

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN MINUTES  
JULY 7, 2009**

**Item 1                    call to order**

Mayor Judy Stainback called the meeting to order at 6:58pm. Aldermen Tim Bair, Stephen Esterline, Jill Finney, Debra Hickey, and Darrin Snodgrass present. Alderman Aaron Kruse absent.

**Item 2                    pledge allegiance**

Alderman Stephen Esterline led the group in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the USA.

**Item 3                    announcements**

All announcements were submitted in writing to the Board of Aldermen and the Mayor.

**Item 4                    adoption and approval of consent agenda**

Motion by Jill Finney to adopt and approve the consent agenda which includes June 16, 2009 minutes; bills paid in the amount of \$21,249.04; June 2009 sewer billing adjustments in the amount of \$118.60; and Committee and Employee reports. Second by Debra Hickey. Roll call vote with Tim Bair aye, Stephen Esterline aye, Jill Finney aye, Debra Hickey aye, Aaron Kruse absent, and Darrin Snodgrass abstain. Motion passed.

**Item 5                    City Administrator updates**

City Administrator, Rick Hess, submitted updates in writing. Mr. Hess also informed the Board that the Cloverdale Sidewalk project is ahead of schedule.

**Item 6                    public input**

Charles Lee, 5343 Old Wire Road, spoke concerning the current grass and high weeds ordinance. Mr. Lee owns four and one-half acres that he uses for hay to cut and bale. Mr. Lee believes the ordinance is vague, as it could include gardens, hay fields, and flowers.

Theron Guiltner, 5033 S FF Highway, spoke concerning the current grass and high weeds ordinance. Mr. Guiltner stated that he has received numerous tall grass violation letters throughout the last four years. He believes that the ordinance is vague. Mr. Guiltner stated that he has seen property owned by the State and the City of Battlefield in violation of the ordinance. Mr. Guiltner suggested changing the procedures for notification of nuisances.

**Item 7a                    motion on extension of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street into the Park**

City Administrator, Rick Hess, updated the Board of Aldermen on the ongoing attempt to extend 3<sup>rd</sup> Street into the City Park. A full-size color map of the possible route was reviewed by the Mayor and Aldermen. Mr. Hess stated that if all parties involved could come to an agreement, the project could become a STP Project. Motion by Jill Finney to authorize the City Administrator to proceed with the project and to communicate with all necessary parties to attempt to move the project forward. Second by Tim Bair. Roll call vote with Tim Bair aye, Stephen Esterline aye, Jill Finney aye, Debra Hickey aye, Aaron Kruse absent, and Darrin Snodgrass aye. Motion passed.

**Item 7b                    motion on “Meet the Aldermen” ice cream social**

Alderman Jill Finney reported her efforts on creating an ice cream social in order to get the citizens to meet their Aldermen. Schwan’s Ice Cream would give us at least a 20% discount on ice cream novelties. The Board was in consensus on having the social on the 14<sup>th</sup> of August, in conjunction with the Farmer’s Market. Motion by Darrin Snodgrass to authorize up to \$500 to be spent to initiate the “Meet the Aldermen” ice cream social on the 14<sup>th</sup> of August from 6pm to 8pm. Second by Stephen Esterline. Roll call vote with Tim Bair aye, Stephen Esterline aye, Jill Finney aye, Debra Hickey aye, Aaron Kruse absent, and Darrin Snodgrass aye. Motion passed.

**Item 8a                    four year synopsis of Police Department goals**

Chief David Vallely submitted his synopsis. The department really needs more officers and better incentives to keep the officers in Battlefield. The cost per police officer is \$37,675 per year and the

equipment for a new officer (including patrol car) is \$30,000. The City should know by September of this year if we are accepted as a recipient of the COPS grant. Chief Vallely recommends a ½ cent sales tax increase to cover hiring another officer.

**Item 8b motion on repairs to 1997 Ford truck**

Motion by Jill Finney to authorize A1 Custom Muffler to repair catalytic converter on the 1997 Ford truck at a cost not to exceed \$675.90. Second by Darrin Snodgrass. Roll call vote with Tim Bair aye, Stephen Esterline aye, Jill Finney aye, Debra Hickey aye, Aaron Kruse absent, and Darrin Snodgrass aye. Motion passed.

**Item 8c motion on police department computer**

Motion by Jill Finney to authorize Exodus Technology to supply computer with network connection at a cost not to exceed \$800. Second by Tim Bair. Roll call vote with Tim Bair aye, Stephen Esterline aye, Jill Finney aye, Debra Hickey aye, Aaron Kruse absent, and Darrin Snodgrass aye. Motion passed.

**Item 8d discussion on sewer rate increases**

Board of Aldermen chose to take no action until more detailed information is presented.

**Item 8e discussion on Section 215.100, concerning tall grass and weeds**

Mayor and Board of Aldermen agreed that the ordinance needs to be amended and more detailed so that the citizens, as well as the staff, can understand what needs and does not need mowed. City Administrator requested input from citizens, Aldermen, and Mayor, so that he can present his findings to the City Attorney for editing and revision of the current ordinance.

**Item 9 adjournment**

Motion by Darrin Snodgrass to adjourn meeting. Second by Stephen Esterline. Roll call vote with Tim Bair aye, Stephen Esterline aye, Jill Finney aye, Debra Hickey aye, Aaron Kruse absent, and Darrin Snodgrass aye. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:50pm.

\_\_\_\_\_ Mayor Judy Stainback \_\_\_\_\_ Date

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Susan R Diehl, CMC/MRCC \_\_\_\_\_ Date