The regular Sikeston City Council meeting of January 25, 2021 was called to order at 5:00 p.m. at the Clinton Building, located at 501 Campanella Drive in Sikeston, MO. Present at the meeting were: Mayor Steven Burch, Brian Self, Karen Evans, Gerald Settles, Ryan Merideth, Brandon Sparks and Onethia Williams. Staff in attendance were: City Manager Jonathan Douglass, City Counselor Tabatha Thurman, City Clerk Rhonda Council, Finance Director Karen Bailey, City Collector Vicky Lewis, Public Works Director Jay Lancaster, Parks & Recreation Director Dustin Care, Public Safety Director James McMillen and Captain Ryan Smith.

**ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

**Interim Appointment to Scott County Extension Council**

Matt Deane was appointed to the Scott County Extension Council last year but has recently moved so an appointment will need to be made for the replace of his remaining term which expires February 28, 2022. The appointee to this Council must be a resident of both the City and Scott County. There is an application on file for Ryan Moxley of 109 Larkspur Lane.

Councilman Merideth moved appoint Ryan Moxley to the Scott County Extension Council with his term expiring February 28, 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sparks and the following vote recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye, Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

**Resolution 21-02-02, Surplus of DPS Vehicle**

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 are 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:

2009 Dodge Charger (Unit 63), VIN: 2B3LA43T29H608913

Councilman Settles moved to adopt Resolution 21-02-02, surplus of 2009 Dodge Charger. The motion was seconded by Councilman Merideth and the following vote recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye, Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.
Resolution 21-02-03, Authorization to Apply for Delta Regional Authority (DRA) Funding

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SIKESTON, MISSOURI, STATING ITS INTENT TO SEEK FUNDING FOR THE INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS IN THE SOUTH INDUSTRIAL PARK WITH DELTA REGIONAL AUTHORITY (DRA) AND SEEKING AUTHORIZATION TO APPOINT DESIGNATED PERSON TO PURSUE ACTIVITIES IN AN ATTEMPT TO SECURE SAID FUNDING.

WHEREAS, The Delta Regional Authority (hereinafter “DRA”) was created by Congress by the Delta Regional Authority Act of 2000, as amended, as a federal/state partnership now comprised of 252 counties and parishes within the eight states of Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee in order to remedy severe and chronic economic distress by stimulating economic development and fostering partnerships that will have a positive impact on the Delta Region’s economy; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sikeston acting by and through its Public Works Director, Jay Lancaster, proposes to apply for a award with DRA for the Fiscal Year 2020 federal award program cycle; and

WHEREAS, DRA requires that a person be designed, appointed, and given the authority to perform certain duties and administration of said award for and on behalf of the Awardee; and

WHEREAS, the City Council met in a regular session on February 22, 2021, whereby ________ were present, constituting a quorum; and

WHEREAS, a motion was made by ________________, was seconded by ________________, to designate and appoint Jay Lancaster to perform all duties and administration of said award, which carried unanimously by voice vote and was recorded on the minutes; and

WHEREAS, a motion was made by ________________, was seconded by ________________, to provide additional funds in the amount of $3,136,840 to said award which carried unanimously by voice vote and was recorded on the minutes; and

WHEREAS, a motion was made by ________________, was seconded by ________________, that in the event of an administration change, the new Public Works Director shall continue to have such authority under this Resolution.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, by the City Council of the City of Sikeston, Missouri, as follows:

THAT, Jay Lancaster, be and is hereby designated and appointed to perform on behalf of the City of Sikeston and has the authority to make those acts and assume any and all duties in dealing with the award with DRA for the Fiscal Year 2020 federal award program cycle; and

THAT, Jay Lancaster, is hereby authorized to execute and submit any and all documents including, but not limited to, applications, award closing documents, request for funds, status reports to DRA for the Fiscal Year 2020 federal award program cycle; and

THAT, the Awardee agrees to provide additional funds in the amount of $3,136,840 to said award; and
THAT, in the event of an administration change, the new Public Works Director shall continue to have such authority under this Resolution.

Councilman Self moved to approve Resolution 21-02-03, authorizing the Public Works Director to apply for grant funding through Delta Regional Authority (DRA) for infrastructure on future development of the south industrial park. The motion was seconded by Councilman Settles and the following vote recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye, Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

Resolution 21-02-04, Authorization to Seek Funding Through Community Development Block Grant Program

Resolution 21-02-04 was removed from the agenda.

