



**City of Charleston, MO**  
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**Charleston City Council**  
**February 09, 2021**

**Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Mayor Jackie Whiteside. Also present were Council members Phil Halter, Tommy Butler, Patrick Farmer, and Rick Toon along with City Manager Phil Robinette, Chief of Police Robert Hearnese, and City Clerk Stefanie Self.

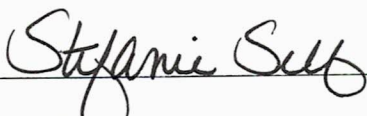
- B. Recognition of Visitors:** Orlean Braswell and Irene Hudson were in attendance to give an update on the assisted living facility. Pam Jones and Clementine Strayhorn were in attendance to address the council about the shootings in Charleston. The council was very concerned and wondered if it was gang related, which Robert Hearnese assured them they were not. Jackie Whiteside urged Robert Hearnese to talk to Paul Page for use of cameras. Phil Robinette suggested Robert Hearnese check into MOCIC.
- C. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:** Phil Halter made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 12, 2021 Council meeting, which were included in the meeting packet. Patrick Farmer seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.
- D. Report of City Business and Operations:** City Manager Phil Robinette had included a written report of January 2021 city operations in the meeting packet. He added some comments concerning the ditch on the west side of town and flooding; David Harris explained the situation and Jackie Whiteside commented it was not fair to the residents. Mr. Robinette also commented on possible grants for Lucille Cassell, who invented and patented a 100% disposable diaper. She would like to place a business in the old Gates building, as Concept Ag does not utilize the whole building. Mr. Robinette and Mr. David Harris attended a meeting with Habitat for Humanity, to address the vacant lots in town. The council was very interested and suggested speaking with the County about lots up for sale for back taxes and maybe get the liens and taxes waived. Mr. Jackie Whiteside suggested the council go look at some of the Habitat for Humanity homes in Sikeston.
- E. Old Business:**
- 1. Update on CDBG Application:** Mr. Robinette advised that we have not yet received a response to the grant application to install liners in more sanitary sewer lines and manholes. The only new information was there were 68 applicants and out of the 68 only 2 applicants applied for what the grant was intended for, which we were 1 of the 2.
  - 2. Update on City Manager Car:** Phil Halter tabled the issue until the budget session. Rich Toon seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.


**F. New Business:**

1. **Discussion concerning vacant lots:** This discussion went hand in hand with Mr. Robinette's report about Habitat for Humanity. The council would like to see the contractors have one lot at a time, and once they finish a house, they can be approved for another lot. Mr. Phil Halter would like to see the City as the lienholder and the dollar amount of the lots.
2. **Discussion concerning gold carts on city streets:** Mr. Rick Toon explained it should be four wheelers, ATV's, side by sides. The council asked Chief Robert Hearnese to talk to other towns to see how they handle the situation.
3. **Bill No. 3858/Ordinance 2998:** Mr. Phil Halter made a motion to approve the ordinance as it was a budgeted item. Mr. Rick Toon seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.
4. **Bill No. 3859/Ordinance 2999:** Mr. Phil Halter made a motion to approve the ordinance as it was a budgeted item. Mr. Patrick Farmer seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.
5. **Discussion on backhoe that caught fire at the city dump:** Mr. David Harris explained it was a total loss, it was the oldest of the backhoes and Mr. David Harris tries to trade oldest every ten years. Mr. Phil Halter made a motion to order for the next budget. Mr. Rick Toon seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously. An ordinance will be prepared for the May meeting.


**G. Adjournment:** At 7:45 p.m. Mr. Phil Halter made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Patrick Farmer seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Attest:

  
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City Clerk

  
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Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

  
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Presiding Officer