

# City of Willow Springs

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## **Regular Council Meeting** **Thursday, September 21, 2023** **City Hall Council Chambers, 5:30 pm**

**Present:** Mayor Brooke Fair, Alderman Danny Bradley, Alderman Kim Rich, Alderman Tyler Morris, Alderman Phill Knott, City Attorney Zane Privette, City Administrator Beverly Hicks, City Clerk Heather Tooley, Police Chief Wes Ellison, Assistant Police Chief Alan Lewis

**Guest:** Dean Aye, Donna Gossard, Casey Hinds, John Hinds, Kim McCormick, Paul McCormick, Wendell Bailey, Emma Roberts, Linzee Slack

### **ANNOUNCEMENT OF QUORUM**

City Clerk Heather Tooley called the roll.

Mayor Brooke Fair opened the meeting of the Board of Alderman at 5:30 pm with a quorum present.

### **AGENDA APPROVAL**

City Administrator Beverly Hicks informed Council that she wanted to add Wendell Bailey and his presentation as Item B under Visitors.

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

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

City Clerk Heather Tooley requested to make amendments to the draft minutes from the August 17 regular meeting. Tooley explained that during the ReGroup discussion, she misunderstood the official vote to conduct additional research when in fact the vote was to move forward with implementing the mass notification service.

**Motion by Alderman Bradley, second by Alderman Knott to approve the Consent Agenda which included Approval of Minutes – (RM 8/17 as amended), Approval of Bills for Payment, Receipt of Financial Reports, and YMCA, Department Head's & Board's Reports. Motion carried 4-0.**

### **VISITORS**

**Willow Springs Police Cadets:** Police Chief Wes Ellison introduced Officer Paul McCormick, who oversees the police cadet program. Officer McCormick stated there are 4 cadets, although one was unable to be present for the meeting. McCormick introduced John Hinds and Emma Roberts, who are current high school students. McCormick also introduced Linzee Slack, who is currently attending Drury University for a criminal justice degree.

General discussion was held regarding events the cadets have attended and the experience they have gained. Council was informed that the cadets will have a booth at Bear Fest to recruit more cadets into the program.

No action was taken by Council.

**Wendell Bailey:** Wendell Bailey appeared to discuss a city park on Turner Drive. Bailey stated that all houses on the right side of the street have been demolished and there is a large area to use. Bailey suggested soccer fields, mighty mite football fields, tennis courts, volleyball courts, and basketball courts.

Bailey stated that there are 2 grants available, one through the Missouri State Land and Conservation, which is a 50/50 grant, and another through the Recreational Trails at 80/20. He also stated that the Lions Club would entertain the potential of grant funding and SCOCOG can find grant funding once a full plan is prepared.

City Administrator Beverly Hicks informed Council that one requirement of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) voluntary buyout program is for each property to be maintained as a green space in perpetuity. Hicks further stated that when the buyout program began after the 2017 flood, discussions were already taking place with Rotary and the YMCA as to how those areas would be used.

Hicks added that the buyout process is not yet complete as there are more houses yet to be purchased. However, there should be some funding available to all participating cities and counties to turn those green spaces into something functional while still abiding by the requirements set by CDBG.

No action was taken by Council.

### **EXISTING BUSINESS**

**104 E Main McClellan Building Discussion and Update:** Dean Aye with the Willow Springs Community Foundation (WSCF) was present and informed Council that he scheduled a meeting next week with engineers, contractors, and all others involved in the same room for a discussion to define the specifics of the project, along with the cost.

Aye further stated that he believes the timeline is still good and Base Construction still has time to complete the project before bad winter weather. Aye added that while the City is mainly concerned with the safety aspects of the project, he wants to see the whole project succeed.

No action was taken by Council.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Public Safety Advisory Committee Appointments:** Alderman Kim Rich submitted a list of names for appointment to the Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC). Rich stated that she believed it was best to have individuals who were both business minded and community minded, adding that none of these individuals were involved in either the Police Department or Fire Department. Rich further stated that the goal of the PSAC is to look through the budget to understand and discuss future needs, with the first meeting to take place in early October.

Mayor Brooke Fair made a recommendation to appoint Erik Montgomery, Rebecca Klapmeyer, Robert Hollis, Scott Williamson, Susan Rackley, Jeff Lovan, and Nathan Wake to the PSAC.

**Motion by Alderman Knott, second by Alderman Morris to approve the presented names for appointment to the Public Safety Advisory Committee. Motion carried 4-0.**

**Public and Media Questions:** There were no questions from the public and there was no one from the media present.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**


City Administrator Beverly Hicks informed Council that she did not have anything for closed session.

**Motion by Alderman Rich, second by Alderman Bradley to adjourn the meeting at 5:55 pm. Motion carried 4-0.**

**CITY OF WILLOW SPRINGS**

  
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Brooke Fair, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
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Heather Tooley, City Clerk