

CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 12, 2019

A meeting of the Warrensburg City Council was held on November 12, 2019, at 2:00 p.m., at the Warrensburg Community Center, 454 E. Gay, with Mayor Casey Lund presiding. Roll was called as follows: Present were: Brooks, Jacobs, Holmberg, Allen, Lund. Absent: none.

Minutes of the October 28, 2019, City Council meeting were considered. Jacobs moved to approve the minutes of the October 28, 2019, City Council meeting. Yes: Brooks, Jacobs, Holmberg, Allen, Lund. No: none. Absent: none.

The adoption of the agenda was considered. Allen moved to adopt the agenda. Yes: Brooks, Jacobs, Holmberg, Allen, Lund. No: none. Absent: none.

Mayor Lund read an Ordinance Amending Section 3-14 Concerning Drinking in Public Places Prohibited of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Warrensburg, Missouri, was read for the first time by title. City Manager Harold Stewart said since the City Council's support to allow open containers at public events and the numerous requests received, an ordinance has been written to simplify the process. He said this draft ordinance is for City Council consideration and several options have been added.

Stewart said one issue has been the fee for issuance of the license. He said City staff prepared some estimates at around \$650. Stewart said that fee is not his recommendation, but there should be discussion of what amount would be appropriate. He said in Missouri, because of the Hancock Amendment, it is his understanding that once an activity is implemented, the fee must be established in the beginning because it cannot be charged later. Council member Allen said the fees should be consistent once these changes are established.

Stewart said he notified the Chamber and Main Street Directors that this ordinance is on the agenda for consideration and discussion. He said at this meeting it is for first reading only to allow time for public comment.

Council member Brooks asked why the City would not charge the maximum fee. Stewart said that amount is high for this type of event. When asked by Council Member Brooks, Main Street Director Jill Purvis said their profit on alcohol sales is hard to estimate. She said for Burg Fest it would be around \$5,000.

There was discussion of the fees and City Counselor Doug Harris said there could be an application fee and an issuance fee. He said some of the direct costs are based on the department fees.

Council member Holmberg said he disagrees a little with this culture change. He said he remembers when there was an alcohol problem downtown. Council member Holmberg said he is confident our police officers can handle problems, but he does not think an open container license matches with family-type events. Stewart said he does want to clarify that this does allow drinking with a much larger area so those not allowed to drink will be able to observe those adults consuming alcohol.

Council member Brooks asked Chief Lockhart if there were any major problems with Burg Fest because of the change in this ordinance and Chief Lockhart said no. Council member Brooks said the safety factor is important, but Stewart pointed out he has seen these events get out of control with tragic results.

Mayor Lund said the City should not lose the ability to deny these applications. Stewart asked about an appeal process, and Harris said an additional provision can be added. The Mayor said he would propose a fee that is as low as \$100 to \$200 and suggested there could be a fee for the appeal process. Stewart said he will work with Harris on this proposed ordinance and said the fees will be outlined separately. This will be discussed again at a future meeting.

Bill No. 11-1-19 being for an Ordinance Establishing Parking on the West side of Water Street from West Market Street to West Pine Street and Prohibiting Parking on the East Side of Water Street from West Market to West Pine Street was read for the first time by title. Lockhart said the Traffic Commission met on October 16, 2019 and discussed the parking on the east side of Water Street. He said parking is allowed on the same side of the street where the mailboxes are located. Lockhart said normally parking is prohibited on the same side of the street as the mailboxes. He said this change would allow efficiency of these areas. Holmberg moved said bill be passed to second reading by title. Carried unanimously. Said bill was read a second time. Roll was called for the adoption or rejection of said bill as follows: Yes: Brooks, Jacobs, Holmberg, Allen, Lund. No: none. Said bill was declared duly adopted and given Ordinance No. 5556.

Bill No. 11-2-19 being for an Ordinance Establishing a Four-Way Stop at the Intersection of Christopher Street and South Zoll Street, in the City of Warrensburg, Missouri, was read for the first time by title. Lockhart said concerns were expressed by a resident at the October 16, 2019, concerning an intersection near their residence. He said Zoll Street is heavily travelled, and speeding is difficult to enforce. Lockhart said the resident asked for a stop sign at Christopher and Zoll Streets. He said this will force vehicles to stop and will slow the traffic. Allen moved said bill be passed to second reading by title. Carried unanimously. Said bill was read a second time. Roll was called for the adoption or rejection of said bill as follows: Yes: Brooks, Jacobs, Holmberg, Allen, Lund. No: none. Said bill was declared duly adopted and given Ordinance No. 5557.


In Mayoral appointments, Mayor Lund said he would like to make the following appointments to the Arts Commission: Raymond Crisp, new appointment, Cindy Bechtol, reappointment (completed an unexpired term), and Ellie Schmutz, new appointment. Allen moved to approve. Yes: Brooks, Jacobs, Holmberg, Allen, Lund. No: none. Carried unanimously.

In the City Manger's report, City Manager Stewart said all the departments are busy completing their evaluations of employees.

In the Finance Director's report, Stewart said revenues are continuing to come in above the amounts anticipated. He said refinancing of several bonds will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned.




Casey Lund, Mayor


Cindy Gabel, City Clerk