



City of Pleasant Valley Missouri
Meeting of the Board of Aldermen
February 6, 2023

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 David Slater, on Monday, February 6, 2023, at 6:00 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: Mayor David Slater, Alderwoman Linda Jacoby, Alderwoman Mary Langner (*arrived 6:03pm*), Alderwoman Robin Martin, Alderwoman Ruth Mesimer, Alderman Tom Moss, Alderman Rick Scarborough and Alderman Garrett Williams.

Absent: There is one vacancy in Ward 3.

Staff Present:

Staff Present: Police Chief Gordon Abraham, Public Works Director Chris Cronk, Court Administrator Sarah Everhart, City Clerk Georgia Fox, Fire Chief Pete Knudsen, and Police Captain Jared McGinley.

Public Present: None.

Consent Agenda: Alderwoman Jacoby moved to approve the consent agenda. Alderman Moss seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Jacoby – aye, Langner – absent, Martin – aye, Mesimer – aye, Moss – aye, Scarborough – aye and Williams – aye. Motion passed 6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent, 1 vacancy.

Mayor Slater called for a motion to take the agenda out of order. Alderman Scarborough moved, seconded by Alderwoman Jacoby, to take the agenda out of order so that guest from MIRMA, Patrick Bonnet and Glen Price, could present the elected official training. The vote was as follows: Jacoby – aye, Langner – absent, Martin – aye, Mesimer – aye, Moss – aye, Scarborough – aye and Williams – aye. Motion passed 6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent, 1 vacancy.

Patrick Bonnot and Glen Price reviewed the elected officials training with the Board. Topics of discussion were:

- Conflict of Interest
- Chapters 79 and 576 of the Missouri State Statutes
- Dylan's Rule
- Ethics
- Nepotism
- Hancock Amendment
- Errors and Omissions
- Sunshine Law

Mr. Price and Bonnot left the meeting after the presentation.

City Attorney and other professional services: No one else was scheduled to address the Board.

Public comments and guests: Doug Folk, of Google Fiber, and Zach Schmidtberger, of Ervin Cable, attended the meeting. They had been invited by the Mayor to discuss excessive utility line breaks during the installation of Google Fiber project. The Public Works Director provided a list of breaks which included 5 natural gas lines, 3 sewer lines, 3 water lines and 2



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communication lines. Google contracts Ervin Cable for the project. In turn, Ervin Cable contracts subcontractors to do the actual installation. Currently there are 5 different subcontractors installing lines in Pleasant Valley. After questioning by the Mayor and Board, and a member of the public, James Smith, Mr. Folk and Mr. Schmidtberger assured the Board that all repairs would be made in a timely manner. They directed the public to contact their construction customer service number to report issues. The number is 877-454-6959. Mr. Folk said the project should be done within the next few weeks.

Mayor's Comments: Mayor Slater asked Director Cronk about the status of the old snow removal vehicles/equipment parked at Public Works. Director Cronk said that he has not had time to follow up with DMV on the lost titles but that he would tomorrow. *(These vehicles will be sold as surplus property once the titles have been recovered)*

Mayor Slater asked the Board what the status was on sewer rates for Walnut Lane Mobile Home Park. Alderwoman Mesimer said that the Board already decided several meetings ago to leave this situation as it is unless they want to install individual meters. The other aldermen concurred with this statement.

Mayor Slater asked Director Cronk if the electronic message board plans said "Pleasant Valley Civic Organization" on the top of the sign. Director Cronk said they did but at the time it was believed to be a sample and not an image of the final product. The City Clerk agreed with the Director, as the image showed the message board area and base with sample messages and colors.

Aldermen Comments: Alderwoman Langner wished to remind the public about renewing annual pet tags and that pets running at large is prohibited.

Alderwoman Mesimer said that she thinks the Civic Organization should purchase the city's half of the sign and move the sign to their property. Alderman Scarborough was in favor of keeping joint ownership of the sign but forbidding advertisement or public messages of any kind other than announcements of meetings and events, as was originally intended. After further discussion by the Board, Alderman Scarborough moved to prohibit advertising on the sign. Alderwoman Jacoby seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Jacoby – aye, Langner – aye, Martin – aye, Mesimer – aye, Moss – aye, Scarborough – aye and Williams – aye. Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 vacancy.

