



City of Charleston, MO

204 N. Main Street; Charleston, MO 63834
PH 573.683.3325; FX 573.683.3297

**Charleston City Council
December 10, 2019**

Meeting Minutes

Mayor Pro-Tem Jackie Whiteside called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Also present were Council members Jack Feezor, Phil Halter,, and Tommy Butler along with City Manager Richard Goode, City Attorney Michael O'Rourke, and City Clerk Stefanie Self. Mayor Patrick Farmer was unable to attend due to a family commitment.

Recognition of Visitors: There were no guests or visitors to be recognized.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: Minutes of the November 12, 2019 Council meeting were provided in the meeting packet. Phil Halter made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Tommy Butler seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Report of City Business / Operations: City Manager Richard Goode had provided a written report of city business and operations for November as part of the meeting packet. He added that curbside leaf collection will end Friday, January 3, 2020, advised that City Hall will be closed on Christmas Eve, and gave the Council a brief update on the upcoming surgery for city employee Richard Slaten.

Old Business:

- **Resolution No. 1088; City Policy Regarding Employee Health Care Coverage:** Mr. Goode explained that, with the increase in group healthcare premiums, the employee participation will increase to \$65.00 per month or \$30.00 per pay period. This follows the recent practice of employee contributions increasing by the same percentage that premiums increase. Phil Halter made a motion to approve the resolution, Jack Feezor seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.


New Business:

- **Audit Report for FY 2018-19:** A copy of the audit report had been included in the meeting packet. Mr. Goode described the report as typical of what the city receives each year and containing no major findings. There was discussion regarding the auditor's comments about the city handling finances for the Industrial Development Authority and Mr. Goode said he would talk with Bennie Bruenderman about IDA assuming complete responsibility for their own operations.
- **Discussion of Landlord Liability for Unpaid Tenant Water / Sewer Bills:** City Attorney Michael O'Rourke briefly reviewed the history of landlord liability for unpaid tenant water bills as well as a change in city policy made several years ago. He urged Council to return to the policy of holding landlords liable for unpaid tenant bills to the extent currently allowed by state law for the simple

reason that the city does not get to pick the tenants but has to provide water service to them. If the tenant then fails to pay, the city runs the risk of having an unpaid balance. State law now limits landlord liability to ninety days with stipulations. After discussion, Council asked Mr. O'Rourke to draft the necessary ordinance(s) to put a policy in place holding landlords liable to the extent allowed by Missouri law. He will prepare the ordinance for the January Council meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.

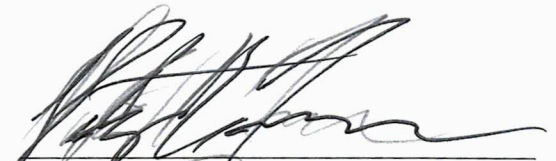
Attest:




City Clerk



City Clerk



Mayor



Presiding Officer