

CITY OF SHREWSBURY
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
June 24, 2014

A Work Session of the Board of Aldermen of the City of Shrewsbury, Missouri was held at 6:00 p.m. this 24th day of June, 2014 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
Alderwoman	Chris Gorman
Alderman	Sam Scherer
Alderman	Ed Kopff
Alderman	Rick Steingruby

There were also present:

City Attorney	Michael Daming
Director of Administration.....	Jonathan D. Greever
Director of Finance	Danielle Oettle
Director of Parks and Recreation.....	Chris Buck
Street Superintendent.....	Tony Wagner
Fire Chief.....	Bill Fox
City Clerk.....	Carly West

Roll Call

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

Public Hearing – Massage Establishment Application

Mayor Buckley gaveled into the public hearing regarding the application to open a massage establishment at 7539 Ravensridge Road in the office of Wibbenmeyer Chiropractic. She opened the floor for discussion. There being no discussion, she asked if any members of the public wished to address the Board, and there were none. Alderman Scherer made a motion to approve the application for a massage establishment, and Alderwoman Gorman seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Buckley introduced the minutes of the June 10, 2014 Regular Session and opened the floor for discussion. There being no discussion, Alderman Scherer made a motion to accept the minutes. Alderman Steingruby seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Alderman Scherer made a motion to amend the agenda to include the approval of the minutes from the public hearing held on June 10, 2014 regarding the 2015 CDBG allocation.

Mayor Buckley introduced the minutes of the public hearing held on June 10, 2014 regarding the 2015 CDBG funds allocation and opened the floor for discussion. There being no discussion, Alderman Kopff made a motion to accept the minutes. Alderman Scherer seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Hear Citizens

None.

Audit Presentation – Rubin Brown

Jeff Winter and Renita Duncan with Rubin Brown addressed the Board to present the 2013 audit findings. Mr. Winter presented the financial statements, and overviewed the “ViewPoints” document, noting that it was a summary of their findings, and he explained their procedures and processes, and what the purpose of the audit was and what it encompasses.

Mr. Winter stated that they were able to express a clean, unmodified statement for the fiscal year 2013. He also explained how reporting would need to be done going forward, and stated that the most current standards had been implemented. He noted that there were some very minor adjustments that were immaterial that were made.

Ms. Duncan took the floor and explained that internal controls are tested, but not reported on; their statements were a value-added service. She noted some material weaknesses and management’s response to all issues. The main issue was the conversion from Interfund to Logics, which was made more difficult by sudden changes in the implementation team at Logics. Additionally, some adjustments had to be posted to be in compliance with GAAP. Ms. Duncan also noted that the staff had implemented a new fixed asset procedure. Finally, she explained the new accounting pronouncement and how it would affect reporting of pensions starting in 2015.

Mr. Winter explained the statistical comparison, and stated that the TIF debt was included, which impacted the City’s rankings. He noted that the City is in more than adequate financial condition, and that any rankings that were less favorable did not indicate any weakness in the City’s finances.

Bid Presentation – Copiers/Printers

Director of Administration Jonathan Greever briefly explained the bidding process and stated that his recommendation was that the Board chooses Copying Concepts as the lowest and best bid. Alderman Kauffmann asked for the specifications, which Ms. West provided. There being no discussion, Alderman Kauffmann made a motion to accept the Copying Concepts bid in the amount of \$51,828.00. Alderwoman Gorman seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Discussion

Parks Director Chris Buck gave an update on the Municipal Park Grant, explaining what work had been done already – the committee had toured the existing parks to assess the current needs, toured the parks of other cities, had gotten feedback from the community both through a survey and a public forum, and finally had met to form recommendations as to what direction the grant application should take. He noted that the City could apply for up to around \$370,000.

Mr. Buck stated that they would recommend adding stairs that would go from the City Center parking lot down to the ball fields, which would end at a walking path that would go between the baseball and soccer fields, and would connect to the condos behind the City’s property and it would also continue behind the soccer field and connect with the current walking path behind the baseball field. He added that there would be landscaping and lighting included also, and if there were funds, a bathroom also.

Mr. Buck stated that he had been in contact with SWT Design regarding these plans, and with the Board’s approval, the City could contract with them to do the application work to apply for the grant, as well as another grant for planning for Brinkop Park and the far end of Wehner Park.

Alderman Kauffmann asked how much the planning grants for Brinkop and Wehner parks would be, and Mr. Buck answered that they could ask for \$8,000 for each one. Alderman Kopff asked if the walking path between the fields had been presented to the condos. Mr. Buck noted that there were people who walk in all conditions along where the path would be. Mayor Buckley stated that it would be good to be in contact with them to get their feedback. Mr. Buck noted that it was still very early in the process and that consulting with the condos would happen at a later point when there are firmer plans and costs in place, so they would know what exactly to discuss with the condos.

Mayor Buckley asked who would walk in the Webster Groves Fourth of July parade and noted that information would be sent out.

Mayor Buckley directed the Board's attention to the letter that had been written regarding the median on Shrewsbury Avenue that would be repaired, and that the City would be requesting that it be made plantable. She noted that the City would be responsible for maintaining the area if it were made plantable, and that many residents had requested more landscaping, which may require additional personnel at some point. She stated that they would be sending the County a letter and asked if the Board members were in agreement and willing to also be signers on the letter.

Mayor Buckley brought up the possibility of an early retirement program and Finance Director Danielle Oettle distributed a memo discussing the possibility. Ms. Oettle noted that other public entities offer this kind of program, and the plan she was proposing would be simple to implement and could save the City money in the long run.

Street Superintendent Tony Wagner noted that discussions regarding Lagers had been tabled for several years, and that the City employees were actually enrolled in the lowest level Lagers plan that was offered. He stated that many employees were concerned about the low levels of benefits. Mayor Buckley noted that this issue would fit well with the consultation that was being done with CBIZ regarding the compensation study.

Fire Chief Bill Fox noted that Lagers offers retirement plan seminars, which he had attended approximately two years prior, and that only three entities in the State are members of the lowest level plan. He stated that Lagers will do research once per year at no cost to compare the different kinds of plans. Mayor Buckley noted that the last study was done four years prior. Alderman Kauffmann asked what the differences in the plans were. Chief Fox stated that with the current plan, the benefits drop off dramatically at age 62. Mr. Greever noted that the main differences with the plans were what percentage of the employee's salary was provided.

Mayor Buckley noted that her focus was more on bridging the gap in insurance coverage and that more complex systems would require more in-depth consultation. She stated that her understanding was that insurance benefits were the main concern when employees were considering whether or not to retire, and that it was good to start the discussion and find out what the possibilities were.

New Business

Mr. Wagner stated that the chip/seal work on Suffolk, Lenox, Arlington, Exeter, and Carr Lane would begin the following day. Mayor Buckley also noted that Kain had been completed and the Seminary had been very good to work with to get the street fixed following the damage that the construction had done.

Mayor Buckley noted that there had been a lot of questions about Aldermen abstaining from votes, and while that was well within their rights, going forward, any Alderman who abstained from a vote would be asked to explain what conflict they had that prevented them from voting so it was on the record.

Alderwoman Gorman stated that a Shrewsbury resident, Anne Leike, had written a book entitled Ancillary Justice that had been nominated for more science fiction awards than any other book written in English.

Alderman Kopff thanked those who worked on the fields and noted that no matter when they were used, they were in excellent condition. Mr. Buck thanked the Board for providing the funds for the equipment used in making the fields nice for the residents.

Alderman Steingrubby thanked Mr. Wagner and Mayor Buckley for all of the work that had been done on the area where the Centennial Wall was, and noted that it looked very nice.

Old Business

None.

Closed Session

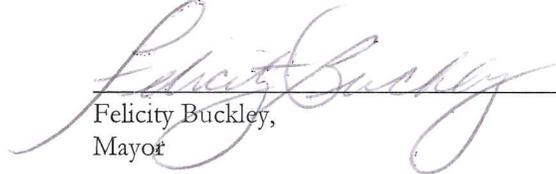
Alderman Scherer made a motion to enter into a closed session pursuant to RSMo 610.021 (9, 12). Alderwoman Gorman seconded the motion and upon roll call, the following vote was recorded: Alderman Kauffmann, "Aye"; Alderwoman Gorman, "Aye"; Alderman Scherer, "Aye"; Alderman Kopff, "Aye"; and Alderman Steingrubby, "Aye". The board adjourned to closed session at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Carly West,
City Clerk

ATTEST:



Felicity Buckley,
Mayor