

**CITY OF SHREWSBURY**  
**BOARD OF ALDERMEN**  
**WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN**  
**September 24, 2013**

A Work Session of the Board of Aldermen of the City of Shrewsbury, Missouri was held at 6:00 p.m. this 24<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2013 in the Aldermanic Conference Room of City Hall for the transaction of such business that may come before the Board.

There were present:

Mayor.....	Felicity Buckley
Alderman.....	Elmer Kauffmann
Alderman.....	Mike Travaglini
Alderman.....	Sam Scherer
Alderman.....	Ed Kopff
Alderman.....	Rick Steingrubby

There were also present:

Acting City Attorney.....	Andrew Malloy
Director of Administration.....	Jonathan D. Greever
Police Chief.....	Jeff Keller
Street Superintendent.....	Tony Wagner
City Clerk.....	Carly West
Fire Chief.....	Bill Fox

**Roll Call**

Mayor Buckley opened the meeting and City Clerk West commenced with the roll call. A quorum of the Board was present.

Alderman Steingrubby made a motion to amend the agenda to move the “Hear Citizens” portion of the meeting to the beginning of the meeting before the closed session. Alderman Scherer seconded the motion and it passed unanimously

**Hear Citizens**

Dodie Barnes of 7417 Meadow Valley Land and Barb Jacobs of 7409 Kenrick Point addressed the Board to thank them for agreeing to take over three of the streets in the Meadows at Kenrick subdivision. Ms. Barnes and Ms. Jacobs read a poem they had written to show their appreciation.

**Closed Session**

Alderman Travaglini made a motion that the Board adjourn to a closed session with closed record and closed vote. Alderman Kauffmann seconded the motion and upon roll call, the following vote was recorded. Alderman Kauffmann, “Aye”; Alderman Travaglini, “Aye”; Alderman Scherer, “Aye”; Alderman Kopff, “Aye”; Alderman Steingrubby, “Aye”.

The work session resumed at 6:18 p.m.

**Public Hearing – Property Tax Rates for 2013**

No citizens were present.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mayor Buckley introduced the minutes for the September 10, 2013 regular session and opened the floor for discussion. There being no discussion, Alderman Travaglini made a motion to approve the minutes. Alderman Steingrubby seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

**Nomination of Plan Commission Members**

Mayor Buckley introduced the nominations of Mike McArthur, Steve Loher, and Paul Sneed to the Plan Commission. She stated that all three were currently serving on the Plan Commission, and that she felt that having continuity of membership on the Commission would be advantageous. Alderman Kauffmann asked if they served three year terms, and Mayor Buckley confirmed that they did. Alderman Scherer made a motion to approve the nominations of Mike McArthur, Steve Loher, and Paul Sneed to the Plan Commission. Alderman Kopff seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

**Ordinances****(Bill No. 2746)**

Mayor Buckley re-introduced Bill No. 2746, a bill authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Mary White for the provision of building inspection and plan review services relating to the redevelopment of Kenrick Plaza. The Mayor opened the floor for discussion. There being no discussion, a motion was made by Alderman Travaglini, seconded by Alderman Scherer and, with Alderman Kauffmann abstaining from the vote, passed in accordance with Section 79.130 as approved by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, to read the Bill by Title only the second and final time. Mayor Buckley opened the floor for final discussion. There being no discussion, Alderman Travaglini made a motion that Bill No. 2746 be adopted to become Ordinance No. 2736. Alderman Scherer seconded the motion and upon roll call, the following vote was recorded: Alderman Kauffmann, “Abstain”; Alderman Travaglini, “Aye”; Alderman Scherer, “Aye”; Alderman Kopff, “Aye”; Alderman Steingrubby, “Aye”.

There being a majority of votes in favor, the Mayor declared the motion passed and that Bill No. 2746 was adopted as Ordinance No. 2736.

