

**SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**NOVEMBER 6, 2017**

**CALL TO ORDER/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE**

The regular Sikeston City Council meeting of October 2, 2017 was called to order at 5:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, located at 105 East Center, Sikeston. Present at the meeting were: Mayor Steven Burch and Councilmen Karen Evans, Jon Gilmore, Ryan Merideth, Brian Self, Gerald Settles, and Mary White-Ross. Staff in attendance were: City Manager Jonathan Douglass, City Clerk Carroll Couch, City Treasurer Karen Bailey, Deputy City Clerk Rhonda Council, Public Safety Director Mike Williams, Public Works Director Jay Lancaster, Street Superintendent Brian Dial, Parks Director Dustin Care, Street Supervisor Darren Martin, and Senior Building Official Collin Cecil. City Counselor Chuck Leible was absent.

**APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

City Council minutes of October 2 and October 19, 2017 were presented for approval. Councilwoman White-Ross moved to approve the minutes as presented. Councilman Gilmore seconded the motion and the following roll call vote was recorded:

Gilmore Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye  
White-Ross Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

**ACCEPTANCE OF BOARD AND COMMISSION MINUTES**

Minutes from various board and commission meetings were presented to the City Council. Councilman Merideth moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Self and voted as follows:

Gilmore Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye  
White-Ross Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

**ADVISORY BOARD COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS**

No reports were made.

**ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading, Bill #6076, Repealing Article VIII of Chapter 130 of the Sikeston Municipal Code and Authorize Execution of Contract with SAEDC

Councilwoman White-Ross moved for the reading of Bill Number 6076. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Evans and the following vote recorded:

Gilmore Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye  
White-Ross Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

City Treasurer Bailey presented the bill for reading. This bill as approved shall become Ordinance Number 6076 providing for the repeal of Article VIII of Chapter 130 of the Sikeston Municipal Code, thus dissolving the Department of Economic Development and the Economic Development Executive Board.

Councilwoman White-Ross moved for the approval of contract with SAEDC. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Evans and the following vote recorded:

Gilmore Abstain, Merideth Abstain, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye  
White-Ross Aye, and Burch Abstain, thereby being passed.

#### Renewal of Health Insurance

City Treasurer Bailey gave Council an overview of the current Employee Health Insurance Plan. She indicated that the relationship the City has with HealthScope, as our third party administrator, LDI as our pharmacy provider and Healthlink, PCHS and FirstHealth Option as our network providers has worked well.

Employees have the ability to obtain an MRI, CAT scan, lab work, even surgery at Missouri Delta Medical Center and Ferguson Medical Center for no cost. With Health 180 Benefits, they are able to go to Southeast Hospital with only a \$1,000 deductible. This year we are fortunate to add Mercy Hospital in St. Louis to our network of providers that have a lower deductible! Our standard deductible is \$2,500.

Given the balance in the health insurance account and the terms of renewal, there is no insurance premium increase for 2018. This is our second year without an increase.

Councilman Merideth moved to authorize the renewal of the City's Employee Health Insurance Plan with HealthScope Benefits, LDI and QBE. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman White-Ross and the following roll call vote recorded:

Gilmore Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye  
White-Ross Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

#### Award of Domestic Violence Surcharge Funding

Deputy City Clerk Council explained the State established a funding source for domestic violence abuse shelters and these funds are retained by the City and distributed via an application process to domestic violence shelters serving the municipality.

The House of Refuge for Abused and Battered Women submitted an application for funding in the amount of \$8,000. This amount would be distributed on a monthly basis during calendar year 2018. Their application meets all municipal requirements and if Sikeston's municipal court caseload remains at current levels, \$8,000 in domestic violence surcharge fees should be generated.

Councilman Gilmore moved to authorize the 2018 Domestic Violence Surcharge funding to the House of Refuge. The motion was seconded by Councilman Settles and the following roll call vote recorded:

Gilmore Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye  
White-Ross Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

Bid Award for CDBG Demolition Project 08-PF-26

Public Works Director Lancaster reviewed the bids received for the demolition of 1 residential structure with asbestos removal and also the demolition of 7 residential structures. Ferrell Enterprises, Inc. submitted the low bid of \$44,000. Lancaster also mentioned the grant funds do not require a match.

Councilman Settles moved to award the demolition project bid to Ferrell Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of \$44,000. The motion was seconded by Councilman Self and the following roll call vote recorded:

Gilmore Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye  
White-Ross Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

Award Bid 18-8, Bleachers

Parks Director Care reviewed the bids received for new bleachers at the Recreation Complex for the baseball and softball fields. The lowest bid was from Golf Coast Sports but due to prior history of poor workmanship on other projects with the City, staff recommends purchasing the bleachers from the second lowest bidder, All Inclusive Rec from Farmington, MO in the amount of \$13,640. for five Aluminum Preferred Seating Bleachers.

Councilwoman White-Ross moved to purchase the bleachers from All Inclusive Rec in the amount of \$13,640.45. The motion was seconded by Councilman Self and the following roll call vote recorded:

Gilmore Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye  
White-Ross Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

Authorization to Purchase High School Soccer, Softball and Baseball Scoreboards

After much discussion, this item was tabled until the November 27<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

1<sup>st</sup> Reading, Bill #6073, Amending City Code Title II, Chapter 335 Section 335.040 – Stop and Yield Signs, Authorizing the Installation of Stop Signs

Before the reading of this bill, City Manager Douglass suggested tabling this item until contact was made with the citizen, Dave Alexander, who requested the installation of stop signs at North West Street and Wakefield Ave. The Traffic Committee did not pass this agenda item. This would give Mr. Alexander a chance to attend the meeting and address any questions or comments he may have.

