

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN CITY OF BRANSON, MISSOURI JULY 11, 2023

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 July 11, 2023 at 6:00 PM. Mayor Milton called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

ROLL CALL

City Clerk Hillary Briand called roll. Present: Mayor Milton, Alderman Cody Fenton, Alderman Ruth Denham, Alderman Clay Cooper, Alderman Marshall Howden, Alderman Chuck Rodriguez, Alderman Ralph LeBlanc. Absent: none.

Mayor Milton announced he would like to have a moment of silence for Mary Lee Simmons who passed away on June 22, 2023. Mary Lee is survived by her husband Bob, her three children and grandchildren.

AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS:

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH:

- A. RECOGNIZING ANISHA COOTE OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT AS THE EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH FOR JULY 2023 TO BE PRESENTED BY ALDERMAN RUTH DENHAM.

Alderman Denham presented the Employee of the Month.

PROCLAMATIONS:

- A. A PROCLAMATION DECLARING JULY 11, 2023 AS RAY STEVENS DAY IN BRANSON, MISSOURI

Mayor Milton presented the proclamation.

Alderman Rodriguez left the meeting at 6:15 p.m. and returned at 6:16 p.m.

Alderman Howden left the meeting at 6:36 p.m. and returned at 6:38 p.m.

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:

Gary Groman, 350 S. Wildwood Drive, Branson, Missouri, addressed rumors around town that the City of Branson is going to vote on banning all drag shows. He clarified that's not what the proposed ordinance from the Planning Commission does, or he wouldn't have voted to send it to the Board. He shared it was thoughtfully and inclusively created not to be a blanket prohibition and contains only the restrictions necessary to promote and protect the general moral values of Branson. He discussed the conditions of the ordinance and definition of drag shows. He explained any drag show currently operating in Branson may continue to do so under the same conditions as they are now operating. The vast majority of drag-related acts he's seen over the years in Branson could continue even if the conditions change and he explained this is because the acts don't meet the definition of drag show in the proposed ordinance. He shared about the 1964 case of Jacob Ellis vs. Ohio and discussed drag-related performances currently in Branson.

Richie Zaitz, 3000 Green Mountain Drive, Branson, Missouri, commented he's trying to protect families and children from destructive things and his main issue is to stop the distribution of vaccines. He shared there's evidence they cause miscarriages and there are a lot of doctors who don't prescribe them. He asked the Board if they knew about a dangerous intersection or an establishment serving food that was killing people, if they would stop it from happening. He explained he doesn't see the difference between that and experimental drugs being distributed that are killing people. He shared about friends he's lost, miscarriages and blood clots due to the Covid-19 vaccines and mentioned the Board was supposed to have a special meeting about this topic. Mr. Zaitz discussed drag shows and said he's not in favor of bringing perversion here and explained children are very sensitive and open to people prescribing certain types of thoughts and ideas to them. He discussed the 2030 Community Plan and explained how it's socialism.

Bobbie Wydeen, 120 Quail Road, Branson, Missouri, introduced herself as an early childhood educator and library volunteer. She emphasized the importance of reading being a lifelong skill and how children need to hear language to learn and learn how to listen. She commented, without a public library kids won't have access to books which is a problem and she shared her research on the current cost of books with the Board. She explained most parents can barely afford rent and she stressed the importance of the community promoting reading for all ages and not just on tablets as blue light is bad for their eyes. She reiterated the importance of being able to read and feels if the community doesn't have a library it's going to make it tougher on kids that are struggling to read. Ms. Wydeen said this is an S.O.S. to the community to save the library.

Gary Brennan, 139 Trinity Road, declined the opportunity to speak.

JoAnn Caswell, 104 Hero Drive, Branson, Missouri, spoke about an alternative option to the proposed ordinance pertaining to drag shows. She feels the City shouldn't have to make an ordinance that breaks its laws, but understands the organization backing these shows is very powerful and wealthy. She knows they have the ability to bankrupt a small town like this with litigation and it looks like the City is in a lose-lose situation. She explained the City can either give in to the organization and destroy the City's reputation for being family-friendly or stand on current laws and risk lawsuits that bankrupt the City. She asked the Board to consider another scenario of letting the organization sue the City and even negative publicity would work to Branson's favor. She believes business would increase because people from everywhere would want to come and bring

their families here to vacation and family-oriented businesses will come. She suggested the Board not make a new ordinance, but take the existing laws, enforce them and come what may.

Barbara Fairchild, P.O. Box 2287, Branson, Missouri, discussed how this Country and freedoms are under tremendous attack and the freedom for people to live their lives the way they see fit. She believes people should live according to God's laws and seeing the impact of this kind of thinking and what's happening to children is very frightening. She talked about people bringing up kids morally in the nurture and admonition of the Lord and to be modest so they don't become victims of this kind of thing. She feels America is going to hell in a hand basket in a lot of areas and it's going to take guts to stand up for what's morally right. Ms. Fairchild commented on the need to guard the boundaries Branson is built on. When she first came to Branson to work with Mel Tillis, she never left because she fell in love with Branson. She emphasized the importance of holding these values and shared how destruction can come from following the trends and doing what everyone else is doing. She thinks it's important to have a safe place like Branson where people can live and visit and she loves this town.