**(Bill No. 2747)**

Mayor Buckley re-introduced Bill No. 2747, a bill authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Assured Construction Compliance, L.L.C. for the provision of plan review services relating to the redevelopment of Kenrick Plaza. The Mayor opened the floor for discussion. There being no discussion, a motion was made by Alderman Scherer, seconded by Alderman Kopff, and, with Alderman Kauffmann abstaining from the vote, passed in accordance with Section 79.130 as approved by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, to read the Bill by Title only the second and final time. Mayor Buckley opened the floor for final discussion. There being no discussion, Alderman Scherer made a motion that Bill No. 2747 be adopted to become Ordinance No. 2737. Alderman Steingrubby seconded the motion and upon roll call, the following vote was recorded: Alderman Kauffmann, “Abstain”; Alderman Travaglini, “Aye”; Alderman Scherer, “Aye”; Alderman Kopff, “Aye”; Alderman Steingrubby, “Aye”.

There being a majority of votes in favor, the Mayor declared the motion passed and that Bill No. 2747 was adopted as Ordinance No. 2737.

**(Bill No. 2748)**

Mayor Buckley introduced Bill No. 2748, a bill regulating the levies and establishing the rate of annual taxes to be collected for 2013. She stated that the rate for residential would be \$0.949, the rate for commercial would be \$0.943, and the rate for personal property would be \$1.041. The Mayor opened the floor for discussion. Alderman Kauffmann asked what the present tax rate was, and Finance Director Danielle Oettle answered that everything would be the same, except for General Fund Residential, which had been \$0.486. She stated that Debt Service had gone down, and Director Greever clarified that it went down on the principal, so an automatic adjustment was made to cover the balance. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Alderman Travaglini, seconded by Alderman Scherer, and passed in accordance with Section 79.130 as approved by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, to read the Bill by Title only the first time. The Mayor opened the floor for discussion. She noted that both readings were happening in the same meeting due to the time-sensitive nature of the ordinance. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Alderman Travaglini, seconded by Alderman Scherer, and passed in accordance with Section 79.130 as approved by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, to read the Bill by Title only the second and final time. Mayor Buckley opened the floor for final discussion. There being no discussion, Alderman Travaglini made a motion that Bill No. 2748 be adopted to become Ordinance No. 2738. Alderman Steingrubby seconded the motion and upon roll call, the following vote was recorded: Alderman Kauffmann, "Aye"; Alderman Travaglini, "Aye"; Alderman Scherer, "Aye"; Alderman Kopff, "Aye"; Alderman Steingrubby, "Aye".

There being a majority of votes in favor, the Mayor declared the motion passed and that Bill No. 2748 was adopted as Ordinance No. 2738.

**Pre-Budget Discussion**

Mayor Buckley stated that the Board members would be receiving a draft of the budget with nothing taken out, along with the department heads' justification for the expenditures they were requesting. She explained that she felt it was important for everyone to see what was being cut out of the budget, and that she did not see much extra spending, but that there were quite a few things being requested. She also stated that there were currently deficits in the preliminary numbers, but those amounts would be clarified as the process went on.

Mayor Buckley stated that she would like for the Aldermen to have an opportunity to address any alternate sources of revenue that had not been explored in the past, or to highlight any items they felt could have been cut out of past budgets.

Alderman Travaglini stated that he felt the City had exhausted any opportunities unless the Board wanted to drastically change the way they do business. He stated that he didn't see any areas to mention.

Alderman Steingrubby stated that he had reviewed the 2013 budget, and said that he thought the Board members could work for free. Mayor Buckley stated that the amount the Board members were paid was very minimal, but the option had been discussed in the past. She stated that she felt it was important for the Board members to receive a stipend for the time and effort they put into their work for the City. Alderman Steingrubby stated that as he had not been in discussions in the past, it was more difficult for him to contribute.

Alderman Kopff stated that he did not have any suggestions for additional revenue sources, but that he would be looking closely to try to include employee raises in the budget if possible, as it had been three years

since that had been included. He also stated that he would be looking to see how far into reserves the City was willing to go in relation to how far along the development of Kenrick Plaza was.

Alderman Scherer reiterated Alderman Kopff's point about the redevelopment project, stating that it should be kept going. He stated that none of the ideas for revenue sources in the past had come to fruition, and that he had no suggestions.

Alderman Kauffmann stated that he had no suggestions until he saw a draft of the budget. Mayor Buckley clarified that she was not referring to the 2014 budget, but would like him to draw on his experiences with past budgets to make suggestions, and that she had asked the same question during pre-budget discussions in past years. Alderman Kauffmann stated that he had not looked hard enough to answer. Mayor Buckley further clarified her question, stating that it would be helpful to her to have the suggestions of the Board, and that it was important for the Board to have an opportunity to make any of these kinds of suggestions.

Alderman Kauffmann stated that he could not think of anything at that time. Mayor Buckley asked at what point he would have something to add, and that she did not want to miss something, especially considering Alderman Kauffmann's experience on the Board. Alderman Kauffmann stated that he would rather hold off on answering. Mayor Buckley stated that she felt it was unfair to the residents and the other Board members to not answer, because if he had knowledge of a source of revenue, he should be sharing it with the Board.

Alderman Kauffmann stated that he would like to see buildings such as the former Overhead Door building filled, as it had been a good source of revenue for the City. Mayor Buckley asked if he had any other suggestions, and Alderman Kauffmann answered that he could not think of anything else at the moment.

Mayor Buckley asked Alderman Kauffmann if there were any areas of expenditures that needed to be cut, as she did not see much that would be extra. She clarified that she was not asking specifically about the 2014 budget, but rather for items from budgets over the past several years that any of the Board members felt should have been cut. Alderman Kauffmann stated that he would like to look at the 2014 budget before he answered, and that he did not want to be pinned down at that time.

Mayor Buckley stated that the budget needed to come from the entire Board, and that she had asked the same question for every budget for the past four years. She stated that every year, Alderman Kauffmann had stated that he needed to think more about it. Alderman Kauffmann responded that he wanted to see something on paper, and Mayor Buckley stated that he had received all of the past four years of budgets, so he had already had the opportunity to review them, and that she was not referring to the 2014 budget. She polled the other Aldermen to ensure that she had been clear enough on that point, and they agreed that she had. Mayor Buckley again asked Alderman Kauffmann if there was anything in the past budgets that he felt could have been cut. Alderman Kauffmann answered that there was nothing he could think of at that time.

Mayor Buckley asked that, if Alderman Kauffmann were able to think of anything after having worked through the budget process for so many years, she would appreciate a call from him. She continued that she did not want to go into the workshops and not have addressed something that one of the Aldermen thought should have been cut in past years. She noted that Alderman Steingrubby has not had the experience or opportunity to look through as many budgets as the other Board members. Alderman Steingrubby stated that he had looked through the 2013 budget that Mayor Buckley had provided for him and he had not seen anything that looked like it could have been cut out.

Mayor Buckley asked Alderman Kauffmann if there was anything from the past budgets that he had been involved in passing that he felt should not have been in there, and that she was asking him a simple "yes" or "no" question. Alderman Kauffmann stated that he did not think it was a "yes/no" question, and that it depended on what kinds of changes the Mayor was looking to make. Mayor Buckley answered that she was not asking the Board about her changes, but rather the sense in the community that if the City were to tighten

its belt and cut spending, the fiscal problems would be fixed. Therefore, if any of the Aldermen had a way to do that, it should be shared with the Board so it could be taken into consideration. She also noted that all of the Aldermen were responsible for the budgetary decisions. She stated that she can remember why she did or did not approve items in budgets when she was on the Board, and that she felt it was important that all Board members consider carefully what should and should not be cut from the budget. Mayor Buckley stated that it sends a very unclear message to the community when the record reflects that an Alderman could not tell whether or not there were items that could be cut. She stated that Alderman Kauffmann had the information to answer the question.

Alderman Kauffmann stated that his answer would remain the same, that he wanted to see something before he made a decision. Mayor Buckley asked what he wanted to see, and Alderman Kauffmann again stated that he was not going to be pinned down.

