

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 8, 2024

The regular Sikeston City Council meeting of January 8, 2024 was called to order at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall located at 105 E. Center St., Sikeston. Present at the meeting were: Mayor Greg Turnbow, Vest Baker, Onethia Williams, John Leible, Tom Robison, Ryan Lindsey, and David Teachout. Staff in attendance were: City Manager Jonathan Douglass, City Counselor Tabatha Graham, City Clerk Rhonda Council, Finance Director Amanda Groves, HR Director Carrie Burgfeld, Public Works Director Jay Lancaster, Street Superintendent Brian Dial, Street Supervisor Darren Martin, Community Development Director Barry Blevins, Community Development Supervisor Bruce Copeland, Public Safety Director James McMillen, Capt. Ryan Smith and Capt. Derick Wheatley.

APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

City Council minutes of the regular meeting of November 27 and December 4, 2023 were presented for approval. Councilman Teachout moved to approve the minutes as presented. Councilman Robison seconded the motion and the following vote was recorded:

Baker Aye, Leible Aye, Robison Aye, Lindsey Aye, Teachout Aye,
Williams Aye, and Turnbow Aye, thereby being passed.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Discussion: Closure Options for New Madrid Street & Legion Park Project

The City of Sikeston was awarded project funding for the revitalization of Legion Park using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through the Missouri Department of Economic Development. Options includes closing New Madrid Street at the intersection of Malone Avenue for safe passage for new playground equipment and the fountain. Since the grant was not awarded for the new playground, this issue is no longer a concern. Other options were to leave the street as is or consider options of traffic calming to slow traffic, install an improved crossing and still allow access. There were members of the community who were against closing the street, including Depot Vice President Larry Bohannon.

Councilman Teachout moved to leave the street as is with no changes. Upon further discussion, Councilman Leible amended the motion to include having options drawn up to include safety features in the street to slow down drivers. The motion was seconded by Councilman Robison, discussed and the following roll call vote recorded:

Baker Aye, Leible Aye, Robison Aye, Lindsey Aye, Teachout Aye,
Williams Aye, and Turnbow Aye, thereby being passed.

1st Reading, Bill #6332, Request to Rezone 491 Davis Blvd. from IL (Light Industrial) to IH (Heavy Industrial)

Councilman Baker moved for the first reading of Bill Number 6332. The motion was seconded by Councilman Leible and the following vote recorded:

Baker Aye, Leible Aye, Robison Aye, Lindsey Aye, Teachout Aye,
Williams Aye, and Turnbow Aye, thereby being passed.

City Counselor Graham presented the bill for reading. This bill as approved shall become Ordinance Number 6332 providing for the rezoning from "IL" Light Industrial to "IH" Heavy

Industrial Zone the following described real estate to -wit: 491 Davis Blvd. containing 2.03 acres, more or less, in Scott County, Missouri.

Council as indicated they would like an agreement from G. Copeland Enterprises, LLC to include a fence and sight barrier as a condition before approval of the ordinance would be granted.

1st Reading, Bill #6333, Amend Chapter 500, Article XV, Existing Building Code

Councilman Leible moved for the first reading of Bill Number 6333. The motion was seconded by Councilman Lindsey and the following vote recorded:

Baker Aye, Leible Aye, Robison Aye, Lindsey Aye, Teachout Aye, Williams Aye, and Turnbow Aye, thereby being passed.

City Counselor Graham presented the bill for reading. This bill as approved shall become Ordinance Number 6333 and shall amend Title V, Chapter 500, Article XV, Section 500.1150 in the Municipal Code of the City of Sikeston, Missouri.

This is to make a correction of errors in the current code to replace reference of 2012 International Existing Building Code to 2018.

Position Statement Regarding Future I-57 Interchange Locations

In 2017 the U.S. Congress designated Highway 60 from Sikeston to Poplar Bluff, and Highway 67 from Poplar Bluff to Little Rock, Arkansas, as Future I-57. The City of Sikeston wholeheartedly supports the designation and the projects needed to upgrade portions of that route to interstate. The Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) is currently undertaking a traffic study to explore potential improvements needed to provide access to Future I-57 from I-55 in Sikeston to just west of Morehouse, Missouri.

Staff requests Council approval of the "position statement" laying out the City's official position on where we believe interchanges should be built within the corridor currently being studied by MoDOT. We will use this statement to advocate with MoDOT and state and federal legislators for the City's position. In summary, the City's position is declared as follows:

The City of Sikeston declares our support for interchanges on Highway 60/Future I-57 at Ingram Rd in Sikeston, near Route BB/FF (Brown Spur Rd) in New Madrid County, and near the City of Morehouse. The interchange at Ingram Road is needed immediately, and the other interchanges will be needed later, once Highway 60 is upgraded to Interstate 57 and existing at-grade crossings are closed.

Councilman Robison moved for to approve the Position Statement regarding future interchange locations to include Highway 60/Future I-57 at Ingram Road in Sikeston, near Route BB/FF (Brown Spur Road) in New Madrid County and near the City of Morehouse. The motion was seconded by Councilman Lindsey and the following vote recorded:

Baker Aye, Leible Aye, Robison Aye, Lindsey Aye, Teachout Aye, Williams Aye, and Turnbow Aye, thereby being passed.

Resolution 24-01-01, Surplus DPS Vehicle

RESOLUTION 24-01-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SIKESTON, MISSOURI DECLARING CERTAIN EQUIPMENT, VEHICLES, AND ITEMS IN THE CITY'S INVENTORY TO BE SURPLUS PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZING ITS DISPOSAL.

WHEREAS, Certain equipment, vehicles, and items in the City's inventory, due to its age or state of disrepair can no longer adequately perform the day-to-day operations of the City; and

WHEREAS the City of Sikeston seeks to remove such items from its inventories to maximize operations, and while providing a safe and efficient environment for its employees.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIKESTON, MISSOURI AS FOLLOWS:

The item enumerated below is hereby declared surplus and the City Manager is directed to proceed with the removal of this item from City inventories by sale at public auction, sale by sealed bid, or when the item is no longer usable, by disposal.

Vehicle:

2013 Dodge Charger (Unit 96), VIN: 2C3CDXAT1DH720819

Councilman Teachout motioned to surplus one Department of Public Safety 2013 Dodge Charger, Unit 96. The motion was seconded by Councilman Leible, discussed and the following roll call vote recorded:

Baker Aye, Leible Aye, Robison Aye, Lindsey Aye, Teachout Aye, Williams Aye, and Turnbow Aye, thereby being passed.

Authorization to Proceed with Regional Homeland Security Oversight Committee Grant Purchases

The Sikeston DPS applied for a grant to fund services required on the mobile command truck. The services applied for include an additional 12 months of Satellite service for the vehicle as well as 17 months of service for the Dejero Cellular Gateway. Sikeston DPS also applied for continued support with Instant Connect, which provides service to the land mobile radio interface program utilized by operators on the mobile command truck (computer-based dispatch software). The satellite and Dejero services will be purchased from PEAKE, which is the current service provider for a lot of communication services on the Mobile Command Truck. Sikeston DPS was approved through the local RHSOC for a grant in the amount of \$19,306.40.

Councilman Leible motioned to authorize Department of Public Safety to proceed with the utilization of funds from the Regional Homeland Security Oversight Committee Grant in the amount of \$19,306.40 for services on the mobile command truck which include 12 months of satellite service, 17 months of service for Dejero Cellular Gateway, support for mobile radio interference through Instant Connect for service to the land mobile radio interface program. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Williams, discussed and the following roll call vote recorded:

Baker Aye, Leible Aye, Robison Aye, Lindsey Aye, Teachout Aye, Williams Aye, and Turnbow Aye, thereby being passed.

Approve Purchase to Upgrade Nelson Systems 911 Recorder Equipment

The Department of Public Safety has utilized Nelson Systems as the recorder vendor since 2010. The system installed at that time is still functioning today however, the hardware used and some of the software systems are end-of-life. We anticipate another 10 plus years of service once this upgrade is completed. All existing recordings (phone lines and radio communications), currently dating back to December 2012, will be retained and available once the upgrade is completed. The cost of the upgrade is \$79,984.88. This quote contains a one-year warranty on all hardware and software. This has been presented to the Scott County Emergency Service 911 board. That board has agreed to fully reimburse the City of Sikeston for the \$79,984.88 by use of the 911 tax money. Sikeston DPS would then continue paying yearly for ongoing maintenance and warranties as we have for the last 10 years.

Councilman Baker motioned to approve the purchase to upgrade the Nelson Systems recorder equipment in the amount of \$79,984.88 which includes a one-year warranty on all hardware and software with the understanding that Scott County Emergency Service 911 Board will reimburse the City of Sikeston \$79,984.88 with 911 tax money and Sikeston DPS will pay annual maintenance and warranties. This motion was seconded by Councilman Leible, discussed and the following roll call vote recorded:

Baker Aye, Leible Aye, Robison Aye, Lindsey Aye, Teachout Aye, Williams Aye, and Turnbow Aye, thereby being passed.

Resolution 24-01-02, Surplus of SCBA Fill Station

RESOLUTION 24-01-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SIKESTON, MISSOURI DECLARING CERTAIN EQUIPMENT, VEHICLES, AND ITEMS IN THE CITY'S INVENTORY TO BE SURPLUS PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZING ITS DISPOSAL.

WHEREAS, Certain equipment, vehicles, and items in the City's inventory, due to its age or state of disrepair can no longer adequately perform the day-to-day operations of the City; and

WHEREAS the City of Sikeston seeks to remove such items from its inventories to maximize operations, and while providing a safe and efficient environment for its employees.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIKESTON, MISSOURI AS FOLLOWS:

The item enumerated below is hereby declared surplus and the City Manager is directed to proceed with the removal of this item from City inventories by sale at public auction, sale by sealed bid, or when the item is no longer usable, by disposal.