Michael Phillips, 3221 Shepherd of the Hills Expressway, Branson, Missouri, shared facts about several companies such as Bud Light, Target, Disney and Ben and Jerry's that have lost billions of dollars due to business decisions. He believes Americans are proving in absolute certainty that if companies go woke, they go broke. He disagrees that Branson is in a no-win situation and explained there's only one decision and that's God's decision. He mentioned addressing the Board previously about the Shepherd of the Hills and Corrie Ten Boom's prophecy regarding this area, but he's here to speak on the judgment to come. He discussed Springfield's sexual orientation and gender identity bills that forced pastors to hire gays and lesbians and he feels we're coming to a day and age where that could not only be mandated upon people by force, but by an administration that doesn't see fit to care about anybody, not even a local community. He urged the Board to stand on the principles of Branson and declare these things are not morally right. He clarified this doesn't mean people hate other people and shared about a poll he took of Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force and Marine veterans who stated they would leave if this passes. He urged the Board to stand with the people of Branson.

Kevin Vaughan, Independence, Missouri, inquired about the proposed ordinance's district and commented there's not very many bars there that could hold a drag show or some of the possibilities of things people are trying to get to come to Branson which could be an issue. He commented, people don't know us and we're not what they say we are and he asked people to learn who they're talking about before trying to talk.

TRoy Shirley, Independence, Missouri, mentioned he didn't bring drag here for anything except enjoyment for adults and that doesn't mean there's nudity, sexuality, cuss words or anything like that. He explained it's very tasteful because he loves Branson, and it's his home. He's not here to put anyone down, he's not judgmental and he asked people not to judge him and encouraged people to get to know him and see the show. He's had all kinds of religious individuals at his show who have returned because it's very tasteful and respectful. He discussed he's a singer, not a drag queen, but he is who he is, loves who he is and thanked others for loving him. He feels Branson is a loving place, he was raised here and the values are phenomenal, but asked how far those values go on judging and hating individuals. He explained LGB families come here, spend thousands of dollars and he wants them to come and feel welcome just like everybody else. He encouraged people to come see his show.

Josiah Butterbaugh, 132 Foley Street, Hollister, Missouri, introduced himself as a member of the community for 30 years and as a mentor, advocate and trusted adult for the youth. He explained he's a gay Christian, a child molestation survivor and sexual assault survivor and shared these things may just be situations to others,

but to him it was years of trauma and hardships. He knows God made him just the way he is and God doesn't make mistakes. He shared it's difficult for him to be here as after the last meeting he attended he's never felt so hated because of who he is. He discussed drag shows and shared the Merriam-Webster definition of drag queen and transgender. He talked about how many families from the LGBTQIA+ community bring their families to Branson on vacation, but if the City starts making rules to keep them in a box they're not going to want to spend their tax dollars here. Mr. Butterbaugh commented if people don't want to go to a drag show, then don't and explained it's adults making adult decisions. He feels the community has asked the Board to shut down an adult event not because it's a danger for children, but because it hates the LGBTQIA+ community. Instead it supports an organization in town, doing things in the name of God that has had camp counselors prey on children.

Brian Seitz, 1805 Miller Drive, Branson, Missouri, discussed the proposed drag show ordinance and he feels the City is going about it the right way by using Planning and Zoning with time and place restrictions since there are Constitutional First Amendment Rights involved. He expressed concerns with the proposed ordinance containing the word child as he'd like to see any ordinance presented to the Board for the drag shows to be age 21 and above. He doesn't believe children should be allowed to view this form of entertainment in the City of Branson. Mr. Seitz discussed the library and mentioned being a card carrying member since 1990 and he appreciates the library. He discussed the importance of reading from a young age and he thinks the library in Branson deserves support and he encouraged the community to get behind the current initiative.

Vanessa H., Blue Eye, Missouri, addressed the Board about the drag queen show and asked the Board to consider the eternal impact of decisions it makes as guardians of the City. She discussed the story of Queen Esther from the Bible and how she used her voice for such a time as this and she feels her life has been a series of divine appointments, the most recent being here addressing the Board. She shared about her upbringing in India, her family and how she and her husband came to accept Jesus Christ and ended up in Branson. She enjoys the meaningful distinctions of Branson; faith, family, friendly people, patriots and natural beauty. She discussed Mayor Milton's State of the City Address and asked why find ways to sneak in shows and blur the lines to accommodate venues that are a polar opposite to what makes Branson a unique destination. She asked why efforts are being made to amend existing codes in order to allow shows and venues to get a foot in the door. She inquired how would entertainers be prevented from expressing themselves outside the designated areas and who would ensure shows and venues keep 600 feet from places of worship, schools and parks.

Shelly Evans, 403 Truman Drive, Branson, Missouri, discussed the library and mentioned there's been talk about a percentage of raising taxes to support the library and she's hoping that's covered tonight. She'd like to see community education where local, teachers and people with a gift to teach people a skill could be part of the library to offer some things for the community. She explained people could pay a small fee and a percentage would go back to the library as another way to raise funds. She discussed a safety issue with Truman Road and how people use it as a cut through from 76 Country Boulevard to Roark Valley Road. She explained how there's no sidewalks and a lot of people don't stop at the stop signs and there's family pets and people who like to walk. She asked about the possibility of extending the signage or better defining which vehicles are not allowed to go through as larger vehicles have blocked traffic.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

read by title:

1. APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN MINUTES FOR THE JUNE 27, 2023 STUDY SESSION AND JUNE 27, 2023 REGULAR MEETING.
2. FINAL READING OF BILL NO. 6324 AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL OF BLEVINS ASPHALT CONST. CO., INC. FOR 2023 MILL & OVERLAY OF VARIOUS STREETS AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT.

Ordinance No. 2023-0070 was duly enacted.

3. FINAL READING OF BILL NO. 6325 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING PAYMENT OF INCENTIVE FEES TO SMG, BRANSON CONVENTION CENTER'S MANAGEMENT COMPANY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE MANAGEMENT SERVICES CONTRACT.

Ordinance No. 2023-0071 was duly enacted.

4. FINAL READING OF BILL NO. 6327 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE LEASE AGREEMENT WITH SKAGGS COMMUNITY HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION D/B/A COX MEDICAL CENTER BRANSON FOR THE OPERATION OF COX HEALTH FITNESS CENTER AT THE RECPLEX AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE LEASE

Ordinance No. 2023-0072 was duly enacted.

5. FINAL READING OF BILL NO. 6328 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1-2 OF THE BRANSON MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO DEFINITIONS.

Ordinance No. 2023-0073 was duly enacted.

6. FINAL READING OF BILL NO. 6329 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 94 OF THE BRANSON MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO MARIJUANA FACILITIES.

Ordinance No. 2023-0074 was duly enacted.

7. FINAL READING OF BILL NO. 6330 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A FINAL SUBDIVISION PLAT FOR STILLWOOD EAST, BRANSON, MISSOURI.

Ordinance No. 2023-0075 was duly enacted.

8. FINAL READING OF BILL NO. 6331 AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE A STREET VACATION FOR A PORTION OF SUNSET LANE LOCATED IN THE PINKLEY HEIGHTS ADDITION, BRANSON, MISSOURI AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE DOCUMENTS RELATED THERETO.

Ordinance No. 2023-0076 was duly enacted.

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

seconded by Alderman Rodriguez.

Voting aye: Fenton, Denham, Cooper, Howden, Rodriguez, LeBlanc. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

REGULAR AGENDA:

9. PRESENTATION ON AMERICA'S WALL OF HONOR, A TRAVELING VETERANS DISPLAY WALL TO COME TO BRANSON DURING VETERANS WEEK.

A presentation was provided by Timothy Lampros and Dan Stuenzi. A handout was provided for the Board (See attached handout).

Discussion.

10. PRESENTATION BY MARCIA SCHEMPER-CARLOCK, DIRECTOR OF THE TANEYHILLS COMMUNITY LIBRARY REGARDING THE LIBRARY BALLOT INITIATIVE ON THE AUGUST 8, 2023 SPECIAL ELECTION.

A presentation was provided by Marcia Schemper-Carlock and LaDella Thomas of the Taneyhills Library.

Alderman Cooper left the meeting at 7:38 p.m. and returned at 7:40 p.m.

Speakers:

Gary Groman, 350 S. Wildwood Drive, Branson, Missouri, inquired if voters of the Branson, Hollister school district will be approving two separate taxes; an increase in real estate tax and an increase in their personal property tax. He asked about the total amount of tax revenues that will be raised in the first year if approved. He asked about the procedure for ensuring taxes raised in the sub-district aren't used outside the sub-district. He discussed library board members and who would determine how public tax funds raised would be spent. He asked about the tentative budget, the library board, fees and salaries.

Michael Phillips, 3221 Shepherd of the Hills Expressway, Branson, Missouri, discussed coffee shop accessibility and inquired if the library would have a community-based feel outside of just a public library space. He asked about current efforts to promote or facilitate future development with private sector businesses like coffee shops.

Sherry Evans, 403 Truman Drive, Branson, Missouri, asked if 50 percent of the residents that have property have to pass the tax in order to get the library.

Carmen Lawson, Branson, Missouri, expressed concerns about the library having queer story time.

State Representative Brian Seitz, feels the question Carmen just brought up pertaining to drag queen story hour and inappropriate books at certain age levels is a good question and something he talked to Marcia Schemper-Carlock about at the ribbon cutting. He reported she assured him the values of Branson and Taney County would be adhered to even if it does become a public library. He thinks the County Commissioners appointing the Library Board is very appropriate so they have some control over those types of issues. He explained this issue is important to him as he's dealing with that issue on

a state level, especially in places like Springfield and Columbia that might not share Branson's values.