Alderman Travaglini stated that he had been elected by his ward to make decisions, and he had not been making decisions on many things. Alderman Scherer objected to Alderman Kauffmann abstaining on many of the votes, and Mayor Buckley stated that the Board did not need to go into votes on other matters. Alderman Scherer stated that everyone else on the Board had committed to a yes or no answer, and that Alderman Kauffmann also needed to commit.

Mayor Buckley asked that the record state that Alderman Kauffmann “does not know enough about previous budgets to be able to answer whether or not we have any expenditures we can cut or any sources of revenue we can increase.” She gave Alderman Kauffmann the opportunity to correct anything in her statement that was inaccurate. Alderman Kauffmann stated that he did not agree with the statement but that he had nothing more to say. Mayor Buckley noted for the record that he had nothing to say and he gave no explanation. She stated that she was having this discussion before the draft budget went out because the Board members should not start giving her big-picture suggestions mid-stream. She stated that if anyone had any large ideas, such as closing the pool or selling City parkland, now was the time to suggest it instead of later on in the process. She stated that “I don’t know” is not a very professional answer.

Alderman Travaglini stated that if any of the Aldermen were unprepared to make a decision or answer a yes/no question, they should not be on the Board. Mayor Buckley stated that she appreciated having guidance from the Aldermen. Alderman Travaglini stated that he was tired of so many abstentions from votes and he should either vote yes or no and represent his ward. Alderman Kauffmann stated that his only abstentions had on Walmart, and Alderman Travaglini answered that Walmart was a very large topic to not have an opinion on. Mayor Buckley again stated that the Board would not be discussing votes on particular matters, and that an Alderman can choose to abstain if they want.

Mayor Buckley stated that she did not think it was right for an Alderman with over twenty years of experience to have passed budgets, but to not know enough about those budgets to contribute. She stated that it was an excellent opportunity to state their opinions and that she thought it was very important for them to have that opportunity.

### **Old Business**

None.

### **New Business**

A motion was made by Alderman Travaglini that, due to the work session that was needed to work on the budget after the next Board of Aldermen meeting, the October 8, 2013 Regular Session be moved to 6:00 p.m. Alderman Steingrub seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Buckley stated that the Suburban Mayors had met, and they had discussed tax distribution, TIF laws, and municipal mergers. She stated that the information was mostly positive, and that those topics, as well as merging St. Louis City and St. Louis County, had been coming up quite a bit. She stated that Shrewsbury might be hosting the November meeting of the Suburban Mayors

Mayor Buckley stated that Colin Hoock's Centennial Wall had been finished. All of the Aldermen were very complimentary of the project and had heard good feedback from the residents. Mayor Buckley also noted that the American Legion had also put up new flags.

Mayor Buckley reported that the Fall Festival had gone very well and that she had received many compliments. Alderman Scherer stated that he had also received many compliments and also a request to have a parade every year.

Street Superintendent Tony Wagner stated that the street work on Kain had been put on hold as there had been several problems with the water main under the road. He stated that he had spoken with Missouri American Water and was hoping that they would agree to replace the entire water main, but that it might take a couple of weeks, and that the work on Kain would begin soon, but not until the water main issue had been addressed. Mayor Buckley asked if Mr. Wagner knew why the water main was breaking, and Mr. Wagner answered that it was old, and with old pipes, they tend to break in a sort of domino effect.

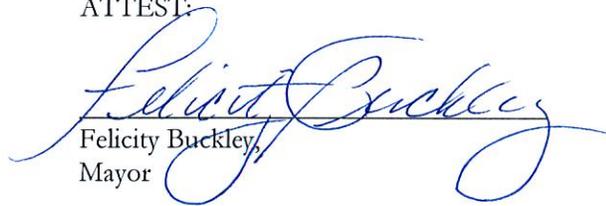
**Adjourn**

Alderman Travaglini made a motion to adjourn. Alderman Scherer seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. The work session adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Carly West  
City Clerk

ATTEST:

  
Felicity Buckley,  
Mayor