

# City of Willow Springs

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**Regular Council Meeting**  
**Thursday, June 15, 2023**  
**City Hall Council Chambers, 5:30 pm**

## **HEARING**

### **104 E Main – Willow Springs Community Foundation:**

Mayor Fair opened the hearing at 5:30 pm.

Dean Aye was present on behalf of the Willow Springs Community Foundation (WSCF), who informed the Building Commission that he has been visiting with Gene Douglas of OKE-Thomas regarding the status of the project. Aye told the Commission that the problem has been getting in line to obtain the drawings. J&M Engineering is the group that is preparing the drawings, which should be available by the end of next week.

Aye further stated that once drawings are completed, Base Construction will be ready to proceed with stabilizing the building, which should take up to 10-12 weeks. Aye informed the Commission that he hopes to see work start within 30 days.

**Motion by Commissioner Rich, second by Commissioner Knott for Dean Aye to report monthly to City Council until the building is stabilized. Motion carried 4-0.**

Mayor Fair closed the hearing at 5:37 pm.

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**Present:** Mayor Brooke Fair, Alderman Danny Bradley, Alderman Kim Rich, Alderman David Collins, Alderman Phill Knott, City Attorney Zane Privette, City Clerk Heather Tooley, Police Chief Wes Ellison, Assistant Police Chief Alan Lewis.

**Absent:** City Administrator Beverly Hicks

**Guest:** Dean Aye, Amanda Mendez, Shay Collins, Ralph Rodrigues, Cami Call, Joe Barnhouse, Jake Cronin, Cary Gates, Joby Hoopes, Tyler Morris, Robin Lewis.

## **ANNOUNCEMENT OF QUORUM**

City Clerk Heather Tooley called the roll.

Mayor Brooke Fair opened the meeting of the Board of Alderman at 5:38 pm with a quorum present.

## **AGENDA APPROVAL**

**Motion by Alderman Collins, second by Alderman Knott to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried 4-0.**

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

**Motion by Alderman Rich, second by Alderman Bradley to approve the Consent Agenda which included Approval of Minutes – (RM 5/18), Approval of Bills for Payment, Receipt of Financial Reports, and YMCA, Department Head's & Board's Reports. Motion carried 4-0.**

## **EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION**

Police Chief Wes Ellison presented a commendation to Officer Joe Barnhouse for going above and beyond in assisting the Willow Springs Ambulance District in their medical calls. Officer Barnhouse was presented with a certificate and photos were taken.

## **EXISTING BUSINESS**

**City Bank Accounts:** As a continuation of discussion held in May, City Clerk Heather Tooley informed Council of the rates that are available at each of the banks in town. Simmons Bank offers CD rates at 4.5% interest with the option of either a 6 or 12-month CD and money market rates at 3% interest. West Plains Bank offers 12-month CDs at 4.5% interest and money market rates at 4% interest. US Bank offers 12-month CDs at 3.2% interest and money market rates at 3.75% interest.

Tooley also informed Council that the goal is to leave department reserves as liquid funds if the City needs access to those funds quickly and put the other funds in CDs.

**Motion by Alderman Collins, second by Alderman Rich to place a total of \$546,590.46 of City funds in 12-month CDs at Simmons Bank and place a total of \$1,176,802.55 of liquid reserve City funds in money markets at West Plains Bank. Motion carried 4-0.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**MMMPEP Electrical Transmission Proposal:** Due to City Administrator Beverly Hicks' absence, City Clerk Heather Tooley informed Council that this topic would be tabled to the July meeting.

**R-2 Ordinance Revision:** City Clerk Heather Tooley informed Council about the Planning & Zoning Commission meeting on June 5. Part of the discussion held that night included a variance request by Jim Alter for a property he owns that does not meet the minimum lot size of 10,000 square feet in the R-2 Residential Zoning District.

Building Inspector Shay Collins was present and informed Council that approximately 1/3 of the properties in the R-2 district do not meet the minimum lot size of 10,000 square feet, which would prevent residents from rebuilding in the event of a disaster.

Tooley added that the Planning & Zoning Commission recommended a reduction in lot size for the R-2 Residential zoning district from 10,000 to 6,000 square foot; front yard at 35 feet or an established building line as determined by the City-appointed building inspector. They also recommended a reduction in side yard size from 15 feet to 7 1/2 feet with interior lots having a minimum combined side yard total of 15 feet and corner lots having a minimum combined side yard total of 25 feet; and a reduction in rear yard size from 25 feet to 20 feet.

**Motion by Alderman Collins, second by Alderman Rich to read Bill No. 92-23. Motion carried 4-0 and the clerk read Bill No. 92-23.**

**BILL NO. 92-23**

**ORDINANCE NO. 1592**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WILLOW SPRINGS REVISING  
CHAPTER 405: ZONING REGULATIONS  
OF THE WILLOW SPRINGS MUNICIPAL CODE**

**Motion by Alderman Collins, second by Alderman Rich to read Bill No. 92-23 as Ordinance No. 1592. Motion carried 4-0 and the clerk read Ordinance No. 1592.**

**BILL NO. 92-23**

**ORDINANCE NO. 1592**

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CHAPTER 405: ZONING REGULATIONS  
OF THE WILLOW SPRINGS MUNICIPAL CODE**

**Motion by Alderman Collins, second by Alderman Rich to adopt Ordinance No. 1592. A roll call vote was taken:**

**Ayes: Bradley, Rich, Collins, Knott**

**Nays: None.**

**Reschedule July Meeting:** After brief discussion, the meeting was rescheduled to July 13, 2023 at 5:30 pm.

**Public and Media Questions:** There were no questions from the public.

Amanda Mendez was present on behalf of the Howell County News with questions that were addressed by Council, City Clerk Heather Tooley, and Building Inspector Shay Collins.

One question from Mendez specifically inquired whether Jim Alter's request for variance was granted. Building Inspector Shay Collins informed her that the variance request was resolved by the passage of Ordinance No. 1592 and no further action would be taken regarding that request.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Due to City Administrator Beverly Hicks' absence, the Council did not go into Executive Session.

**Motion by Alderman Bradley, second by Alderman Collins to adjourn the meeting at 6:08 pm. Motion carried 4-0.**



*Heather Tooley*  
Heather Tooley, City Clerk

**CITY OF WILLOW SPRINGS**

*Brooke Fair*  
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Brooke Fair, Mayor