Resolution 21-02-05, Authorization to Apply for Funding from the Land Water Conservation Fund Program

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SIKESTON, MISSOURI TO APPLY FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE LAND WATER CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING NEW PICKLEBALL COURTS AT THE SIKESTON RECREATION COMPLEX.

WHEREAS, the City of Sikeston, Missouri is applying for federal assistance from the Land Water Conservation Fund for the purpose of constructing new pickleball courts at the Sikeston Recreation Complex.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIKESTON, MISSOURI, that

1. Dustin Care of the City of Sikeston, Missouri is authorized to sign the application for federal assistance and any other official project documents that are necessary to obtain such assistance, including any agreements, contracts or other documents that are required by the State of Missouri or any federal agencies.

2. The City of Sikeston, Missouri currently has the written commitment for the minimum 20% matching share for the project elements that are identified in the application and will allocate the necessary funds to complete the project.

3. In the event a grant is awarded, the City of Sikeston, Missouri will commit the necessary financial resources to operate and maintain the completed project in a safe and attractive manner for public access for 25 years and/or will maintain maintenance/construction equipment purchased with grant funding for its useful life and in support of future projects.

4. In the event a grant is awarded, the City of Sikeston, Missouri is prepared to complete the project within the time period identified on the signed project agreement.

5. In the event a grant is awarded, the City of Sikeston, Missouri will comply with all rules and regulations of the Land Water Conservation Fund Program, applicable Executive Orders and all state laws that govern the grant application during the performance of the project.

Councilman Self moved to approve Resolution 21-02-05, authorizing Parks & Recreation Director Dustin Care to apply for federal assistance from the Land Water Conservation Fund Program for
the purpose of constructing new pickleball courts at the Sikeston Recreation Complex. Total project cost is $150,000 with a 20% match of $30,000. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sparks and the following vote recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye, Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

Board of Municipal Utilities Update

Staff from the Board of Municipal Utilities (BMU) were on hand to update Council on issues that were presented to them at the February 1 Council meeting. BMU Manager Rick Landers indicated that testing was done on all AMI meters prior to installation. A third-party meter testing vendor will be engaged to test one percent of current meters which will include those questioned by customers and requested reviews. Approximately 500 BMU accounts have been reviewed since the meeting and no discrepancies in usage or billing were found on those reviewed. Payment policies and options are currently under review but they do offer levelized billing or budget billing. And their customer service team has been updated on concerns and some action steps have been taken. More backup personnel have been designated for those seeking payment arrangements.

Sikeston residents Michael Stash, Bill McCoy, Bo Ozment, James Crowe Sr., Lori Caldwell, Hallie Bonner, Rev. Sharl Smith and John Graham were on-hand to voice concerns on their high utility bill. Some presented suggestions for BMU such as offering senior citizen/veterans discounts, having a reserve fund set aside to use for citizens unable to pay their bills or better payment arrangements for those who can’t afford to pay the total amount due.

Other Items

The Street Department and BMU crews were acknowledged and thanked for their hard work during the recent snowstorm our city encountered.

**ADJOURNMENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There being no further business before the City Council, Councilwoman Evans moved to adjourn into executive session for sealed bids/proposals and negotiated contracts (RSMo 610.021(12)). The motion was seconded by Councilman Self and the following roll call vote was recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye, Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

Mayor Burch called the executive session to order. Present were: Mayor Steven Burch and Councilmen Ryan Merideth, Brandon Sparks, Brian Self, Karen Evans, Gerald Settles and Onethia Williams. Staff present were: City Manager Jonathan Douglass, City Counselor Tabatha Thurman, City Clerk Rhonda Council, Finance Director Karen Bailey, Public Works Director Jay Lancaster and Public Safety Director James McMillen. Also present were staff from Sikeston Regional Chamber.

No action was taken.

**ADJOURNMENT OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Councilman Sparks moved to adjourn from executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Self and the following roll call vote recorded:
Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye, Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the City Council, Councilman Self moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Evans and the following roll call vote was recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye, Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

APPROVED:

______________________________

STEVEN BURCH, MAYOR

ATTEST:

______________________________

RHONDA COUNCIL, CITY CLERK

SEAL: