

MINUTES

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN CITY OF BRANSON, MISSOURI June 17, 2008

INTRODUCTORY

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Branson, Missouri met for a work session in the Municipal Court Room of the City Hall on June 17, 2008, at 10:00 a.m. The following members were present:

Mayor Raeanne Presley presiding, Stan Barker, Sandra Williams, Stephen Marshall, Cris Bohinc and Bob McDowell present. Absent: Rick Davis.

Also present from the City were: Acting City Administrator Frank Schoneboom, City Clerk Lisa Westfall, City Attorney Paul Link, Director of Communications Jerry Adams, Director of Public Works Larry VanGilder and Director of Planning and Zoning Don Stephens.

Mayor Presley called the meeting to order.

REGULAR AGENDA

Frank Schoneboom provided the Administrator's Report.

The following information relating to the setting of an agenda for the regular business meeting of June 23, 2008 was discussed:

Presentation of the second Quarter Marketing Report by Ross Summers of the Branson/Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce, as required by contract.

Approving a Municipal Code amendment to Chapter 26, Article III, Division 1, Section 26-61 of the Branson Municipal Code pertaining to the definition of 'solicit.' [Postponed from the June 9, 2008 Board of Aldermen meeting]

Approving an agreement between the City of Branson and the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission for Signing Installed and Maintained by Applicant, pertaining to the Route 165 designation for Gretna Road and authorizing the Mayor to execute the agreement.

Approving an agreement between the City of Branson and Olsson Associates for the study and preliminary design of the Compton Wastewater Treatment Plant improvements, and authorizing the Mayor to enter into the agreement.

Approving a Municipal Code amendment to Chapter 70 Section 70-10 of the Branson Municipal Code pertaining to temporary directional signage.

Approving a Municipal Code amendment to Chapter 415 Section 415.010 of the Branson Municipal Code pertaining to gravel parking surfaces.

Awarding the bids to North Central Laboratories, Hach Company, VWR International, LLC and Orbeco-Hellige, Inc. for chemicals and supplies used in the water and wastewater treatment laboratories for the City of Branson and authorizing the Mayor to execute the contracts.

Awarding the bid to APAC-MO, Inc. to furnish materials and labor to construct cast-in-place concrete curb and guttering for the Public Works Department of the City of Branson and authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract.

Appointments. (removed from the 06/23/08 agenda)

Also discussed was:

Discussion by Dan Lennon of the Branson/Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce regarding the Tourism Tax Contingency Fund. Mr. Lennon addressed the Board regarding a draft proposal to administer the Tourism Tax Contingency Fund and suggested the responsibility for administering the Contingency Funds rest with the Chamber Convention and Visitor Bureau. He suggested the Chamber set up a special seven member Contingency Funds Committee that would consist of one member from the City of Branson, one member from three Chamber committees and three staff members to field the requests and evaluate them in terms of their value, the furtherance of the community marketing goals and objectives and whether they fit the guidelines. He said they would make those determinations and report to the Board as to the disposition of the requests during their quarterly reports.

Discussion on city cemetery regulations. Jim Fullerton stated he has concerns about use of the cemetery for the Ghost and Haunt Tours business. He said he has family members buried there and he considers the tours desecrating to the cemetery. He objects to the night tours and recommends the Board consider closing the cemetery at dark for the reasons of preventing vandalism, maintaining the preservation of the cemetery and sanctity of those buried there. Fred Athay, General Manager of the Ghost and Haunt Tours, introduced their professional guides and stated they are very professional when they go into the cemetery. He said they are in the cemetery about 10 minutes. They are careful with the route they take and do not step on any graves. Suzette Boutilier of the Ghost and Haunt Tours said they have been in business for 16 years and in Branson since September. She said they did research before they began and it did not appear they would be violating any city codes by including the cemetery in their route. She stated no one had approached them on this issue from the City so they could try to work out any issues. She said they want to be good business partners in Branson and would be willing to go around the perimeter. The owner of the Landmark Inn, said that for 10 years he has trimmed trees, picked up trash and visited with many people coming in and out of the cemetery. A genealogist asked that the cemetery not be closed at night because it is much easier to read the aging headstones in the evening with a flashlight. Norma Judea stated she has lived in Branson for many years and appreciates the local history she has learned from the tour.

Discussion on street overlays.

Mayor's Report.

Board of Aldermen requests for agenda items to be placed on future agendas.

ADJOURN

Mayor Presley asked for a motion to adjourn. Alderman Barker so moved, seconded by Alderman McDowell. Voting aye: Barker, Williams, Marshall, Bohinc and McDowell. Nays: none. Absent: Davis. Meeting adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

Raeanne Presley
Mayor

Lisa K Westfall
City Clerk