



***City of Pleasant Valley Missouri
Meeting of the Board of Aldermen
March 4, 2024***

Call to Order: A regular session meeting of the Pleasant Valley Board of Aldermen was called to order at City Hall, 6500 Royal Street, Pleasant Valley, Missouri, by Mayor James Smith, on Monday, March 4, 2024, at 6:32 p.m. Copies of the agenda, minutes, and council bills to be considered were available in the lobby for public inspection prior to the meeting.

Roll Call:

Present: Alderwoman Ruth Mesimer, Alderwoman Linda Jacoby, Alderman James Page
Alderman Tom Moss, Alderwoman Mary Langner, and.

Alderman Rick Scarborough, and Alderwoman Serenity Ohlsen

Absent: Alderman Patrick Gallagher

Staff Present:

Staff Present: City Clerk Matthew Chapman, Fire Chief Pete Knudsen, Police Chief Jared McGinley, Firefighter/EMT Jennifer Gallagher, Public Works Director Chris Cronk, Court Administrator Sarah Everhart, Court Clerk Lisa Ruyf, Fire Fighter/EMT Aspen Pruchnik

Public Present: City Attorney Tom Capps

Consent Agenda: Alderwoman Jacoby moved to approve the consent agenda. Alderwoman Ohlsen seconded the motion. Prior to the vote, Alderman Moss noted that the minutes did not include a note stating that the city attorney recommended that Alderman Gallagher abstain from voting on an issue that affected fire department personnel which included his wife. After more discussion, the Board of Aldermen agreed that an amended Consent Agenda including the statement from the city attorney should be considered. Alderman Scarborough moved to approve the amended consent agenda.

Alderwoman Ohlsen seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Gallagher – absent, Mesimer – aye, Jacoby – aye, Scarborough – aye, Page – aye, Moss – aye, Langner – aye, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.

Public comments and guests: Fire Fighter/EMT Aspen Pruchnik spoke in support of the proposed raises for Fire Department personnel. Ms. Pruchnik stated that any call could be the last call. Fire Department personnel are paid less than \$200 per 12-hour shift which is barely more than minimum wage to run into burning buildings. Mayor Smith stated that everyone would get their one step raise, but there would be no more blanket, across the board raises.

City Attorney and other professional services: City Attorney Tom Capps stated that according to state statute a council member would be allowed to vote on issues where direct family members were affected if the issue being voted on involved a larger class of employees.

Mayor's comments: None

Aldermen Comments: Alderwoman Langner stated that the Parks and Recreation Board still has two vacancies.

Advisory Committees / Department Reports:

City Clerk: City Clerk Matthew Chapman provided a written administration report to the Board of Aldermen.



***City of Pleasant Valley Missouri
Meeting of the Board of Aldermen
March 4, 2024***

Public Works Department: Public Works Director Chris Cronk provided a written administration report to the Board of Aldermen.

Fire Department: Fire Chief Pete Knudsen asked the Board of Aldermen for approval to send Fire Marshall Scott Winfrey to Fire Investigator class to be held in April in Jefferson City, Missouri. The class would consist of 40 hours online and 40 hours of classroom training. The class is free, but the city would need to pay for the hotel and mileage reimbursement for Mr. Winfrey.

Alderman Moss moved to approve Fire Marshall Scott Winfrey to attend Fire Investigator class in Jefferson City, Missouri with total cost not to exceed \$1,000. Alderman Scarborough seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Gallagher – absent, Mesimer - aye Jacoby – aye, Scarborough – aye, Page – aye, Moss – aye, Langner – aye, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.

Chief Knudsen stated that the cost of the ambulance the city has ordered has increased by \$11,500 due to the 2022 chassis no longer being available. Chief Knudsen stated that the City of St. Louis has placed an order for 10 ambulances but does not have an urgent need for the whole order and Pleasant Valley could take one ambulance that is part of that order and likely receive the vehicle in February or March of 2025. The Board of Aldermen agreed to accept an ambulance from the St. Louis order in an effort to get the ambulance sooner. We are not using any St. Louis specs. The chassis that was slated for St. Louis is the same chassis that our ambulance is built on. Since they are not in a hurry, they have agreed to let us swap our chassis for one of theirs so we can get our build started earlier. There was no cost involved in this agreement.

Police Department: Police Chief McGinley stated he was glad the dispatch supervisor had decided to stay after turning in her resignation but changing her mind. Alderman Scarborough asked if the Board of Aldermen needed to rescind the removal of the 95-hour limit per pay period restriction approved at the February 19th meeting. Chief McGinley stated that he would like to leave the removal in place for now and the Board of Aldermen agreed.

Municipal Court: Court Administrator Sarah Everhart the Court Clerk, Lisa Ruyf, had submitted her resignation because she needed full-time employment. Ms. Everhart stated that she had met with Clerk Chapman about the possibility of Ms. Ruyf continuing to work part-time in the court and adding part-time hours in the Administration Department as an administrative assistant that would result in full-time employment with the city. The Board of Aldermen stated that they would discuss the matter during the closed session.

Personnel Committee:

Alderwoman Jacoby, Personnel Committee Chair, moved to approve the hiring of FF/EMT Justin Steffeny at Pay Grade 100/Step 1 \$15.28 per hour, effective 3/4/2024. Alderwoman Mesimer seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Gallagher – absent, Mesimer - aye Jacoby – aye,



*City of Pleasant Valley Missouri
Meeting of the Board of Aldermen
March 4, 2024*

Scarborough – aye, Page – aye, Moss – aye, Langner – aye, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.