Advisory Committees / Department Reports:

City Clerk: City Clerk Fox reviewed her written report with the Board. The City Clerk requested approval to pay the annual dues to the Clay County Economic Development Council in the amount of \$500. Alderman Scarborough moved, seconded by Alderwoman Mesimer, to approve the expense. The vote was as follows: Jacoby – aye, Langner – aye, Martin – aye, Mesimer – aye, Moss – aye, Scarborough – aye and Williams – aye. Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 vacancy.

Public Works Department: Director Cronk updated the Board on the status of construction on new businesses. He also said that City Engineer Ron Cowger will have the Kaill storm water project ready soon.



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Fire Department: Chief Knudsen reported that he submitted the AFG grant application today. The grant is \$87,000 and will be used for radios. He still has not received notice of award for the ARPA grant. He provided a letter from the state regarding the recent ambulance service audit. The letter stated that they passed, and another assessment will not be done until 2024-2025.

Police Department: Chief Abraham all that he had to discuss were personnel issues that will be taken up later in the meeting.

Municipal Court: Court Administrator Sarah Everhart reviewed the monthly Court Report with the Board. Alderwoman Mesimer asked Mrs. Everhart about the status of updating cases in Show Me Courts. Mrs. Everhart said that they had completed 250 recalls so far. The agreed plan with the Communications Department is Court/Communications will do 10 per week.

Personnel Committee: Alderwoman Jacoby, Personnel Committee Chair, moved to approve an annual rate adjustment for Jan Werner, Court Clerk, to step 2, \$17.85 per hour, effective 2/5/23. Alderwoman Mesimer seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Jacoby – aye, Langner – aye, Martin – aye, Mesimer – aye, Moss – aye, Scarborough – aye and Williams – aye. Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 vacancy.

Alderwoman Jacoby moved to approve an annual rate adjustment for Terri Murphy, Communications Officer, to step 2, \$19.10 per hour, effective 2/5/23. Alderwoman Mesimer seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Jacoby – aye, Langner – aye, Martin – aye, Mesimer – aye, Moss – aye, Scarborough – aye and Williams – aye. Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 vacancy.

Alderwoman Jacoby moved to approve the hire of Nicolas Poje, full time Communications Officer, pending background check, drug screen and physical. Alderwoman Mesimer seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Jacoby – aye, Langner – aye, Martin – aye, Mesimer – aye, Moss – aye, Scarborough – aye and Williams – aye. Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 vacancy.

Alderwoman Jacoby moved to accept the resignation of Eric Campbell, full time Police Officer, effective 2/7/23. Alderwoman Mesimer seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Jacoby – aye, Langner – aye, Martin – aye, Mesimer – aye, Moss – aye, Scarborough – aye and Williams – aye. Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 vacancy.

Alderwoman Jacoby moved to approve the status change of Mark Taylor, Police Officer, from full time to part time, effective 2/20/23. Alderwoman Mesimer seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Jacoby – aye, Langner – aye, Martin – aye, Mesimer – aye, Moss – aye, Scarborough – aye and Williams – aye. Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 vacancy.

Alderwoman Jacoby moved to approve an annual rate adjustment for Jared McGinley, Police Captain, to step 3, \$37.84 per hour, effective 2/5/23. Alderwoman Mesimer seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Jacoby – aye, Langner – aye, Martin – aye, Mesimer – aye, Moss – aye, Scarborough – aye and Williams – aye. Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 vacancy.

Alderwoman Jacoby moved to approve an annual rate adjustment for Andrew Cramer, Police Sergeant, to step 3, \$29.23 per hour, effective 2/5/23. Alderwoman Mesimer seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Jacoby – aye, Langner – aye, Martin – aye, Mesimer – aye, Moss – aye, Scarborough – aye and Williams – aye. Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 vacancy.

Alderwoman Jacoby moved to approve the hire of Steven Decker, part time Police Detective, pending background check, drug screen and physical. Alderwoman Mesimer seconded the



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motion. The vote was as follows: Jacoby – aye, Langner – aye, Martin – aye, Mesimer – aye, Moss – aye, Scarborough – aye and Williams – aye. Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 vacancy.

