

City of Odessa Board of Aldermen
Odessa Community Building | 601 W. Main Street
October 29, 2018 | 7:00 pm
Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Adam Couch called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Adam Couch led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

City Clerk Peggy Eoff called the roll.

Mayor Adam Couch	Present		
Alderman Steve Wright	Present	Alderman Brian Henning	Present
Alderman Mike Stevens	Present	Alderman Ray Harves	Present
Alderman John Carmody	Present	Alderman Mickey Starr	Present

City Staff present: Nici Wilson-City Administrator, Dawn Jennings-Finance Director, Josh Thompson-Police Chief, Carson Hodge-Electric Superintendent, Kenny Snider-Wastewater Superintendent, Darrin Lamb-Water/Street Superintendent, Keith Gibson-EMS Director, and Joe Lauber-City Attorney

Others present: Hannah Sparr-The Odessan, Wayne McNeel

WELCOME

Mayor Adam Couch welcomed visitors.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Minutes

- October 8 – Regular Session

Park Board Appointment – David DeCamp

Motion was made by Alderman Stevens, seconded by Alderman Harves to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Wayne McNeel (426 James Circle) - Shared his concerns with removing the use of ATV's on city streets from the proposed ordinance. Mr. McNeel noted he owns an ATV and they should be treated the same as a UTV. He further added that he uses his ATV for maintenance related activities on his rental properties. McNeel added that orange flags should be required on all of the ATV, UTV and golf carts for safety, and all should have to have a licensed operator.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Thanked everyone for attending the October 24, 2018 Chamber of Commerce presentation on the Missouri's Proposition D (gasoline tax).

ALDERMEN REPORTS

- Alderwoman Starr thanked the Police Department for hosting the Drug Take Back event

UPDATE

- Attorney, Joe Lauber passed out a summary from the Planning & Zoning Commission meeting that was held on October 18, 2018. The highlights were:
 - What goals are they trying to accomplish?
 - The traditional zoning approach
 - A smooth blend of uses
 - What goals are not being met?
 - Road/Street capacity and maintenance.
 - Infrastructure concerns
 - Water Service (water pressure safe for fire flow).
 - What are the options for solving the problems?
 - Zoning can be a slow process due to procedures, legal nonconforming uses.

Joe stated that his firm will be bringing back to the next Planning and Zoning meeting a sample ordinance for making zoning changes and three (3) different sample zoning maps.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to come before the Board of Aldermen.

NEW BUSINESS

Agreement to join Midwest Public Risk (MPR)

City Administrator Nici Wilson informed the Board on the ongoing efforts to ensure the City is receiving the best services in the most cost effective manner possible. Further noting that RFP No. 12-18 for Insurance Services was issued on August 3, 2018. The City received four (4) responses all capable of handling the insurance needs. Following this review, an addendum was issued to the four (4) qualified respondents to begin the process of providing the City quotes for rates on each line of coverage the City has with a deadline set for October 12, 2018 at 5:00 pm. The week of October 15, 2018, staff reviewed all of the quotes provided. In addition, Wilson met with the Finance Committee. The recommendation by the Finance Committee and staff based on services provided and cost savings to the City, estimated around \$98,000 in the first year of coverage for property, auto, liability, and worker's compensation coverage, that the Board of Aldermen allow the City Administrator to enter into contract negotiations with Midwest Public Risk (MPR) as our insurance provider for all line of coverage and appoint the City Administrator to serve as the member representative on behalf of the City of Odessa. Wilson noted that with MPR the City would offer the employees three (3) different health plan choices and would allow for retirees to keep their insurance upon retirement from the City, which was not available previously to our employees through current and previous plans. Wilson further noted that the services provided by MPR will include liability and safety training, wellness programs, and potential liability legal services. Alderman Stevens stated that the Finance Committee each met with Wilson, and in addition he reached out to other cities that are members of MPR and

they are happy with the service provided by the member owned pool. Stevens added he would like a survey to be done after a year of membership of the employees to see if they are happy with MPR and the services provided.

Motion was made by Alderman Stevens, seconded by Alderwoman Starr to approve the acceptance of the bylaws to join Midwest Public Risk of Missouri for Insurance services and appointing the City Administrator as the member representative.

Motion carried 6-0.

RFP No. 13-18 (Automated Meter Reading Systems)

City Administrator Nici Wilson explained that the City received four (4) responses to the RFP for both AMR and AMI systems. These proposals were reviewed by the management team including all utility superintendents. It is the recommendation of this group to enter into contract negotiations with Eaton Systems.

The features offered by Eaton are stouter with respect to monitoring electricity and the water department would be able to use any brand of meter, not requiring a proprietary system as some of the other proposals. The entire cost of the project is approximately \$1,300,000. Wilson stated that this is an exciting time for Odessa to be able to have an Advanced Metering Infrastructure. Dawn Jennings, Finance Director pointed out that the City is understaffed and that the system would allow for more efficient use of staff time. There are options for the system to be financed over ten (10) or fifteen (15) years and the estimated useful life of the system is 20 (twenty) years which is significantly more than the proposed repayment period. Further discussion:

