

**MINUTES
CITY OF ALTAMONT
August 12, 2021**

- REGULAR MEETING The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM with Mayor Richard Hayward presiding. Mayor Hayward opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and Councilmember Souders led the prayer. Councilmembers present: Craig Carnahan, Ben Cochran and Paul Souders.
- MINUTES Councilmember Cochran moved and Carnahan seconded to approve the minutes from the July 22, 2021 meeting. Motion carried.
- INVOICES Councilmember Cochran moved and Carnahan seconded to pay the invoices in the amount of \$329,985.27. Motion carried.
- KDOT Wayne Gudmonson from KDOT Connecting Links addressed Council. The City signed an agreement in 1978 with KDOT to maintain US Highway 160 through the City. They would like to update the agreement with one that defines what they will do more clearly. Council will review and discuss the agreement at the next Council meeting.
- JIM PEOPLES – METER FEE Jim Peoples requested the City waive his gas meter fee to his shop. When the meter was installed, the City installed it at the shop to avoid running the lines from the house back to the shop. He has not been charged the \$12 meter fee since it was installed. In March of this year, the utility software program flagged the meter for an invalid meter type. LeaAnn updated the meter to make the code match what the software requested. With that change the software began charging Mr. Peoples for the meter fee. Audree reminded Council whatever they decided would set precedent of how we handle these situations moving forward. Audree will gather more information and bring to Council for a final decision.
- GILMORE & BELL A representative from Gilmore & Bell spoke to Council about the General Obligation Bonds for the new fire truck. The GO Bonds is for \$260,000. It is payable over a 15-year cycle. The funds will be wired to the City on August 27th, 2021. It is an annual payment to the State Treasurer who will then pay USDA. The GO Bonds can be paid off at any time with a 45 days' notice. The Ordinance allows the issuance of the bonds. The Resolution includes all the detail of the bonds.
- Council was presented with the General Obligation Bonds documents for the fire truck including Ordinance 629, Resolution 286, closing documents, Federal Tax Certificate (FTC), compliance procedures and distribution list.
- ORDINANCE 629 – BONDS Councilmember Cochran moved and Carnahan seconded to approve Ordinance number 629, the General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021. Cochran - yes, Souders - yes, Carnahan - yes. Motion carried.
- RESOLUTION 286 – BONDS Councilmember Cochran moved and Carnahan seconded to approve Resolution number 286, the General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021. Motion carried.
- Councilmember Cochran out at 7:35 PM. In at 7:37 PM.
- ORDINANCE 627 - STO Councilmember Carnahan moved and Cochran seconded to approve Ordinance number 627, the Standard Traffic Ordinance. Carnahan - yes, Cochran - yes, Souders - yes. Motion carried.
- ORDINANCE 628 – UPOC Councilmember Carnahan moved and Cochran seconded to approve Ordinance number 628, Uniform Public Offense Code. Souders - yes, Cochran - yes, Carnahan - yes. Motion carried.
- USDA LOAN Council was presented with the fire truck closing documents from the USDA including the SO closing instructions, bond memo, ACH payment form, final application, guide 40a – loan closing opinion, guide 34 – interest rate selection, graduation certificate and evidence of other funds.
- Councilmember Cochran moved and Carnahan seconded to approve the final application for the USDA loan and the GO Bonds for the Fire truck. Motion carried.
- OLD FIRE DEPARTMENT Nothing at this time.
- WAR VETERAN MEMORIAL Nothing at this time.
- COUNCIL RETREAT Audree asked Council when they may want to start the Council Retreat. She suggested once or twice a year for education for subjects like KORA and KOMA. Councilmember Cochran recommended deferring the retreat due to the pandemic.

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CITY ATTORNEY Council received a letter of resignation from City Attorney Stephen Jones. Audree is looking to find a new attorney for the open City Attorney position.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR City Administrator Audree Aguilera submitted a letter of resignation with her last day being September 3rd, 2021.

Councilmember Carnahan moved and Souders seconded to approve the resignation letter of our City Administrator. Motion carried.

LIBRARY BOARD Councilmember Cochran moved and Carnahan seconded to appoint Norma Sandusky to the Library Board. Motion carried.

RECREATION Councilmember Carnahan moved and Cochran seconded to approve the appointment of Jyssica Lahey to the Altamont Recreation Commission term ending December 31, 2024. Motion carried.

Councilmember Carnahan moved and Cochran seconded to approve the appointment of Rhyder Turner to the Altamont Recreation Commission term ending December 31, 2021. Motion carried.

ALCOHOL ON PUBLIC PROPERTY Ordinance number 379 addresses prohibiting alcohol on public property. Audree stated this ordinance conflicts with the current policy for the City Park building. There are public events and requests for alcohol at the Lake. Councilmember Cochran believes the policy needs to be revised. Prohibiting alcohol on public property was an issue for the beer garden during Flag Day and at the Lake. Audree will get some draft ordinances to Council.

UTILITY CONNECTIONS Ordinance number 598 sets service fees for connecting utilities within the City of Altamont at \$10 per utility meter. The last Electric Ordinance increased the electric connect fee to \$20. Audree will work with Brad and LeaAnn to get the ordinance updated.

LKM LEAPS The Kansas League of Municipalities offers the League Executive/Administrative Position Search (LEAPS) for hiring a new City Administrator. The base price for services is \$3,933. The advertisement price is between \$900 - \$1,400. Audree recommended the advertising price. She feels like the City did a good job with the hiring process last time.

Councilmember Cochran moved and Carnahan seconded to utilize the League's Executive/Administrative Position Search for advertising only. Motion carried.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR Report written by Audree Aguilera. Fire truck / USDA Loan closing on August 27th. Trash truck anticipated arrival by August 1st. Purple Wave Auctions – 1995 E-One Fire Truck in Springfield, MO sold on Purple Wave auction on August 10th; total of \$797.50. Floodplain – KDA and FEMA will begin a floodplain mapping project for our area; this project will update the current floodplain maps. Budget – 2022 RNR and budget hearing set for August 26, 2021 at 7:00 PM. 2021 budget amendment hearing set for August 26, 2021 at 7:00 PM. American Rescue Plan – City of Altamont is anticipated to receive \$142,662. First disbursement anticipated in July; first half received on 7/15/2021, have until December 31, 2024 to expend funds. Lake swings – anticipated arrival in mid-September; experiencing longer than normal shipment times due to Covid. House Assessment Tool (HAT)/ Low Moderate Income (LMI) Survey – LMI surveys have been sent out. Crosswalks / Huston Street – Huston seal project completed; the striping project to begin on Thursday, August 12. Electric Utility – tabled; set for discussion in Fall 2021. Old fire department building – demolition in 2022 budget. Energy Crisis Committee – first meeting was 7/22/2021; recommendation to continue with KMGA. Sewer Lagoon Hedge/Fence – Hedge row is being removed this week; the fence construction will be the next step. Pole testing – the Utility Department has borrowed an electric pole tester from KMEA to begin testing all our poles for replacement. Employee Appreciation Pool Party / Barbeque – well attended; no incidents occurred. City administrator resignation – last day will be September 3, 2021.

Audree needs to know how Council would like to use the American Rescue Plan money. Councilmember Cochran suggested possibly looking into crediting a certain amount to apply to resident's February gas emergency utility bill. Mayor Hayward suggested possibly painting the curbs and the address on curbing in front of businesses for emergencies.

The Cemetery board requested a chain link fence between the sewer lagoon and the cemetery. Brad is checking with KDHE to find out what we can do and still be in compliance.

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CITY ADMINISTRATOR Mayor Hayward believes the City Administrator is still a viable position. Mayor Hayward stated before the City Administrator, the past City Clerk over saw day to day operations and really didn't have the authority to do that. There were Councilmembers over the departments. The City Administrator can now take care of the day-to-day operations without waiting until the next council meeting to make the decisions. Councilmember Souders has seen a change for the better and he believes it is a leadership the City needs.

Labor Day City Offices will be closed September 6th in observation of Labor Day.

ADJOURNMENT Councilmember Cochran moved and Carnahan seconded to adjourn the Council meeting at 8:24 PM. Motion carried.

DATE

LeaAnn Myers, City Clerk