



***City of Pleasant Valley Missouri  
Meeting of the Board of Aldermen  
April 1, 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, April 1, 2024, at 6:33 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, Alderman James Page Alderman Tom Moss, Alderwoman Mary Langner, Alderman Patrick Gallagher  
Alderman Rick Scarborough, and Alderwoman Serenity Ohlsen

**Absent:** Alderwoman Linda Jacoby

**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, Human Resource Manager Katrina Kinard

**Public Present:** City Attorney Tom Capps

**Consent Agenda:** The vote was as follows: Gallagher – aye, Mesimer – aye, Jacoby – absent, Scarborough – aye, Page - aye, Moss – aye, Langner – aye, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.

Alderwoman Jacoby arrived at 6:40 pm.

**Public comments and guests:** Janese Brown of Walnut Lane Manufactured Home Community addresses the Board of Aldermen requesting a bill credit for a water leak caused by frozen pipes. Ms. Brown assured the Board of Aldermen that all reasonable precautions (heat tape, dripping faucets, etc.) had been done by residents, but the extreme cold caused the pipe to burst. The city clerk will determine the credit request amount based on city policy and present it at the next meeting.

**City Attorney and other professional services:** None.

**Mayor's comments:** None

**Aldermen Comments:** Alderwoman Ohlsen discussed Ordinance 3454 approved by the board of Aldermen on June 20, 2022. She stated that it was her understanding that the Board of Aldermen approved an 8% raise for all staff effective immediately and an additional .5% effective 1/1/2023. The additional .5% was never received by staff. Alderwoman Mesimer said there was no discussion at the time about the additional .5% increase. Alderwoman Ohlsen asked City Attorney Tom Capps for his legal opinion as to whether, based on his reading of Ordinance 3454 that the additional .5% was due to staff. Attorney Capps reads the ordinance as the additional .5% increase is due to staff. Alderman Gallagher stated that the Consumer Price Index (CPI) through June of 2022 was 8.5%, but for the entire year was 8.01%. Alderman Gallagher stated that it was his opinion that the intent of the Board of Aldermen was to reevaluate any additional increase at year end based on the full-year CPI. Court Administrator Sarah Everhart stated that her recollection was that the Board of Aldermen



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adopted the 8% increase in June and would add the .5% increase later. Mayor Smith stated that he would veto any across the board raises.

**Advisory Committees / Department Reports:**

**City Clerk:** City Clerk Matthew Chapman provided a written administration report to the Board of Aldermen. Clerk Chapman stated that he had received a call from the Parade of Hearts Coordinator asking if Pleasant Valley would be willing to display a heart at the Pleasant Valley Fire Station. Chief Knudsen stated that he was all for displaying the heart and the Board of Aldermen agreed that it was a good idea.

Alderman Scarborough moved to allow a heart from the Parade of Hearts organization to be displayed at the Pleasant Valley Fire Station. Alderman Moss seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Gallagher – aye, Mesimer – aye, Jacoby – aye, Scarborough – aye, Page – aye, Moss – aye, Langner – aye, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion passed 8 ayes, 0 nays.

**Public Works Department:** Public Works Director Chris Cronk stated the Board of Aldermen would be considering an ordinance to accept the installation of streetlights running from 10 telephone poles with LED lights which provide better light at a cheaper cost. Pleasant Valley currently has approximately 50% LED lights and 50% sodium lights.

**Fire Department:** Fire Chief Pete Knudsen stated that the Celebration of Life Event for Nolan King went well. The Public Alert System was used to warn residents of possible severe weather a few weeks ago.

**Police Department:** No report

**Municipal Court:** No report

**Personnel Committee:** No report

**Finance Committee:**

Alderwoman Mesimer moved to suspend the Finance Committee report until after the closed session. Alderwoman Jacoby seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Gallagher – aye, Mesimer – aye, Jacoby – aye, Scarborough – aye, Page – aye, Moss – aye, Langner – aye, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion passed 8 ayes, 0 nays.

**Consideration of Ordinances and Resolutions:**

Mayor Smith directed Clerk Chapman to read **Council Bill 3545** “An Ordinance adding Section 305 Temporary Transitional Duty Policy to the City of Pleasant Valley Personnel Manual. Alderwoman Ohlsen moved to approve the bill on first reading and move the bill to second reading. Alderman Page seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Gallagher – aye, Mesimer – aye, Jacoby – aye, Scarborough – aye, Page – aye, Moss – aye, Langner – aye, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion passed 8 ayes, 0 nays.



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Mayor Smith directed Clerk Chapman to read **Council Bill 3545** "An Ordinance adding Section 305 Temporary Transitional Duty Policy to the City of Pleasant Valley Personnel Manual, was read by title only, by the City Clerk. Alderman Page moved to approve the bill as **Ordinance 3544**. Alderman Moss seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Gallagher – aye, Mesimer – aye, Jacoby – aye, Scarborough – aye, Page – aye, Moss – aye, Langner – aye, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion passed 8 ayes, 0 nays.

Mayor Smith directed Clerk Chapman to read **Council Bill 3547** "An Ordinance approving an agreement between the City of Pleasant Valley, Missouri, and Evergy, for street light installation. Alderman Page 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: Gallagher – aye, Mesimer – aye, Jacoby – aye, Scarborough – aye, Page – aye Moss – aye, Langner – aye, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion passed 8 ayes, 0 nays.

Mayor Smith directed Clerk Chapman to read **Council Bill 3547** "An Ordinance approving an agreement between the City of Pleasant Valley, Missouri, and Evergy, for street light installation, was read by title only, by the City Clerk. Alderman Page moved to approve the bill as **Ordinance 3544**. Alderwoman Ohlsen seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Gallagher – aye, Mesimer – aye, Jacoby – aye, Scarborough – aye, Page – aye, Moss – aye, Langner – aye, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion passed 8 ayes, 0 nays.

**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 – aye, Mesimer – aye, Jacoby – aye, Scarborough – aye, Page – aye, Moss – aye, Langner – aye, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion passed 8 ayes, 0 nays. 7:15 pm. The closed session was held in the mayor's office. No city staff were present.

Alderwoman Mesimer moved to return to open session. Alderwoman Jacoby seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Gallagher – aye, Mesimer – aye, Jacoby – aye, Scarborough – aye, Page – aye, Moss – aye, Langner – aye, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion passed 8 ayes, 0 nays. 7:40 pm.

Alderwoman Mesimer presented a revised 2024 City of Pleasant Valley Budget that had been adjusted based on actual 2023 revenues and expenses.

The Board of Aldermen decided to hold a special meeting to discuss the 2024 Budget on Wednesday, April 3 at 4:00 pm at Pleasant Valley City Hall.

Mayor Smith directed Clerk Chapman to read **Council Bill 3548** "An Ordinance repealing Ordinance No. 3523 and amending the Employee Compensation Step Plan. Alderman Gallagher 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: Gallagher – aye, Mesimer – no, Jacoby – no, Scarborough – no, Page – no Moss – no, Langner – no, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion failed 2 ayes, 6 nays.

Alderwoman Mesimer moved to table **Council Bill 3549** "An Ordinance adopting the budget for fiscal year 2024 and authorizing the mayor to make appropriations. Alderman Scarborough seconded



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the motion. The vote was as follows: Gallagher – aye, Mesimer – aye, Jacoby – aye, Scarborough – aye, Page – aye, Moss – aye, Langner – aye, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion passed 8 ayes, 0 nays.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, Alderman Scarborough moved to adjourn. Alderman Moss seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Gallagher – aye, Mesimer - aye, Jacoby – aye, Scarborough – aye, Page – aye, Moss – aye, Langner – aye, and Ohlsen – aye, Motion passed 8 ayes, 0 nays.

The meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm.

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Mayor James Smith

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew Chapman, City Clerk