- Alderman Wright ask what was our actual cost, he would like to know what it cost the city now to read meters. Jennings stated that this is not cheaper but would email Alderman Wright those numbers
- Alderman Harves ask if you just push a button does it go straight to billing, Wilson stated that there could be times someone would need to read a small number of meters, giving examples of those times
- Electric Superintendent Carson Hodge indicated that a benefit would be the “pay as you go” feature. This example is if a customer didn’t think they couldn’t afford a \$300.00 monthly bill they could pay up front \$100.00. Once that much had been used, they would then need to come in and pay additional or the utilities could be shut off at the touch of a button
- Wilson mention that we would also be able to manage the peak demand times in an effort to lower our wholesale cost of power which could produce substantial savings
- Alderman Stevens stated that MPUA bases their rates on peek rates over a period of time are we able to see the high peek time to be able to get the lower rate. Carson explained to him yes that we would be able to monitor this.
- Alderman Harves ask if we could use the meters that we have recently purchased. Carson stated yes, that we need to add a node (antenna)
- Alderman Wright questioned the additional expenditures of \$160,000 a year versus the approximate \$60,000 a year for an additional staff. Further noting it’s not counting the residuals. We would have to make up \$100,000 a year. Jennings said that is correct but there are other things to consider when improving the technology, infrastructure and processes so greatly. Wright stated that staff has indicated potential rate increases to cover operating costs and he would like to know what all of it is going to cost. It was noted that we won’t know

if and how much rates would need to be raised to cover operational increases until closer to budget time

- City Administrator Nici Wilson added that the savings we could see won't be known for up to a year
- Alderman Wright ask what the rate increase would be
- City Administrator Nici Wilson explained that we would not know exactly until the rate study comes back
- Mayor Couch ask if this needs to move forward before you are able to find out anything more information on the project
- Finance Director Dawn Jennings stated that this would have to be approved before we could get financing quotes
- Alderman Henning asked if we could get number of hours spent on reading meters and doing disconnects and billing and how many hours will we be saving
- Finance Director Dawn Jennings said that yes she provide those figures
- Mayor Couch asked the Electric Supervisor and Water Supervisor how they felt with the numbers
- Electric Superintendent Carson Hodge, has compared other rates and Odessa has one of the lowest rates, this would save time for the electric department to be able to do other projects that need to get done to improve the system
- Darrin Lamb Water/Street Supervisor stated that he has checked with other places that have this system and he estimates we could see a decrease of three (3) percent to fifteen (15) percent on water loss. This system would help with the decrease of the water loss. Man power is also something that he will save on also, allowing projects to improve the system to be done, when there is just not time now due to the time it takes to read meters
- Alderman Wright stated he is not against this he would just like to see the numbers and know where we are going with this and hopes we get good water meters
- City Administrator Nici Wilson mentioned that is what we liked about this system is that we can switch the meters if needed that we are not tied to any brand

Motion was made by Alderman Wright seconded by Alderman Henning to postpone the approval for contract negotiations to move forward with the purchase and installation of an automated meter reading integration system until next meeting November 26, 2018. Motion carried 6-0.

Bill No. 2018-25 (1st reading) UTV's, ATV's and golf carts

Mayor Couch read bill no. 2018-25, a proposed ordinance amending Chapter Two Police Code, the use of Utility Vehicles, Golf Carts, and All-Terrain Vehicles.

Discussion:

- Alderman Stevens asked Mr. McNeel if he drives his ATV from each rental property, he stated yes, Stevens asked Chief Thompson if this ordinance does not allow him to drive his ATV
- Chief Thompson noted that currently the ordinance does not allow for the use of ATV's on city streets and the proposed ordinance would not change that
- Alderman Henning asked if a business permit for someone like Mr. McNeel could be issued to use for his business
- Alderman Stevens ask if we could get something added to the ordinance to allow someone who is doing work for their business with restrictions

- Attorney Joe Lauber suggested that a licensed user with an ATV be able to have a permit with a restriction of potentially three (3) to five (5) years
- Alderman Stevens inquired if that is put in the ordinance there are restrictions on what it can be used for
- Lauber said we would copy what we had in the current ordinance

Motion was made by Alderman Henning, seconded by Alderman Stevens to postpone bill no. 2018-25, until next meeting for revisions to allow ATV for restricted use for anyone with a current permit obtained prior to October 1, 2018, for five (5) years. Motion carried 6-0.

Adjourn to Closed Session

There being no further business to come before the Board of Aldermen in open session, motion was made by Alderman Henning, seconded by Alderman Stevens to move the meeting into closed session pursuant to RSMo 610.021 subsection (12) for contract negotiations at 8:22 pm. Vote as follows:

Alderwoman Starr	yes	Alderman Stevens	yes
Alderman Wright	yes	Alderman Henning	yes
Alderman Carmody	yes	Alderman Harves	yes

Motion carried 6-0.

Mayor Couch, the six (6) member board, Nici Wilson, Peggy Eoff and Joe Lauber were present during the closed session. No action was voted upon.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Aldermen in closed session, motion was made by Alderman Wright, seconded by Alderman Stevens to move the meeting back into open session at 8:44 pm. Vote as follows:

Alderwoman Starr	yes	Alderman Stevens	yes
Alderman Wright	yes	Alderman Henning	yes
Alderman Carmody	yes	Alderman Harves	yes


Motion carried 6-0.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board of Aldermen, motion was made by Alderman Henning, seconded by Alderman Stevens to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 pm. Motion carried 6-0.

Approved:

November 24, 2018


 Adam R. Couch, Mayor


 Peggy Eoff, City Clerk