Vehicles:

1994 Bauer SCBA Bottle Fill Station

Councilman Leible motioned to surplus and donate the 1994 Bauer fill station to Morehouse Fire Department to help them finish their current project of getting a complete SCBA fill unit functional. The motion was seconded by Councilman Teachout, discussed and the following roll call vote recorded:

Baker Aye, Leible Aye, Robison Aye, Lindsey Aye, Teachout Aye, Williams Aye, and Turnbow Aye, thereby being passed.

Receive 2023 Financial Audit

Every year, the city undergoes an independent audit of its financial statements by a certified public accountant. The audit of the Fiscal Year 2023 financials has been completed by Beussink, Hey, Roe & Stroeder, L.L.C., and is available for review by the City Council and the public. Hard copies of the audit will be available to the Council at the January 8th meeting and it is also posted at https://www.sikeston.org/financial_and_annual_reports/index.php for free 24/7 access by the public.

Some highlights of the financial statements and auditor's report include the following:

- From Page 1 of the audit - In the auditor's opinion, the City's financial statements "present fairly, in all material respects, the respective modified cash basis financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Sikeston, Missouri as of June 30, 2023, and the respective changes in modified cash basis financial position for the year then ended in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting described in Note 1." (see p. 13).
- The audit "did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses" (p. 40).
- Total expenditures exceeded revenues by approximately \$1.2 million (p. 8). This is primarily due to grant expenditures. Bond proceeds do not count as revenue. It is considered Another Financing Source.
- Fund Balance for all governmental funds decreased from \$21.9 million, to \$20.8 million. This is due to the repayment of bond debt and spending of ARPA funds.
- Long term debt was decreased by \$3.4 million (p. 25). The decrease is from the refunding of Special Obligations and Improvement Bonds.

The audit this year has a new Federal Compliance Section. Due to federal grant funds exceeding \$750,000, we were required to comply with a Single Audit. That report is at the back of the audit and begins on Page 42. On page 48 the following statement appears:

Auditee qualified as low-risk ___ yes x no

To qualify as low risk, we must undergo two consecutive single audits with no findings or discrepancies. This is our second Single Audit so we are automatically excluded from qualifying as low risk.

Councilman Baker motioned to receive the 2023 Financial Audit. The motion was seconded by Councilman Leible, discussed and the following roll call vote recorded:

Baker Aye, Leible Aye, Robison Aye, Lindsey Aye, Teachout Aye, Williams Aye, and Turnbow Aye, thereby being passed.

Appointment to Scott County Extension Council

The term of the City's current appointee, Lori Caldwell, expires on February 28, 2024. Lori is eligible for a second term but does not seek reappointment. The Extension Council is comprised of elected and appointed citizens, and partners with Missouri's land-grant universities to deliver educational programs and research-based information to area residents. All appointees must be a resident of Sikeston in Scott County. Term: March 1, 2024 through February 28, 2026

Resource Bank Applicants: (Must be a resident of Sikeston)
Camille Lancaster, 113 Holmes Dr.

Councilman Leible motioned to appoint Camille Lancaster to the Scott County Extension Council. The motion was seconded by Councilman Lindsey, discussed and the following roll call vote recorded:

Baker Aye, Leible Aye, Robison Aye, Lindsey Aye, Teachout Aye, Williams Aye, and Turnbow Aye, thereby being passed.

Interim Appointment to Board of Municipal Utilities

City staff received notice from Steven Burch of his desire to resign as a member of the BMU Board. Mr. Burch’s term will expire in October 2026, leaving his unexpired term to be filled.

There are six (6) resource bank applications on file: Diedre Peters, Missy Marshall, Yolanda Redd, Larry Hancock, Frankie Adams, Pershard Owens and Austin Curtis. Also received an additional application from Cal Crader.

Councilman Baker motioned to appoint Diedre Peters to fill the unexpired term of Steven Burch on the BMU Board with term effective immediately and expiring October 2026. The motion was seconded by Councilman Teachout, discussed and the following roll call vote recorded:

Baker Aye, Leible Aye, Robison Abstain, Lindsey Aye, Teachout Aye, Williams Aye, and Turnbow Aye, thereby being passed.

Other Items:

Council heard from citizen Leisha Wilder who lives on a one-way street (300 block of Luther) and asked about getting it made into a two-way street. Wilder also asked if Council could reconsider the number of livestock a resident could own. Council asked to have the issue on the agenda for the next meeting.

As per RSMo 109.230(4), City records that are on file in the City Clerk’s office and have met the retention schedule will be destroyed in compliance with the guidelines established the Secretary of State’s office.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the City Council, Councilman Teachout moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Leible and the following vote was recorded:

Baker Aye, Leible Aye, Robison Aye, Lindsey Aye, Teachout Aye, Williams Aye, and Turnbow Aye, thereby being passed.

APPROVED:

GREG TURNBOW, MAYOR

ATTEST:

RHONDA COUNCIL, CITY CLERK

SEAL: