

The Carl Junction City Council met in regular session on Tuesday February 6, 2024 at 7:00 PM at City Hall. Mayor Mark Powers called the meeting to order with the following present: LaDonna Allen, Mike Burns, Rick Flinn, Bill Maguire, David Pyle, Roger Spencer, and Hollie LaVigne. Bob McAfee was absent. (*Amended 3/5/24: Unfinished Business*) Also present were City Administrator Steve Lawver, City Attorney Mike Talley, City Clerk Alaina Wright and City Administrator Assistant Crystal Winkfield.

### **AGENDA**

LaDonna Allen motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Roger Spencer seconded. All in favor. No opposed with one absent. Hollie LaVigne motioned to approve the consent agenda. LaDonna Allen seconded. All in favor. No opposed with one absent.

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

Carole Wofford-207 Verbryck-She says she has been here for the meetings for the last several months and for most of those meetings she has been the only person in attendance. She said she knows the Board works hard and she would like to thank them for their hard work.

Heather Jensen-County Road 270, Webb City-She said she didn't live in town, but is the wife of Corporal Jensen. She said the city has neglected the streets, the police departments and the families of the police department. She said the city has solar panels and the electric bill for the Community Center shouldn't be \$40,000. Heather also said that the city budgets too much for health insurance and that she believes the city is misappropriating funds. She also spoke about the city cutting the number of officers from 12 to 11 in the past few years.

LaDonna Allen said at one point we did budget for 12 officers, but we didn't have 12 officers for several years and so it went down to 11 officers. She said there has been bad information on Facebook about salaries for the officers. She said an officer making \$14.18 per hour in 2012 is now making \$19.66 per hour. She said that for an officer with his whole family on the city's insurance, the city pays over \$1,800 per month in benefits for that employee. LaDonna Allen said regarding the times for budget meetings, the meetings have to be held when the budget committee members are available. She said the budget is not approved in those meetings; they are simply work sessions that result in the budget committee making recommendations for the whole council. LaDonna Allen said nobody on the Board wants any officers to be on patrol alone, but we have four open positions and there is nobody applying for those positions right now.

Chevelle Lawver-Locust-She wanted to thank the council and staff for working for the city and she thanked the police department for working to keep the city safe. She feels that getting correct information out to the public regarding the use tax and how it can help the police department is important and she is willing to head a volunteer committee to help get the word out. She said she will be at the Community Center at 7:00 PM on Thursday February 8 for anyone that would like to be involved with the committee.

Shelly Albright-222 Fairway Drive-She wanted to confirm the pay rates she heard earlier and said she would not stay at a job where a person received only a \$5.00 per hour increase in 12 years.

### **APPROVAL OF BID FROM G&G CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC. FOR WWTP IMPROVEMENTS**

Steve Lawver said there's a letter from Allgeier Martin in the packet and G&G Construction is the apparent low bidder with a base bid of \$587,670.00, plus an additional \$49,250.00 in alternate bid items. Goins Enterprises, Inc. had a base bid of \$591,220.00 with \$91,400 in alternate bid items, and McClanahan Construction Company, Inc. had a base bid of \$600,000.00 with \$130,000.00 in alternate bid items. Steve Lawver said Allgeier Martin is recommending approval of the bid from G&G Construction.

LaDonna Allen asked if there was any part of the amount that could be paid with the I&I budget. Steve Lawver he wasn't sure but he could ask the engineers.

LaDonna Allen motioned to accept the bid from G&G Construction Company for the WWTP improvements. Rick Flinn seconded. All in favor. No opposed with one absent.

### **APPROVAL TO DECLARE PD EQUIPMENT AS SURPLUS AND AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT**

Chief McCall said all the equipment is outdated and rusty and they need the room in the police department to get stuff out of the hallway. David Pyle motioned to declare the equipment as surplus and authorize the disposal of the surplus equipment. Roger Spencer seconded. All in favor. No opposed with one absent.

### **APPROVAL OF DESTRUCTION OF RECORDS: 2021 BUSINESS LICENSES AND RETURNED MAIL OCTOBER 2016-JANUARY 2021**

Alaina Wright said this is paper copies of 2021 business licenses that have been scanned in. She also said when mail is returned it is kept with the forwarding address on the old envelope so there's a trail of where the mail was sent. Alaina said this mail goes back to October 2016, and she would like to destroy it from October 2016 through January 2021.

LaDonna Allen motioned to approve the destruction of the records. David Pyle seconded. All in favor. No opposed with one absent.

### **REPORTS**

The Council reviewed the Administration report. Steve Lawver said the results of the RFQ are included in the packet. He also said he is asking Dr. Pyle to abstain from voting since he was listed as a reference for MidCentral Technology. He said he would

recommend MidCentral because they are local and have local employees. Steve Lawver said the approval of the RFQ would bring MidCentral on board and they would begin looking at everything that needs to be upgraded.