Alderman Jacoby moved to approve the hire of Jason Garrison, Fire Fighter/EMT, pending background check, drug screen and physical. Alderman Mesimer seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Jacoby – aye, Langner – aye, Martin – aye, Mesimer – aye, Moss – aye, Scarborough – aye and Williams – aye. Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 vacancy.

Alderman Jacoby moved to accept the resignation of Tammy Miller, Single Role Medic, effective 2/2/23. Alderman Mesimer seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Jacoby – aye, Langner – aye, Martin – aye, Mesimer – aye, Moss – aye, Scarborough – aye and Williams – aye. Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 vacancy.

Alderman Jacoby moved to approve the City Clerk job description so that the opening can be posted. Alderman Mesimer seconded the motion. During discussion, Alderman Scarborough expressed concerns that he had not had time to review it. The City Clerk responded that it was exactly the same as the board received in the past except the two highlighted lines that the Board of Aldermen had referred to the Personnel Committee for editing. The Personnel Committee unanimously agrees on the final draft given to the Board before tonight's meeting. The vote was as follows: Jacoby – aye, Langner – aye, Martin – aye, Mesimer – aye, Moss – aye, Scarborough – aye and Williams – aye. Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 vacancy.

Alderman Jacoby moved to draft an ordinance to make the Fire Chief position full time. Alderman Mesimer seconded the motion. During discussion it was explained that the additional hours would allow the Fire Chief to address Emergency Management duties such as creating a city emergency management operations plan, training for emergency response, and educating the public on emergency situations such as hazardous materials spills that require shelter in place notifications and other educational topics. Chief Knudsen has extensive experience in emergency management and hazmat divisions. The vote was as follows: Jacoby – aye, Langner – aye, Martin – nay, Mesimer – aye, Moss – nay, Scarborough – nay and Williams – aye. Motion passed 4 ayes, 3 nays, 1 vacancy. An ordinance will be drafted for consideration at the next meeting. Mayor Slater noted that it will take 5 votes to pass the ordinance.

Alderman Jacoby noted that the Pleasant Valley Police Department will be down to 4 full time employees at the end of February (*the Police Chief, two sergeants and one officer who is still in training*). After some discussion, Alderman Scarborough moved for representatives from the City, specifically Alderman Moss, retiring Police Chief Abraham and himself, meet with officials at the Clay County Sheriff's Department and the City of Liberty to see if either would be willing to enter into a contract to provide police services to Pleasant Valley. Alderman Moss seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Jacoby – aye, Langner – aye, Martin – aye, Mesimer – aye, Moss – aye, Scarborough – aye and Williams – aye. Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 vacancy.

Alderman Jacoby reported that Interim Police Chief McGinley has requested that his pay be converted from salary to hourly wage due to the extreme staffing issues in the Police Department. Alderman Scarborough moved to table the issue until the City can speak to other agencies regarding police services. Alderman Mesimer seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Jacoby – aye, Langner – aye, Martin – aye, Mesimer – aye, Moss – aye, Scarborough – aye and Williams – aye. Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 vacancy.

And, finally, Alderman Jacoby reported that new hire Nicholas Poje has requested the City's sponsorship in the Police Academy later this year. Mr. Poje will apply for grant funding to cover the cost of the academy. The City would pay Mr. Poje an hourly wage to attend the



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academy. If grant funding is not received, the City would also agree to pay for the academy tuition. Alderwoman Mesimer moved to sponsor Mr. Poje in the academy. Alderwoman Jacoby seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Jacoby – aye, Langner – aye, Martin – aye, Mesimer – aye, Moss – aye, Scarborough – aye and Williams – aye. Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 vacancy.

Finance Committee: Alderwoman Mesimer, Finance Chair, did not have anything to report at this time.

Old Business: No old business was discussed.

New Business: No new business was discussed.

Consideration of Ordinances and Resolutions:

No ordinances were scheduled for consideration.

Adjournment: There being no further business, Alderman Scarborough moved to adjourn. Alderwoman Mesimer seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Jacoby – aye, Langner – aye, Martin – aye, Mesimer – aye, Moss – aye, Scarborough – aye and Williams – aye. Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 vacancy. 7:55pm.

Mayor David Slater

ATTEST: _____
Georgia Fox, City Clerk