**September 24, 2015** *(approved)*

Mayor Jan Lehmkuhl called the Special Session of the Board of Aldermen meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on September 24, 2015 with the following Board Members present: Jerry Kane, Troy Watts, and Sharon Anderson. Others present were City Clerk Deborah Cox, and City Attorney Mel Gilbert.

***SIMPSON RESIGNS:*** Mayor Lehmkuhl informed the Board that Diana Simpson submitted a letter of resignation to her on September 16, 2015. Ms Simpson has moved from Ash Grove and can no longer serve as 2nd Ward Aldermen. Mayor Lehmkuhl has posted notices asking for a statement of interest to fill Simpson’s position until the April 2016 election. Mayor will submit her recommendation for Board approval at the October 5, 2015 meeting.

***FINANCING OF 2016 TRUCK:*** Mayor Lehmkuhl stated the 2016 Public Works truck has been ordered and will be financed through Old Missouri Bank in Ash Grove at about ½ the interest rate as quoted through the finance company.

***MUTUAL AID AGREEMENTS:*** Chief Phillips has requested that the Police Mutual Aid Agreements with Willard, Walnut Grove and Springfield be updated. Troy Watts suggested that Republic be added also. These agreements will be prepared and submitted for approval at the October 5, 2015 council meeting.

***SEWER ADJUSTMENT:*** Mayor Lehmkuhl presented a request for water/sewer adjustment. After discussion, motion was made by Sharon Anderson and seconded by Jerry Kane to adjust the Ash Grove School’s sewer bill due to a water leak. Vote taken. Anderson and Kane, aye. Watts nay. Request approved.

Motion made by Troy Watts to amend the agenda to add litigation (RSMo 610.021.1) to the closed session. Seconded by Jerry Kane. Vote taken. Unanimously approved.

Motion to go into closed session for personnel and litigation at 7:37 p.m. by Troy Watts and seconded by Jerry Kane. Vote taken. Unanimously approved.

City Clerk left the meeting before going into closed session.

Troy Watts made a motion to go back into Regular Board Meeting at 8:50 p.m. with Sharon Anderson giving the second. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Mayor, Jan Lehmkuhl, called the Board Meeting back to order. Council members present: Jerry Kane, Sharon Anderson, and Troy Watts. Also present was City Attorney Mel Gilbert.

Mayor Lehmkuhl announced the Board voted to offer Julisa Allen, a current City Reserve Police Officer, the full time Police Officer position.

Mayor Lehmkuhl announced that no other decisions were made in Closed Session that could be announced in open session.

***FIRE HYDRANT DONATION:*** The Historic Town Center Society is requesting that the City donate an old city fire hydrant, which had been removed from service after the water system had been upgraded, for a fund raiser they were having. Troy Watts made a motion to donate one of the newer old fire hydrants to the Historic Town Center Society. Sharon Anderson gave the second. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

***CLASS “A” UNIFORMS APPROVED***: Chief Phillips submitted a uniform proposal for the Board to consider. The Officers decided that they wanted to wear Class A uniforms, which most of the officers are wearing most of the time. On limited special occasions including training and unexpected call-outs, a field casual uniform may be worn. A field casual uniform consists of a black Polo shirt with name, badge, and rank, embroidered on the shirt and khaki tactical pants. Both uniforms would be accompanied with Black shoes and a utility belt. Some Board members have been pushing for a consistent uniform to be worn at all times by all Officers so everyone would be able to recognize an Officer easily. Jerry Kane made a motion to accept the recommendation with Troy Watts giving the second. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

***GREATER OZARK LEADERSHIP PROGRAM***: Police Officers Jacob Marler, Brian Swearengin, and Derek Langford have requested that they be allowed to attend training seminars put on by the Greater Ozark Leadership Program. Cost of the program is $795 per attendee. The training is one day a month, in different locations within driving distance for 9 months. After discussion, Board decided to send Officer Jacob Marler and Brian Swearengin to the training with the understanding they must attend all training meetings. Jerry Kane made a motion to allow Officers Jacob Marler and Brian Swearengin to attend the training with Sharon Anderson giving the second. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Troy Watts made a motion to adjourn with Sharon Anderson giving the second at 9:50 p.m. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

No further business. Troy Watts made a motion to adjourn at 9:50 p.m. with Sharon Anderson giving the second at 9:50 p.m. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

*Deborah A. Cox, City Clerk*

**September 8, 2015** *(approved)*

Mayor Jan Lehmkuhl called the regular Board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on September 8, 2015.

Board Members present: Jan Lehmkuhl, Mayor; Troy Watts, Jerry Kane, Sharon Anderson, and Diana Simpson, Aldermen. Also in attendance: City Clerk, Deborah Cox, Asst Public Works Director, Charles Jones and Ryan Squibb.

Sharon Anderson gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Motion made by Troy Watts and seconded by Jerry Kane to approve the consent agenda as presented which includes the minutes from the last meetings. Vote taken. Unanimously approved.

***BACK ROADS TO MAIN STREET HERITAGE FESTIVAL:*** Ryan Squibb, representing the Historic Town Center, presented two requests pertaining to the Back Roads to Main Street Heritage Festival on October 17, 2015: The first request is to have use of the gazebo and parking lot on East Main Street from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Motion made by Diana Simpson and seconded by Jerry Kane giving permission to use these areas for the event on October 17, 2015. Vote taken. Unanimously approved. The second request was to allow 7C’s Winery to give wine samples and sell their wine as a vendor during the festival. Motion was made by Diana Simpson and seconded by Jerry Kane to allow 7C’s Winery to provide wine samples and to sell sealed bottles of wine during the festival as long as 7C’s complies with all laws and will be responsible for all appropriate licensing as required. Vote taken. Watts, Kane, Anderson and Simpson aye.

***2016 F250 ¾ TON PICKUP PURCHASE APPROVED:*** Charles Jones, Asst Supt of Public Works presented a municipal leasing contract for a 2016 F250 ¾ ton truck. This would replace the white ½ ton. Motion was made by Jerry Kane and seconded by Diana Simpson to purchase the 2016 Ford F250 with a 3 year lease/loan agreement not to exceed $9,104.00 for the next three years. Vote taken. Unanimously approved.

Motion made by Troy Watts and seconded by Jerry Kane to pay the bills after they are reviewed and signed. Vote taken. Unanimous.

***SALARY AND EMPLOYMENT WILLIAM DUNFIELD:*** Motion made by Troy Watts and seconded by Sharon Anderson to place Bill No. 2015-21, employing and setting the salary for William Dunfield on its first reading. Vote taken. Unanimously approved. Read by the City Clerk. Motion made by Troy Watts and seconded by Jerry Kane approving the first reading of Bill No. 2015-21. Vote taken. Unanimously approved. Motion made by Troy Watts and seconded by Jerry Kane to place Bill No. 2015-21 on its second reading. Read by the City Clerk. Motion made by Troy Watts and seconded by Sharon Anderson to approve the final reading of Bill No. 2015-21. Vote taken. Watts, Kane, Anderson and Simpson aye. Ordinance #1005 passed with approval.

***BROWNFIELDS:*** Mayor Lehmkuhl recently attended her 3rd conference regarding Brownfields where she had the opportunity to tour the Gryphon Building in Joplin and several sites in Springfield including Hammons Field. These were all redeveloped utilizing the Brownfields Voluntary Cleanup Program. Brownfields are sites where redevelopment and reuse is complicated by known or suspected contamination with hazardous waste. Typical brownfield sites include gas stations, dry cleaners, mills, production facilities, hospitals or even main street buildings with older hazardous building materials. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources’ Brownfields/Voluntary Cleanup Program can help resolve these issues so redevelopment and reuse can proceed. Brownfield cleanups put property back into productive use, encourage redevelopment and increase economic development in distressed areas. The City would need to submit a Brownfields Assessment Application for City owned property; however, private owners could also have their properties assessed through the City by signing a consent form. The assessments are provided at no charge. A Phase I Assessment is a property history survey used to identify recognized environment conditions that may be further investigated by sampling in a Phase II Assessment. The assessment covers not only soil and groundwater but structures as well. If a Phase I Assessment identifies any recognized environmental conditions, a Phase II assessment may be conducted. During a Phase II assessment, actual samples from the property are taken to determine which hazardous substances, if any, are on the property. Reports will be prepared for us including property description, property history, soil characteristics, geology and hydrogeology, description of work performed, methods used, data presentation and evaluation, analytical results, findings and conclusions, and references. If contamination is found on the property, the Missouri DNR will work with the applicant to discuss options including a cleanup plan, available funding mechanisms and redevelopment suitability regarding environmental issues. Because there are no limitations on the number of applications the City can submit, Mayor Lehmkuhl would like permission to submit one now for the old nursing home property and the city-owned building next to City Hall. If Ash Grove citizens want to have their properties evaluated, we could submit another application at that time. Motion was made by Troy Watts and seconded by Diana Simpson to go forward with the assessments. Vote taken. Unanimously approved.

***INVESTMENT POLICY:*** Motion made by Troy Watts and seconded by Jerry Kane to approve the City of Ash Grove Investment Policy. Vote taken. Unanimously approved.

***MML TRAINING:*** Mayor Lehmkuhl reminded the Board that the City would be hosting the Greene County Mayor’s Association on October 29, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. in City Hall. The City will then host the Missouri Municipal League (MML) training on that date to start at 6:00 at the Ash Grove United Methodist-Presbyterian Church. Mel Gilbert, City Attorney, is the organizer for this event and he is expecting approximately 125 people from the Southwest region.

Motion made by Troy Watts and seconded by Jerry Kane to go into closed session to discuss personnel issues at 8:10 p.m. Vote taken. Kane, Watts, Anderson and Simpson aye.

Mayor Lehmkuhl announced that no decisions were made in closed session that could be announced in open session.

Having no further business to discuss, Diana Simpson made a motion to adjourn at 8:16 p.m. with Sharon Anderson giving the second. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

*Deborah A. Cox, City Clerk*