Discussion.

The meeting recessed at 7:58 p.m. and returned at 8:12 p.m.

11. A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN'S DESIRE TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO THE BRANSON VETERANS MEMORIAL GARDEN.

This item was read by title. The floor was opened for a motion to adopt A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN'S DESIRE TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO THE BRANSON VETERANS MEMORIAL GARDEN. Alderman Howden so moved, seconded by Alderman Cooper.

Speaker:

Jana Evans, thanked Branson for helping the garden continue its goals of honoring veterans with this beautiful and public statement. She can't imagine what Ben Kinel is doing right now in heaven and she expressed appreciation for one of the garden's volunteers, Mr. Sisk. She encouraged everyone to not just drive by the garden but to stop by, sit down on the bench in the shade and pray for veterans, past and active duty. She thanked them and said she appreciates them.

Voting aye: Fenton, Denham, Cooper, Howden, Rodriguez, LeBlanc. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

Resolution No. 2023-R020 was adopted.

No discussion.

12. A RESOLUTION APPROVING A LANDLORD ESTOPPEL CERTIFICATE ASSIGNING SUB-SUBTENANT TO ODOM BRANSON INVESTMENT LLC RELATED TO THE SEVERED, AMENDED AND RESTATED BRANSON LANDING LAKESIDE SHOPPES (NORTH ONE) LEASE WITH HCW DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LLC AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE CERTIFICATE.

This item was read by title. The floor was opened for a motion to adopt A RESOLUTION APPROVING A LANDLORD ESTOPPEL CERTIFICATE ASSIGNING SUB-SUBTENANT TO ODOM BRANSON INVESTMENT LLC RELATED TO THE SEVERED, AMENDED AND RESTATED BRANSON LANDING LAKESIDE SHOPPES (NORTH ONE) LEASE WITH HCW DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LLC AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE CERTIFICATE. Alderman Fenton so moved, seconded by Alderman LeBlanc.

Speaker:

Bob Huels, mentioned HCW is the land tenant and they owned the building and five or six years ago they sold the building. He provided a brief history of the lease and reasons for the estoppel. He clarified this is not an amendment and the estoppel can't change the terms of the lease, it's just for verification and makes it simpler than the lease. He explained most banks would want an estoppel as

it's a requirement that big banks want. Mr. Huels discussed the location of the buildings and explained there are three buildings and there are 12 tenants.

Voting aye: Fenton, Denham, Cooper, Howden, Rodriguez, LeBlanc. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

Resolution No. 2023-R021 was adopted.

Discussion.

13. FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6332 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE 2023 SALARY STRUCTURE AND PAY GUIDELINES FOR THE CITY OF BRANSON UTILITIES DEPARTMENT.

The item was read by title. The floor was opened for a motion approving FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6332 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE 2023 SALARY STRUCTURE AND PAY GUIDELINES FOR THE CITY OF BRANSON UTILITIES DEPARTMENT. Alderman Denham so moved, seconded by Alderman Rodriguez.

Voting aye: Fenton, Denham, Cooper, Howden, Rodriguez, LeBlanc. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

Discussion.

14. FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6333 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE ADDENDUM WITH HDR ENGINEERING, INC. FOR THE PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANT SERVICES BETWEEN THE CITY OF BRANSON AND HDR ENGINEERING, INC. FOR THE CONSTRUCTION PHASE SERVICES OF THE COMPTON DRIVE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT FLOOD WALL AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT.

The item was read by title. The floor was opened for a motion approving FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6333 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE ADDENDUM WITH HDR ENGINEERING, INC. FOR THE PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANT SERVICES BETWEEN THE CITY OF BRANSON AND HDR ENGINEERING, INC. FOR THE CONSTRUCTION PHASE SERVICES OF THE COMPTON DRIVE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT FLOOD WALL AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT. Alderman Denham so moved, seconded by Alderman Fenton.

Voting aye: Fenton, Denham, Cooper, Howden, Rodriguez, LeBlanc. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

Alderman Cooper moved to read Bill Number 6333 for its final reading to expedite before the contract expires, seconded by Alderman Howden. Voting aye: Fenton, Denham, Cooper, Howden, Rodriguez, LeBlanc. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

The item was read by title. The floor was opened for a motion approving FINAL READING OF BILL NO. 6333 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE ADDENDUM WITH HDR ENGINEERING, INC. FOR THE PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANT SERVICES BETWEEN THE CITY OF BRANSON AND HDR ENGINEERING, INC. FOR THE CONSTRUCTION PHASE SERVICES OF THE COMPTON DRIVE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT FLOOD WALL AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT. Alderman Rodriguez so moved, seconded by Alderman LeBlanc.

Voting aye: Fenton, Denham, Cooper, Howden, Rodriguez, LeBlanc. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

Ordinance No. 2023-0077 was duly enacted.

Discussion.

15. FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6334 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE RENEWAL OF THE CONTRACT WITH PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT NO. 3 OF TANEY COUNTY FOR WATER TERMINATION AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT.

The item was read by title. The floor was opened for a motion approving FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6334 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE RENEWAL OF THE CONTRACT WITH PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT NO. 3 OF TANEY COUNTY FOR WATER TERMINATION AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT. Alderman Rodriguez so moved, seconded by Alderman Howden.

Voting aye: Fenton, Denham, Cooper, Howden, Rodriguez, LeBlanc. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

No discussion.

REPORTS

Alderman Fenton explained it wasn't the Board's intention for the ancillary effect of the salary study and pay adjustment. He doesn't think anyone intended for that to happen. He apologized and said the Board will make it right.

Alderman Denham mentioned meeting Utilities Director Kendall Powell when he first started working for the City and he's still the same, sincere, committed human being that he was then. His commitment to the City and his staff is something to be admired and she thanked him and all City Directors. She feels the City is blessed to have the Directors and employees it has. She credited City Administrator Cathy Stepp for her experience, expertise and ability to look at the City from 10 miles above to see the problems that existed. She expressed appreciation for her and announced at the Planning Commission meeting on July 6th there was one special use permit for the drive-through at 550 Branson Landing Boulevard. There was also a zoning change from low density residential to entertainment and resolution recommending Municipal Code Amendments to Chapter 94 of the Branson Municipal Code concerning drag shows.

Aldermen Howden congratulated the boys' baseball team for being three time state champions.

Alderman LeBlanc gave a shout out to the Parks and Recreation Department for all the softball and baseball tournaments that have been in town. He mentioned some people he knows from Louisiana were in Branson and had glowing reviews on the City's Parks and Recreation facilities and how things were ran. He was happy to hear that and he expressed appreciation for Staff, Utilities Director Kendall Powell and Public Works Director and City Engineer Michael Woods for their leadership. He mentioned hearing more and more about people coming to work and enjoying it and he thanked City leadership.

City Administrator Cathy Stepp reminded everyone of the upcoming special meeting on Thursday in the Council Chambers regarding fluoridation of the drinking water in Branson. Speakers have been invited both pro and against the conversation as to provide as much balanced content as possible and the public will be

allowed to make comments at that meeting.

Mayor Milton commented on the handling of fluoride by Utilities Department Staff and inquired if they have to be in hazmat suits. He thanked Directors for being great leaders of their departments and he can feel the passion and caring the City's employees contribute to make the City a better place. The Board gets the accolades, but it's because of what every one of the employees does and he appreciates that.

ADJOURN


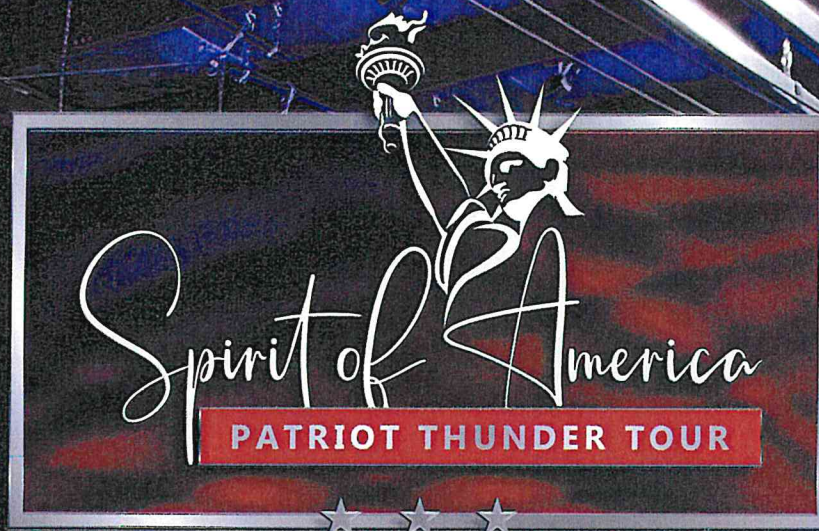
The floor was opened for a motion to adjourn. Alderman Rodriguez so moved, seconded by Alderman Howden. Voting aye: Fenton, Denham, Cooper, Howden, Rodriguez, LeBlanc. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Larry D. Milton
Mayor

