

## **Administration Committee Meeting**

City Of Virden

City Council Chambers

Thursday, June 6, 2024

Meeting called to order by Alderman Mottershaw at 7:14 pm

**Aldermen in attendance:** Bertolino, Mottershaw, Calloway, Mitchell, Boster and Neighbors

**Absent:** None

**Also in attendance:** Mayor Murphy and Public Works Director Gary Etter

### **Topics:**

#### **1. Demolition Correspondence**

Mottershaw passed out a paper. Joe sent this to review as a sample language of their suggestion to send out to the owners of the properties on our list that we would like to acquire for demolition. He wants our input. Bertolino says to put inhabited instead of needs repair. Bertolino asked if it would be sent out in their letter head or ours. It could be either. Send it out with Craven letterhead.

#### **2. Putting Liens on nuisance properties**

We send a letter on nuisance, property not taken care of, we go in and mow, then send a bill. They have 7 days to pay. Mottershaw wants to after the 7 days if not paid, go ahead and contact the attorneys to put a lien on the property, if they don't pay on the lien have the attorneys start to foreclose on the lien. Bertolino asked who is going to keep track of it. Mottershaw said Steven sends out the letter, Pokey goes and takes care of it, Jess sends out the bill and have Jess send the info to the attorneys if not paid. Bert said so Jess is going to do it.

#### **3. Water Deposit**

Mottershaw said back in 2016 an ordinance was passed for the rental deposit to be \$150.00. When the new code book was written \$100.00 was kept. We either need to change the ordinance or lower the deposit. Pokey says to keep it \$150.00. Mottershaw can have an ordinance drafted and have it for the Public Works meeting.

#### **4. Metering System**

Pokey talks about the meter paper Gordan sent. From the info it looks like we have a leak and a metering issue. Pokey recommends acting on getting a new meter system. If we want to go with Gordan and have him pick some options to show us and decide what to go with. Pokey doesn't want to go back with the guys from Midwest. They have not helped us. Murphy talked about graphs he got from Benton

and Associates. Murphy said that Brian asked if we wanted him to find several different companies to come do presentations. Pokey says he's not disagreeing with this leak, but if you look at this paper it's more technical than what they just gave you right there. Discussion was had about shutting off valves and doing a sweep. Pokey said he'd like the ultra-sonic meters. They have no guts in it. We'd like auto reads, leak detection, go with cellular head with analog instead of digital. Mottershaw asked to see if Gordan can have info on these meters by the Public Works meeting. Pokey would like to see a 20-year life. Everyone is in agreement to move forward.

**Additional Items:**

- **709 E. Jackson**

Pokey wants to know if he needs to board up those windows and make it more secure. Yes, secure it. Pokey says if it's only going to be a couple weeks he's not worried about it, but if it's going to be months, he says secure it. Board it up, mow the grass, clean it up? Yes. Mottershaw asked if we should instruct the attorneys to file the paperwork with the county to make it nontaxable piece of property. Murphy says to go ahead and do that. Mottershaw asked to go ahead and get bids. Murphy says might as well. Pokey will get info from a guy in Carlinville, Rick Flowers, Triple Crown and Paco (Chad Burnet).

- **Mosquito spray**

Pokey said with his and Murphy's income, they could buy it, but they are down to one barrel of Mosquito Spray from last year. He needs 3, but if he can get 1 purchased, can he do it? How much does that cost/ \$1,925.00. Boster thought he bought a bunch and stored it. We did. We are down to 1 barrel. It doesn't take long. Pokey asked if he could go ahead and order 1 and take it to council to order the others. Yes, we won't get the bill till after City Council.

- Pokey wants to let them know he is having problems with the boring people. They sent out 48 Julie Digs today. They ended up cancelling 48 because they didn't have anything pre-marked. Now, we have 33 for tomorrow and supposedly they are turning in 30 more on Monday. They hit two lines today. One they had to dig 40 feet because they hit it with the boring head.

- **Roddey Boulanger**

Bertolino asked if he called Craven or if Craven called him. Murphy doesn't know

- Bertolino asked if the police officer that was injured did he return to work. He returned with a doctor's note. Who was injured? He got in a wreck in Springfield. It was Jones.

- There is a for sale sign on the Coalmine property that hasn't been mowed. At least reach out to the real estate company and tell them it has to be mowed.
- **Jed's Building**  
Murphy talked to David Hays, and he said you have to talk to Bill about cost. Murphy conferenced called them and Bill suggested that might not be our best money spent trying to get that particular grant. They are going to look at USDA Grants that might qualify. Morenz was complaining to Derek Tiburzzi (MCPHD) about the building. He went and looked at it and took quite a few notes. Murphy called him. He's going to look into some contacts he knows.
- Have we heard anymore on the housing? Murphy gets an email every 3 months asking if anything has changed on the environmental hazard department on that property. No, it hasn't changed.

## **Executive Session**

### **1. Approval of Executive Session Meeting Minutes (5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(21))**

Motion made by Bertolino second by Neighbors to adjourn at 8:24 pm. Motion passed with all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:24 pm.

Deputy City Clerk  
Karen Burgess

Date approved: