn't believe in strict legislation that tells someone what they can and cannot do with their children or medication which is outside the Board's purview.

Alderman Howden announced the Branson Pirates are 4-0 which is awesome as they're now number 9 in the state. He explained Branson's in a brand new conference and if it wins that conference in the first year, it's going to be a testament to the future growth of the program which he's really excited about. He wished Jim Barber happy trails as he's stepping down as the Executive Director of the Branson Regional Arts Council. He congratulated Luke Menard on becoming the incoming Executive Director.

Alderman LeBlanc provided an update on the Autumn Daze Festival and mentioned attending all three days. He talked to vendors and people meandering around and reported polite interactions. He reported he was able to find parking Downtown and feels the vendors were happy with the turnout. He reflected on the nostalgia and tradition which he feels is important.

Alderman Schulz discussed a recent ordinance that was passed pertaining to all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and golf carts driving around town. He expressed concerns as these vehicles have almost nothing in the way of safety features to protect the occupants in an accident. He discussed driving conditions he's observed and the potential for accidents. He asked the Board to consider revisiting this issue and take this ordinance off the

books before it becomes a real problem.

Mayor Larry Milton reminded everyone October 1st is National Night Out which has been very popular in the community and there's 11 subdivisions participating. He mentioned the community was honored last week to have 13 prisoners of war from the US Pueblo in Branson. He shared their story of what they endured and he expressed appreciation to Alderman Cooper for offering up his theater and he thanked everyone for their hospitality. He mentioned representatives from the Pentagon's Department of Defense were in town and he visited with them at Fire Station #4. Mayor Milton commented on the Veteran Appreciation Day at Branson Meadows which was very well attended.

ADJOURN

The floor was opened for a motion to adjourn. Alderman LeBlanc so moved, seconded by Alderman Howden. Voting aye: Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz, Lucas. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Larry D. Milton
Mayor

Hillary Briand
City Clerk