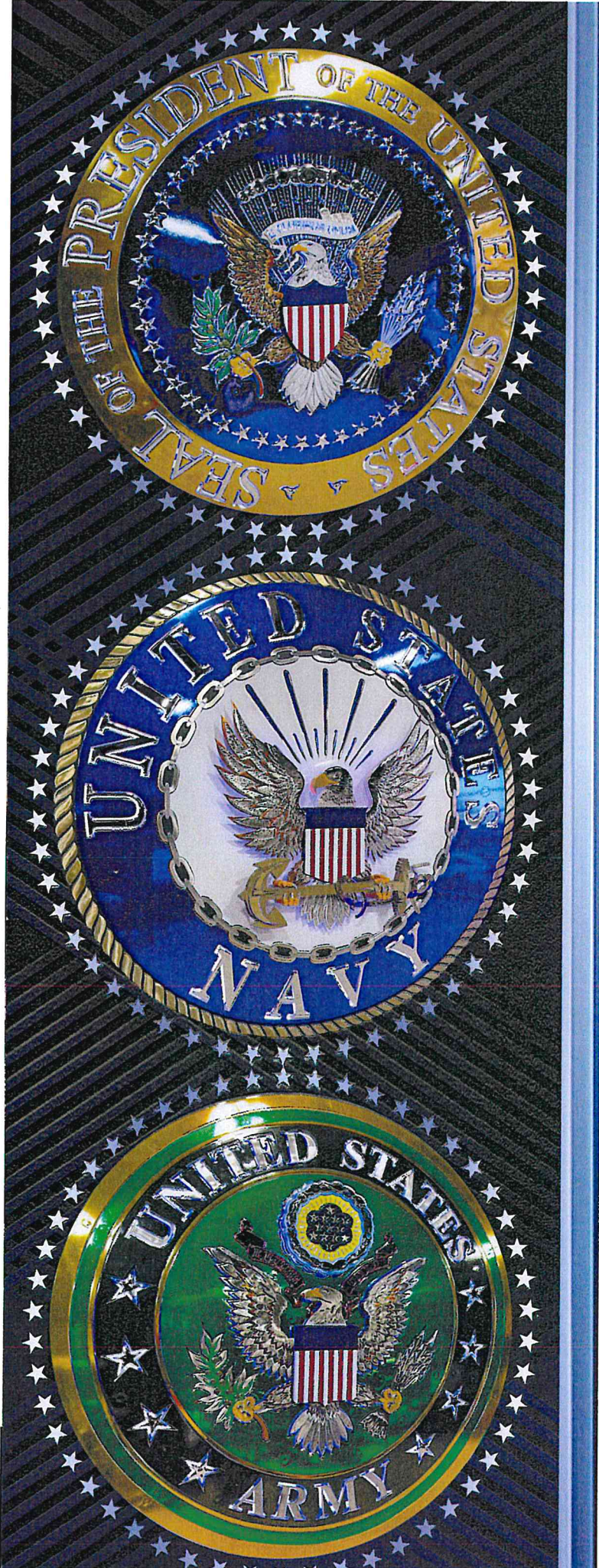
Hillary Briand
City Clerk

7/11/23 Board of
Aldermen Regular
Meeting - Handout
submitted for Item #9



AMERICA'S

— WALL OF HONOR —



Art of Honor Presents



~ featuring ~



AMERICA'S
— WALL OF HONOR —

~ with the ~

Spirit of America Patriot Village



OUR MISSION is to educate children, young people, and adults about true American values throughout the nation, and bring strong patriotism back to citizens of all ages. The project includes a stunning work of Memorial Art, accompanied by five mobile museum/education centers and a mobile podcast studio that will travel through all 50 states on a 5-year tour. The entire family event is called Patriot Village. The National Tour is called the Patriot Thunder Tour.



*Help us honor those whose service
and sacrifice has made our country*

**THE LAND OF THE FREE,
AND THE
HOME OF THE BRAVE.**

THE DETAILS

The finished wall is approximately 57' long by 10' high. The center of the Wall features the Presidential Seal, representing the Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces.

The Presidential Seal is flanked on both sides by the Seals of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and National Guard; as well as Seals paying tribute to both Law Enforcement and Fire and Rescue.

Electronic databases, accessible through smart phones, will allow visitors to view the names and service information for those who have served in the past or who are currently serving. Visitors may also add new names, subject to review.

THE ART

The Seals and Badges are designed and constructed by Memorial Artist, Tim Lampros, the creator of the LAPD End of Watch Memorial Wall.

Each Seal consists of hundreds of laser-cut pieces of stainless steel, powder-coated for color, and welded together in multiple layers. The completed Seals are mounted on layers of acrylic glass with embedded LED lighting that radiates from within.

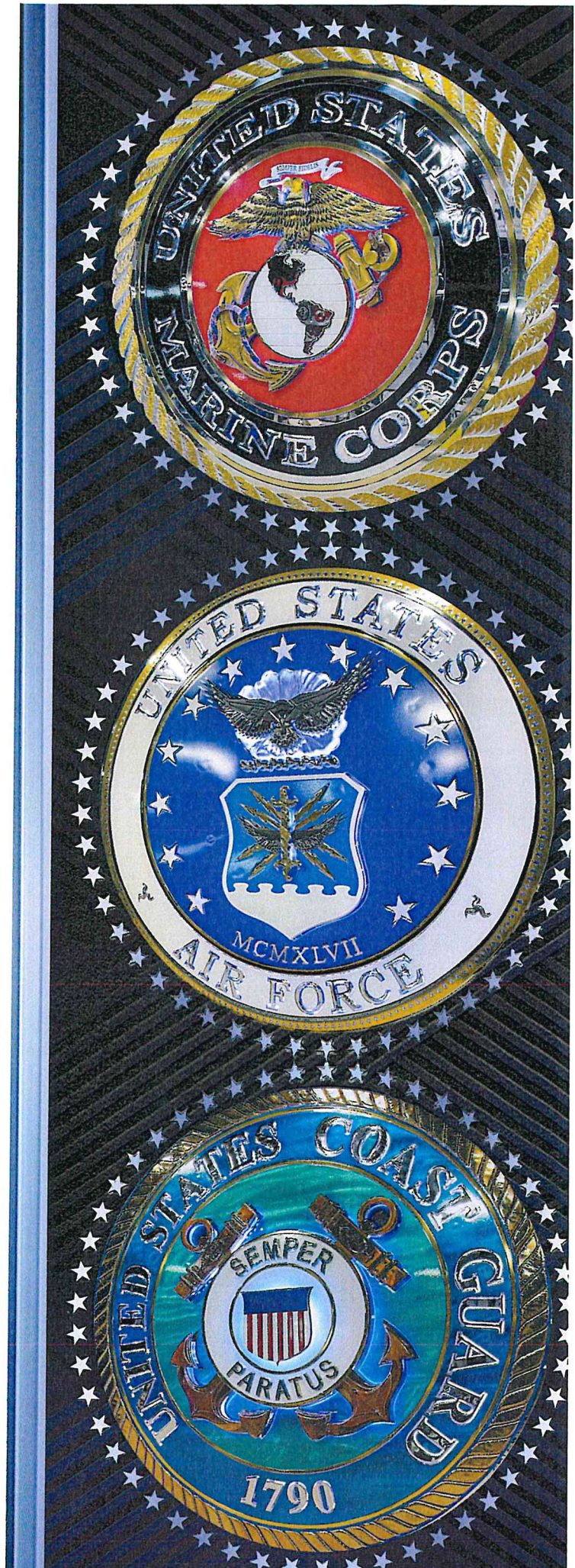
For example, the Presidential Seal has 17 layers of steel and 3 layers of 1.25" glass. This Seal alone measures 53" in diameter, consists of 607 pieces, and weighs over 500 lbs. There is absolutely nothing else like it in the world.

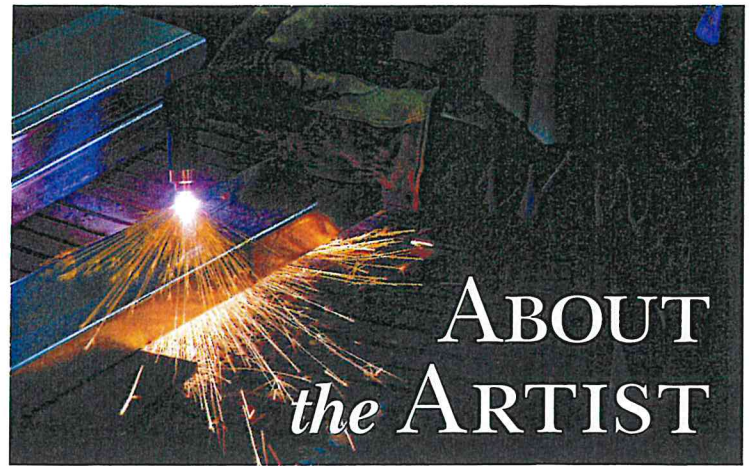
THE NEED

The national rate of Veteran, Police, and Firefighter suicides is vastly higher than the general public. In recent years, American culture has taken a turn for the worst, including anti-American, anti-Military, and anti-Police activism.

These heroes need our support and this project will lead the way to reverse that trend. The unveiling ceremony that accompanies the Wall of Honor inspires honor and respect.

America's Wall of Honor will bring both the Memorial and patriotic education to the American people on its 5-year tour throughout the United States. The Wall will be displayed in small towns, large cities, national parks, and special events; accessible to millions throughout America.





TIMOTHY LAMPROS, the artist who designed and built America's Wall of Honor, served in the United States Air Force on the crash/fire/rescue team for the Columbia, Discovery, and Challenger Space Shuttles.

After serving his Country, Tim worked as a firefighter/paramedic; first in his home state of Illinois, then in Hollywood as a Set Medic and Safety Director. He served on movie and TV sets including Titanic, Alien Resurrection, Con Air, Charlie's Angels, X-Files, and many more.

When he created his first fallen officer memorial art for a precinct of the LAPD, his demand as an artist spread rapidly throughout the city and state.



Phase One...

BUILDING AMERICA'S WALL OF HONOR

and PREPARATION FOR THE 5-YEAR NATIONAL TOUR

The project started with the museum commissioning a work of art by renowned memorial artist, Timothy Lampros, who designed and built the LAPD "End of Watch" Memorial Wall a few years ago. America's Wall of Honor is a 57' x 10' Memorial Wall that pays tribute to every branch of America's Military, as well as America's First Responders in both law enforcement and fire and rescue. It's the first traveling memorial wall of its kind.

THE EXPANSION OF THE ORIGINAL MISSION

The original mission, back in 2019, was simply to build the Wall of Honor and take it on tour with one mobile Spirit of America Art Museum. However, over the last 3 years, our mission expanded greatly due to a lot of bad things we see happening in America, especially in the education of our children. So, we expanded our plans to include mobile museum/education centers to provide comprehensive patriotic education throughout our whole country. We want to bring people back to *Love of Country!*

Phase Two...

THE UNVEILING TOUR

During the remainder of 2023, we will be traveling with America's Wall of Honor for public events as well as fundraising events to enable us to finish building Patriot Village.



Phase Three...

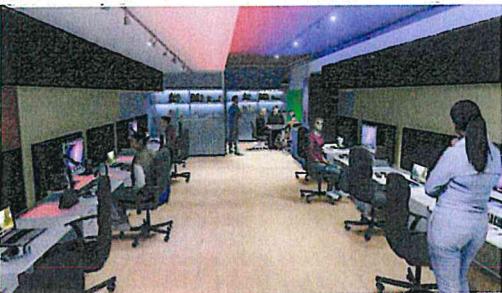
THE PATRIOT VILLAGE

Once the funds are raised to lock in the tractor-trailers and finish the build-out of the museum/education centers, our Patriot Village will be completed, and we can begin the 5-year Patriot Thunder Tour through all 50 states. During 2026, the 250th anniversary of our Country, we will actually visit every state for a 4-day event, to help spread the celebration of our beloved Nation.

Each museum/education center in Patriot Village is made from a 53' double-expandable trailer that provides approximately 1000 square feet of space for each exciting experience.

There will be five centers within the Patriot Village, including:

- **THE AMERICAN PATRIOT EDUCATION CENTER**, built to educate children and young people on the true history of America, our Constitution, our Flag and National Anthem, our Founding Fathers, and importance of Patriotism.
- **THE MILITARY HEROES EDUCATION CENTER** focuses on all branches of the Military with uniforms, equipment, medals, and endearing military artifacts.
- **THE FIRST RESPONDER HEROES EDUCATION CENTER** focuses on First Responders in both law enforcement and fire and rescue with uniforms, equipment, medals, and other tributes.
- **THE SPIRIT OF AMERICA MOBILE ART MUSEUM** which features works of realist art in many genres, created by American artists, and focusing on the themes of Freedom, Patriotism, our Military and First Responder Heroes, our True History and Founding Fathers, Hard Work, Charity, Family, Faith, the Beauty of America, and other elements of our uniqueness as a Nation.
- **THE HOW AMERICA WORKS EDUCATION CENTER** is geared especially to high school students who are considering future career opportunities. The focus is on the many American trades such as carpentry, construction, steel working, welding, electrical, plumbing, farming, and many others. The goal is to let young people know that they can have a successful life without going to college.
- In addition, we will have a **MOBILE OFFICE** which will serve for tour management and security; but will also contain a **PODCAST STUDIO** where we will interview military veterans, first responders, and family members, and broadcast their stories throughout the Nation.



For a full visual overview of this important national project, we invite you to watch this 18-minute video:
<https://rumble.com/v27iqti-awoh-project-overview.html>

Tour America...

THE 5-YEAR PATRIOT THUNDER NATIONAL TOUR

- America's Wall of Honor will travel with accompanying museums and education centers – the layout will be called "Patriot Village".
- The whole village will require approximately 1.5 acres of space.
- The tour will include all 50 states and be visited by tens of millions of visitors in small towns, large cities, national parks, and special events. We've received a commitment to get us to Alaska and Hawaii with the help of the Air Force.
- There will be strong support from Patriotic citizens and organizations.
- We will sponsor national art contests and obtain works of art for our mobile museum collection and exhibits.
- We've engaged a very experienced tour management company to provide all vehicles, drivers, and some road crew. We will hire all managers, teachers, etc.
- We've engaged a very experienced fabricator to set up all the museum/education interior exhibits.



During the years of construction, there were hundreds of photos and videos on social media. A book is also being written about the building of America's Wall of Honor and its National Tour.





Donate to the
Patriot Tour

Honoring
America's Military
and First Responders

America's Wall of Honor is a traveling
Memorial Wall that will tour the United States,
paying tribute to our American Heroes.

It will be accompanied by several museum/education
centers to inspire millions of people to Patriotism and
Love of Country over the next several years.

To become a corporate sponsor of this project, or a personal
donor, please donate through our website, or contact
CEO Dan Stuenzi, dan@artofhonor.com, 402-250-1112.

AmericasWallOfHonor.com
Facebook: [AmericasWallOfHonor](https://www.facebook.com/AmericasWallOfHonor)