1<sup>st</sup> Reading, Bill #6074, Amending City Code Title III, Chapter 20.050 Schedule I-B, Authorizing a School Zone on North West at the DAEOC Child Care Facility

Councilman Settles moved for the reading of Bill Number 6062. The motion was seconded by Councilman Merideth and the following vote recorded:

Gilmore Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye  
White-Ross Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

City Treasurer Bailey presented the bill for reading. This bill as approved shall become Ordinance Number 6074 and shall amend Title III, Chapter 320.050 Schedule I-B by adding another designated school zone.

Briefing: Convention & Visitors Bureau Funding

City Manager Douglass explained that when the Chamber of Commerce took over the Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) services, this also included paying all funds related to tourism expenses. During this first year of the contract, most of the expenses were contractual obligations entered into prior to the Chamber taking over the CVB responsibilities.

To effectuate a clean transfer of responsibilities and simplify accounting for both the City and the Chamber, staff requests Council approval to pay FY18 year-to-date Tourism expenses out of the Tourism Tax fund balance, and to cease withholding those funds from future disbursements to the Chamber. This would allow us to return to the original intent of the contract, which was to simply transmit all Tourism Tax disbursements to the Chamber and have the Chamber pay all future Tourism related expenses, including future wayfinding sign obligations.

The YTD expenses to be paid from the Tourism Tax fund balance total \$87,607.48. The Tourism Tax fund balance would be \$44,657.48 after paying these items. Tourism Tax funds are restricted funds which can only be used to pay for tourism related expenses.

Councilman Settles moved to authorize the City to pay the current FY18 year-to-date tourism expenses from the Tourism Fund balance. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gilmore and the following roll call vote recorded:

Gilmore Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye  
White-Ross Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, Emergency Bill #6075, Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Agreement for Real Property Swap and an Option to Acquire Real Property

Councilman Merideth moved for the first reading of Bill Number 6075. The motion was seconded by Councilman Self and the following vote recorded:

Gilmore Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye  
White-Ross Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

City Treasurer Bailey presented the bill for reading. This bill as approved shall become Emergency Ordinance Number 6075 authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement to swap Unilever's South Plant for 16 acres in the City's North Industrial Park.

Councilman Self moved for a second reading of Bill Number 6075. The motion was seconded by Councilman Settles and the following vote recorded:

Gilmore Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye  
White-Ross Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

City Treasurer Bailey presented the bill for a second reading.

BILL NUMBER 6075ORDINANCE NUMBER 6075

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SIKESTON, MISSOURI TO ENTER INTO A CERTAIN OPTION TO ACQUIRE REAL PROPERTY AGREEMENT AND AGREEMENT FOR REAL PROPERTY SWAP.

WHEREAS, the City Council finds and determines that it is necessary and desirable to execute an Option to Acquire Real Property Agreement and Agreement for Real Property Swap wherein the City of Sikeston shall swap certain lands in the Sikeston Business and Technology Park for the certain land and improvements located at and known as Unilever's South Plant.

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

SECTION I: Authorization of Documents. The City is hereby authorized to enter into the following documents (the "City Documents"), in substantially the form presented to the City Council and attached to this Ordinance, with such changes therein as are approved by the officials of the City executing the documents, such officials' signatures thereon being conclusive evidence of their approval thereof:

- (a) Option to Acquire Real Property Agreement;
- (b) Agreement for Real Property Swap.

SECTION II: Execution of Documents. The Mayor is hereby authorized to execute the City Documents and such other documents, certificates and instruments as may be necessary or desirable to carry out and comply with the intent of this Ordinance, for and on behalf of and as the act and deed of the City. The City Clerk is hereby authorized to attest to and affix the seal of the City to the City Documents and such other documents, certificates and instruments as may be necessary or desirable to carry out and comply with the intent of this Ordinance.

SECTION III. Further Authority. The City shall, and the officials, agents and employees of the City are hereby authorized to, take such further action, and execute such other documents, certificates and instruments as may be necessary or desirable to carry out and comply with the intent of this Ordinance and to carry out, comply with and perform the duties of the City with respect to the City Documents.

SECTION IV. To accommodate the time table and schedule for Unilever Manufacturing (US), Inc., this bill is being considered as an emergency measure.

SECTION V. Any other ordinance or parts thereof inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION VI. Should any part or parts of this Ordinance be found or held to be invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining part or parts shall continue in full force and effect.

SECTION VII: Record of Passage:

A. Bill Number 6075 was introduced and read the first time this 6<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2017.

B. Bill Number 6075 was read the second time and discussed on this 6<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2017. Councilman Merideth moved to approve Bill Number 6075. The motion was seconded by Councilman Settles and the following roll call vote was recorded:

Gilmore Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye  
White-Ross Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed,  
and becoming Ordinance 6075.

C. Upon passage by the City Council, this bill shall become Ordinance 6075 and shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

Other Items

Park Director Care has received a bid quote from MUSCO Lighting through the National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) in the amount of \$176,900 for the purchase of replacement fields lights and light poles for (girls) fields #5 and #7 at the Complex. These replacement items were in our budget for \$180,000.

Councilman Self moved to authorize the purchase of the lights and light poles from MUSCO Lighting in the amount of \$180,000. The motion was seconded by Councilman Merideth and the following roll call vote recorded:

Gilmore Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye  
White-Ross Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

Housing Authority employees Patricia Willis, Joyce Grant and Lisa Loflin approached Council in reference to their hostile work environment. They are seeking Council's support in finding a solution to this situation.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

Gilmore Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye  
White-Ross Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

APPROVED:

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STEVEN BURCH, MAYOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CARROLL L. COUCH, CITY CLERK

SEAL: