

CITY OF BEL-RIDGE
TENTATIVE WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2020
6:00 PM

This meeting was called to order by Mayor Fair at 5:02 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and attendance called by City Clerk, Andrea Jones.

ROLL CALL

Abernathy - Present
Watts- Present
Tope- Present
Ruff- Present
Whitaker- Present (by video conference)
Robinson- Present
Mayor- Present

City attorney Kevin O’Keefe and attorney Kate Henry.

Agenda Approval

Motion to amend the agenda to add a closed session regarding Section 610.021 (3) for purpose of dealing with an employee matter made by Alderman Robinson and second by Alderman Watts. All in favor, motion passed.

Motion to approve the amended agenda by Alderman Robinson and seconded by Alderman Tope, voice vote all in favor and motion passed.

Discussion of Hanley Demolition and Water Tape issue

Funds for 2016 CDBG are in the process of being recaptured. Mitch Marco from St. Louis County is asking the board to decide what they want to do. Board was under the assumption that a decision had already been made. Attorney Henry explained that there are two separate issues. The easement department in St. Louis County is seeking to acquire the sidewalk and the other is with St. Louis County CDBG department to demo 3400 N. Hanley. Erika Macon spoke to St. Louis County in her department about possibly destroying the water tap for 3400 N. Hanley. St. Louis County is not willing to destroy taps because they were under the impression that Bel-Ridge is already using the CDBG funds to take care of that. As of now, Ms. Macon’s department is not willing to the taps in connection with the easement. The water taps are not in the vicinity of the easements. Bel-Ridge received a new bid from a contractor and the city determined that it was too high of a cost. The City Clerk has been instructed to contact Mitch Marko to ask why the county would not allow tap destroyed.

Motion to authorize Mayor to decide water tap being destroyed and turned into a hydrant once we hear from Mitch Marku by Alderman Watts and second by Alderman Abernathy, and all in favor vote taken.

Discussion of Homestead Program

Alderman Watts addresses his concerns about 2 homes listed in the Homestead Program. Attorney Henry mentions there were two conditional deeds already given to participants under the program. The addresses are 7715 Chorman and 7536 Thelma both bided on in November 2018. The individuals had a year according to the program to bring the property up to code. Neither has happened.

Alderman Watts recommends Mr. Green of 7715 Chorman receives some sort of notification in writing he has forfeited the right to own the property due to not bring home up to code and no inspection. The 7536 Thelma is occupied, and Mr. Winston our previous inspector completed to confirm the occupant has met guidelines. Also, Bel-Ridge has been paying a sewer bill while the occupant has resided at home for a year. Cary the Public Works Director and Alderman Watts looked at the exterior and the awning had fallen and no gutters attached to the home. Alderman Watts also suggests having the occupant speak to the board about the conditions of the home and to sort out other alternatives with the occupant. Attorney O'Keefe recommends the board to have him draw up a draft letter to show cause for both homes and have to come present to the board. Cary will inspect to get documentation and photos of the condition of both homes at the direction of the board.

The board is wanting to stop the Homestead Program and come up with another plan to get rid of the homes owned by Bel-Ridge. Alderman Tope will arrange for someone to come next workshop to explain the process of how Pinelawn did their process. The further discussion continues about the program.

Ordinance scheduling work sessions

The Board requested the City Attorney to draft an ordinance establishing a work session every month on the third Thursday at 6 pm. Adding to Chapter 110 of the City Code, it states the workshop meeting need not be conducted and can be canceled if nothing is needed to be worked on by Mayor.

Motion to adopt Bill 1399 by title only to amend chapter 110 code ordinance of City of Bel-Ridge to establish a date and time for workshop meetings by Alderman Abernathy and seconded by Alderman Ruff and all in favor voice vote taken.

Motion for second reading, Bill 1399 amending Chapter 110 Code of ordinance of City of Bel-Ridge to establish a date & time for workshop meetings by Alderman Abernathy and seconded by Alderman Watts, all in favor vote taken.

Motion to approve Bill 1399 made my Alderman Robinson and second by Alderman Watts. Roll Call was taken and 6 yes, 0 no. Motion Passed.

DISCUSSION OF USE OF CITY HALL COMPLEX

The board is revisiting the discussion to allow usage of the Complex. Velda City, Upland Parks, and two other municipalities are interested in utilizing the Bel-Ridge Complex for meetings. Alderman Watts requested documentation listing when and what reason for the usage of the facility. Alderman Tope would like to allow the usage and maybe start on a trial basis. Alderman Watts brought up the vote that was taken in a previous meeting that no one could use complex at all.

Board decided to only have Bel-Ridge functions and not allow any other cities or private usage in complex and move on.

Mayor informed the board of the upcoming project for Hanley and Natural Bridge.

Alderman Watts asks the board for approval to provide a Proclamation honoring his mother-in-law that is turning 94 yrs. old. No financial burden on the city. He would like for all board members to sign. He will present it to her on her birthday.

Motion to adjourn the meeting and go into a closed session for purpose of dealing with a personnel issue section 610.021 (3) by Alderman Watts and seconded by Alderman Abernathy. Followed by Roll call, and all are present.

Time 6:17 PM

January 1st Tentative Workshop board meeting minutes where approved by Board this December day of December, 2020.

Andrea Jones, City Clerk