Alderwoman Jacoby, Personnel Committee Chair, moved to approve the hiring of Volunteer FF John Patrick Gallagher, effective 3/4/2024. Alderwoman Ohlsen seconded the motion. No vote was taken.

Alderwoman Jacoby, Personnel Committee Chair, moved to approve the hiring of Volunteer FF Jeremy Stinger effective 3/4/2024. Alderwoman Mesimer seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Gallagher – absent, Mesimer - aye Jacoby – aye, Scarborough – aye, Page – aye, Moss – aye, Langner – aye, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.

Alderwoman Jacoby, Personnel Committee Chair, moved to approve the hiring of full-time Communications Officer Kara Johnston at Pay Grade 116/Step 1 at \$21.72 per hour effective 3/4/2024 pending drug screen and physical. Alderwoman Mesimer seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Gallagher – absent, Mesimer - aye Jacoby – aye, Scarborough – aye, Page – aye, Moss – aye, Langner – aye, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.

Alderwoman Jacoby, Personnel Committee Chair, moved to accept the resignation of part-time Communications Officer Heather Harvey, effective 2/25/2024. Alderwoman Mesimer seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Gallagher – absent, Mesimer - aye Jacoby – aye, Scarborough – aye, Page – aye, Moss – aye, Langner – aye, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.

. Alderwoman Jacoby, Personnel Committee Chair, moved to rescind the resignation of Dispatch/Communications Supervisor Audrey Chapdelaine, effective 3/4/2024. Alderwoman Mesimer seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Gallagher – absent, Mesimer - aye Jacoby – aye, Scarborough – aye, Page – aye, Moss – aye, Langner – aye, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.

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Alderman Scarborough moved to remove the Employee Appreciation account in the proposed 2024 City of Pleasant Valley budget. Alderman Moss seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Gallagher – absent, Mesimer - aye Jacoby – aye, Scarborough – aye, Page – no, Moss – aye, Langner – aye, and Ohlsen – no, Motion passed 5 ayes, 2 nays, 1 absent.

Finance Committee:

None

Consideration of Ordinances and Resolutions:

Mayor Smith directed Clerk Chapman to read **Council Bill 3544** “An Ordinance approving an agreement between the City of Pleasant Valley, Missouri, and Firefighter/Medic Kaitlynn Browne, to reimburse tuition and related fees. Alderwoman Jacoby moved to approve the bill on first reading and move the bill to second reading. Alderwoman Ohlsen seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:



***City of Pleasant Valley Missouri
Meeting of the Board of Aldermen
March 4, 2024***

Gallagher – absent, Mesimer – aye, Jacoby – aye, Scarborough – aye, Page – aye Moss – aye, Langner – aye, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.

Mayor Smith directed Clerk Chapman to read **Council Bill 3544** “An Ordinance approving an agreement between the City of Pleasant Valley and Firefighter/Medic Kaitlynn Browne, to reimburse for tuition and fees, was read by title only, by the City Clerk. Alderwoman Jacoby moved to approve the bill as **Ordinance 3543**. Alderman Scarborough seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Gallagher – absent, Mesimer – aye, Jacoby – aye, Scarborough – aye, Page – aye, Moss – aye, Langner – aye, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays 1 absent.

Closed Session: Alderwoman Mesimer moved to enter closed session, authorized by RSMo. 610.021, subsection 3 (Personnel). and RSMo 610.021 Subsection 1 (Legal) Alderwoman Jacoby seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Gallagher – absent, Mesimer – aye, Jacoby – aye, Scarborough – aye, Page – aye, Moss – aye, Langner – aye, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent 7:20 pm. The closed session was held in the mayor’s office with Clerk Matthew Chapman in attendance.

During the closed session, no vote was taken, nor motions made.

Alderwoman Jacoby moved to return to open session. Alderman Page seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Gallagher – absent, Mesimer – aye, Jacoby – aye, Scarborough – aye, Page – aye, Moss – aye, Langner – aye, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. 8:08 pm. Alderwoman Jacoby, Personnel Committee Chair, moved to approve the hiring of Volunteer FF John Patrick Gallagher, effective 3/4/2024. Alderwoman Ohlsen seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Gallagher – absent, Mesimer - no Jacoby – no, Scarborough – no, Page – no, Moss – no, Langner – no, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion failed 1 aye, 6 nays, 1 absent.

Alderwoman Mesimer, moved to approve the hiring of Lisa Ruyf as part-time Administrative Assistant in the Administration Department at Pay Grade 115/Step 1 at \$18.72 per hour effective 3/4/2024 which with her current employment in the Court will result in full-time employment with Pleasant Valley. Alderman Page seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Gallagher – absent, Mesimer - aye Jacoby – aye, Scarborough – aye, Page – aye, Moss – aye, Langner – aye, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.

Adjournment: There being no further business, Alderman Moss moved to adjourn. Alderwoman Jacoby seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Gallagher – absent, Mesimer - aye, Jacoby – aye, Scarborough – aye, Page – aye, Moss – aye, Langner – aye, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm.

Mayor James Smith



***City of Pleasant Valley Missouri
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March 4, 2024***

ATTEST: _____
Matthew Chapman, City Clerk