Hollie LaVigne asked if there are any estimates from anyone and Steve Lawver said not at this time. LaDonna Allen motioned to accept the RFQ from MidCentral Technology. Roger Spencer seconded. Hollie LaVigne, Rick Flinn, Roger Spencer, LaDonna Allen, Mike Burns, and Bill Maguire were in favor. No opposed with David Pyle abstaining and one absent.

Hollie LaVigne asked Steve Lawver if he knew when he might hear back from MoDOT on the crosswalk for Walnut and he said the design that was in the packet was the result of MoDOT working with OWN, Inc. He said it does qualify for a TAP grant, but those max out at \$500,000 and the city would be responsible for an additional \$169,000.

Treasurer's reports – No discussion.

Public Works report – Mayor Powers asked if Optic Communications had cut anymore water lines and Jay Morton said no.

Police Dept. report – LaDonna Allen said she found out this week there are people trying to message the police department's Facebook messenger and said that is not the way to contact the police department for an emergency. Chief McCall said anytime there is something in progress, people need to call the police department at that time.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Budget/Finance:** LaDonna Allen said there is a meeting at 4:15 PM on February 7 for water and wastewater. LaDonna Allen also said the plan is to use the interest accrued in one of the money market accounts to begin the technology upgrades. She also said February 14 at 4:15 PM to discuss the police budget and reminded everyone budget decisions would not be made at that meeting.

**Code/ Nuisance:** Rick Flinn had nothing to report.

**Human Resources:** Roger Spencer said there is a closed session later to discuss personnel.

**Public Facilities & Planning:** Mike Burns said he would like to have a meeting to discuss the future of Bulldog Beach. The committee chose 4:00 PM February 13 for the meeting.

**Economic Development:** Hollie LaVigne said Retail Strategies are going through and gathering their data right now and working on our market guide. She said they will be in town in about a month for anyone who would be available and want to meet with them.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Mike Burns said striping of Angel Lea was approved a few meetings ago and the road is in such bad shape it would essentially be striping potholes and suggested that the road be repaired before it is striped.

Hollie LaVigne said the Chamber of Commerce give back day is this Saturday. She said they are also looking for snack sponsors.

Hollie LaVigne asked if Steve had spoken to the Girl Scouts about the seed library and he said no.

Steve Lawver said Miracle Recreation submitted a layout for the Lakeside Park project. He said it is just over budget from what we planned but the layout looks very nice. Mayor Powers said the company was based out of Monett, MO. LaDonna Allen said the company got very good reviews from RE Smith. Hollie LaVigne asked how adaptive the equipment is and he said the whole thing is inclusive. David Pyle motioned to approve the playground design from Miracle Recreation. Hollie LaVigne seconded. All in favor. No opposed with one absent.

Steve Lawver said Emory Sapp did the asphalt work at Rainer Farms and they missed their target from 1/8-1/4" in thickness. They said they will give the city a check for \$5,000 to make up the difference in the thickness of the roads. Mike Talley said Kurt with Allgeier Martin asked if anything prohibited us from asking for \$5,000 and he is unaware of anything that prohibits us from accepting this since they didn't do the job as it was supposed to be done. He said if they accept the money, there is an implied acceptance that we accept the work they did. Mike Burns said he believes this is one of those issues where a decision shouldn't be made immediately after receiving information. Steve Lawver said our code allows a 1/2" inch variance in the thickness, and this is less than that. Mayor Powers said it should be put it on the agenda for the next meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

### **CLOSED SESSION PER RSMO 610.021 (3): HIRING, FIRING, DISCIPLINING OR PROMOTING OF PARTICULAR EMPLOYEES BY A PUBLIC GOVERNMENTAL BODY WHEN PERSONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE EMPLOYEE IS DISCUSSED OR RECORDED**

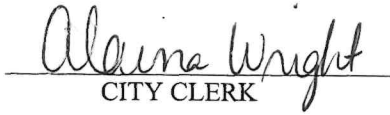
Roger Spencer motioned to go into closed session. Hollie LaVigne seconded. Roll call vote: LaVigne-yes, McAfee-absent, Flinn-yes, Spencer-yes, Allen-yes, Burns-yes, Maguire-yes, Pyle-yes. Council went into closed session at 7:51 PM.

Council meeting reconvened at 8:27 PM. No votes or action was taken.

LaDonna Allen said the meeting that should be on February 20 will need to be rescheduled because there will not be a quorum available because several of the aldermen will be out of town at the legislative conference. David Pyle motioned to move the meeting scheduled for February 20<sup>th</sup> to February 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. . Hollie LaVigne seconded. All in favor. No opposed with one absent. Mike Burns said since there would be a regular meeting at 7:00, he would change the Public Facilities Committee meeting to February 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Roger Spencer motioned to adjourn the meeting. David Pyle seconded. All in favor. No opposed with one absent. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

  
CITY CLERK

  
MAYOR