

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF BLACK JACK
12500 OLD JAMESTOWN ROAD
April 19, 2016
7:00 pm**

ROLL CALL

The City Clerk called the roll and the following members were present:

Councilman Krank	Councilman Schroeder
Councilman Steigerwald	Councilman Allen
Councilman Hinkle	

EXCUSED

Councilwoman Muller and Councilman Taylor
Councilman White was absent

The City Clerk attested to the fact that a quorum was present. Mayor McCourt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING

None

PRESENTATION

1. Deborah Pitchford (Toni) – Missouri Census – Ms. Pitchford advised that she is a Data Dissemination Specialist for the Census Bureau. She covers the states of Missouri and Arkansas. She advised that it is time for the decennial census and St. Louis County has been chosen as a test site for the 2020 Decennial Census. This will provide about 150 jobs from October – December for canvassing with the pay ranging from \$13.00 per hour to \$19.00 per hour. She would like to serve the area and assist with providing data. The Census Bureau can provide an abundance of information and she advised that she is the City's liaison and looks forward to working with the City and the entire area to assist in accurately obtaining recording data.
2. Officer Bill Curry – Officer Curry discussed the plan to clean up behind Walgreens to deter crime and trespassing. He advised that the last time the area was cleaned was in 2013 and it was a success. The date this year will be Friday, May 13th. He has lined up several vendors to assist including; ORMI, Angelo's Pizzeria, Black Jack Liquor, and Walgreens. Informational flyers will be distributed. He will also contact Loews.

PROCLAMATIONS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor McCourt called for additions, corrections or changes to the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 5, 2016. The minutes were approved as distributed.

COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, PETITIONS, ETC. FROM THE PUBLIC

Chris Davisson – 4972 Bristol Rock – Mr. Davisson advised that he and his father are 50 year residents of the City and the last Caucasian family on his street. He feels they are being targeted because of the following incidents:

- Garage vandalized and broken into
- Mailbox covered in graffiti
- Front door lock was drilled out, while his 80 year old father sat in the living room – it was later determined that the individuals had the wrong address.

He also advised that there is a home in the area playing very loud music every evening from 9 pm to 6 am, however he is unable to determine which home is playing the music.

Mayor McCourt advised he would have the police look into the matter. Councilman Hinkle added that he contact his Home Owners Association or trustees for assistance.

MAYOR'S REPORT

1. Mayor McCourt reiterated that the clean up behind Walgreens will be on Friday, May 13th.
2. There is a Bill on the agenda tonight concerning nuisance violations that will be discussed.
3. The Boards and Commissions need to be revitalized. The Council liaison needs to be more involved and provide information for discussion at least every quarter. He will devise a plan of action for discussion at a later meeting.
4. He received correspondence from Sheldon Stock, City Attorney, concerning the right to install a “no parking” sign and a chain across the Old City Hall parking lot.

OFFICIALS

Councilman Hinkle advised that the Jamestown Homeowners Association discussed the need for “no littering” signs on the main street in their subdivision. The Mayor advised Councilman Hinkle to speak with Vijay Bhasin, Director of Public Works.

Councilman Hinkle also asked about the repair and design of broken cul de sac curbs. The Mayor advised that some of the curbs have recently been repaired. They will discuss this matter in greater detail at a later date.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONS/BOARDS/COMMITTEE

Councilman Krank advised that the Safety and Loss Prevention Committee met and discussed the mosquito spraying schedule, safety of mosquito spraying, how to use and store the mosquito spraying equipment.

Mayor McCourt requested that the Committee expand its topics of discussion during their monthly

meeting.

SPECIAL COUNSEL

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill #1177, entitled, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1018 TO CHANGE THE COMPENSATION FOR GREENSFELDER, HEMKER & GALE, P.C. FOR PERFORMING THE DUTIES OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY FOR THE CITY OF BLACK JACK, MISSOURI was read for the second time. Councilman Krank moved to place Bill #1177 on its passage. Motion was seconded and passed when a poll of the Council produced the following vote:

Councilman Krank	yes	Councilman Schroeder	yes
Councilman Steigerwald	yes	Councilman Allen	yes
Councilman Hinkle	yes		

Bill #1177 became Ordinance #1090

PENDING LEGISLATION:

Councilman Allen moved to place Bill #1178 under New Business and assigned himself as the sponsor, Bill #1179 under New Business and assigned Councilman Steigerwald as the sponsor, Bill #1180 under New Business and assigned Councilman Krank as the sponsor and Resolution #160402 under Resolution and assigned Councilman Hinkle as the sponsor. Motion was seconded and passed when a poll of the Council produced the following vote:

Councilman Krank	yes	Councilman Schroeder	yes
Councilman Steigerwald	yes	Councilman Allen	yes
Councilman Hinkle	yes		

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Bill #1178, entitled, AN ORDINANCE SETTING LIMITATIONS ON USE OF HANDHELD, ELECTRONIC WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICES FOR PERSONS 21 YEARS OF AGE OR YOUNGER AND OPERATORS OF COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES FOR THE CITY OF BLACK JACK, MISSOURI was read for the first time.
2. Bill #1179, entitled, AN ORDINANCE SETTING LIMITATIONS ON USE OF HANDHELD, ELECTRONIC WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICES FOR PERSONS OVER 21 YEARS OF AGE FOR THE CITY OF BLACK JACK, MISSOURI was read for the first time.
3. Bill #1180, entitled, AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING CRIMINAL NUISANCES, DEFINING SAME, PROVIDING BOTH AN ADMINSTRATIVE AND CRIMINAL PROCEDURE FOR ENFORCEMENT, AND SETTING FINES FOR VIOLATIONS was read for the first time.

RESOLUTION:

Resolution #160402, entitled, BUDGET ADJUSTMENT PUBLIC WORKS MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES was read in its entirety. Councilman Hinkle moved to place Resolution #160402 on its passage. Motion was seconded and passed when a poll of the Council produced the following vote:

Councilman Krank	yes	Councilman Schroeder	yes
Councilman Steigerwald	yes	Councilman Allen	yes
Councilman Hinkle	yes		

Resolution #160402 is attached and made a part hereof

MISCELLENEOUS

1. Councilman Krank moved to accept the contract from AMF Electrical Services for repairs to Old City Hall – 4655 Parker Road in the amount of \$2,541.00. Motion was seconded and passed when a poll of the Council produced the following vote:

Councilman Krank	yes	Councilman Schroeder	yes
Councilman Steigerwald	yes	Councilman Allen	yes
Councilman Hinkle	yes		

2. The Mayor and the City Council reviewed the amended LED Monument Sign Bid Specifications. There were no further suggested changes.
3. The Mayor and City Council reviewed the Bid Specifications for repairs to the lower level of City Hall. There were no suggested changes.
4. The Mayor and City Council discussed two requests for the use of the ball fields in Harold Evangelista Park. Councilman Hinkle moved to allow Officer Chris Pignataro to speak. Motion was seconded and passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

Officer Pignataro confirmed that in past years, it has proven to be a parking nightmare when the fields are allocated to two teams because there is not adequate parking to accommodate all of the attendees.

Councilman Steigerwald moved to award the bid for Ball Field Allocation to North County Youth Association. Motion was seconded by Councilman Krank.

Councilman Krank removed his second and Councilman Steigerwald removed the motion.

Councilman Krank moved to request a meeting with each team leader and discuss the use of the fields in order to work out a compromise. Motion was seconded passed when a poll of the Council produced the following vote:

Councilman Krank	yes	Councilman Schroeder	yes
Councilman Steigerwald	yes	Councilman Allen	yes
Councilman Hinkle	yes		

5. Councilman Steigerwald moved to allow Eugene McFarland, Maintenance Supervisor to speak. Motion was seconded and passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

Mr. McFarland advised that the state bid received for the purchase of a Commercial Front Mower and Commercial Side Discharge Mower Deck was received from Art’s Lawn Mower. However, Wm Nobbe’s bid on the exact same item was at a lower price.

Councilman Steigerwald moved to approve the purchase of a John Deere 1550 4 wheel drive 72 inch Commercial Front Mower and Commercial Side Discharge Mower Deck in the amount of \$18,561.07 from Wm Nobbe Company Inc of St. Peters, Missouri. Motion was seconded and passed when a poll of the Council produced the following vote:

Councilman Krank	yes	Councilman Schroeder	yes
Councilman Steigerwald	yes	Councilman Allen	yes
Councilman Hinkle	yes		

6. Mayor McCourt advised that there has been a problem with the Parks and Recreation Board. In January, he sent a list of items to the Board for discussion. He sent the list again in February and again in April. To date, no discussion has ensued. Also, all of the Boards, Committees and Commissions, should meet at least once a quarter. He advised that if things don’t change, he will request the removal of members. He stated the lack of activity/meetings is a disservice to the residents of the City. Mayor McCourt requested that the liaison for each Board and Commission become more involved.

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor McCourt advised that the City’s budget is experiencing a significant deficit this year because of the situation that took place in Ferguson. Our Court revenue has always been budgeted to cover the expenses to run court;not to bring in extra revenue. Our budget has been only 4%, while others are at 12%. With a shortage of revenue, the difference will have to come from our general fund. We are approximately \$60,000 short.

He spoke with a representative of the St. Louis County Police Department today concerning their annual contract. The cost for the next fiscal year has increased by 5%, as it did last year. In the last three years, this contract has increased about 13%. Mayor McCourt expressed his concern that the City’s budget has been cut significantly and it is difficult to fund a 5% increase. He advised that he will speak with the Chief of Police next week.

Councilman Krank suggested bidding on police services this year since our budget is strained. He suggested considering Florissant Police Department and North County Consortium.

Councilman Allen suggested that St. Louis County consider cost cutting as everyone else has done. It’s rare that an organization increase their salary 5% every year.

Councilman Hinkle advised that the City has to be prudent with its finances and that all contracts are negotiable. He also suggested considering other means.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

THE APRIL 19, 2016 CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES WERE APPROVED AS DISTRIBUTED DURING THE MAY 3, 2016 CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

Norman C. McCourt, Mayor

ATTEST:

Karen E. Robinson, MRCC-S/CMC
City Clerk