

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 4, 2021

The regular Sikeston City Council meeting of January 4, 2021 was called to order at 5:00 p.m. via Zoom Video Conferencing in Sikeston, MO. Present at the zoom video meeting were: Mayor Steven Burch, Brian Self, Karen Evans, Gerald Settles, Ryan Merideth, Brandon Sparks and Onethia Williams. Staff in attendance were: City Manager Jonathan Douglass, City Counselor Tabatha Thurman, City Clerk Rhonda Council, City Treasurer Karen Bailey, HR Director Amanda Groves, Public Works Director Jay Lancaster, Street Superintendent Brian Dial, Parks Director Dustin Care, Public Safety Director James McMillen and Community Development Director Lorenzo Ware

APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

City Council minutes for December 7 and December 14, 2020 were presented for approval. Councilman Sparks moved to approve the minutes as presented. Councilwoman Evans seconded the motion and the following roll call vote was recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye,
Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

2nd Reading, Bill #6213, Change in Excessive Strength Charge Fees for Commercial or Industrial Users for Wastewater Collection

Councilman Self moved for the second reading of Bill Number 6213. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Williams and the following vote recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye,
Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

City Counselor Thurman presented the bill for reading.

BILL Number 6213

ORDINANCE Number 6213

THIS BILL AS ADOPTED SHALL BECOME ORDINANCE NUMBER 6213, AMENDING DETERMINATION OF RATES FOR EXCESSIVE STRENGTH CHARGE FEES FOR COMMERCIAL OR INDUSTRIAL USERS FOR WASTEWATER COLLECTION.

WHEREAS, the current ordinance is outdated and the determination of rate does not represent the actual cost for excessive sewer discharges of strength and total suspended solids (TSS), and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the surcharge rate is to deter excessive sewer discharges that disrupt the sewer plant and to reimburse the utility for this disruption; and

WHEREAS, the excessive strength and total suspended solids can and does overload the sewer plant as well as rob the City of future growth; and

WHEREAS, in addition to raising the strength and TSS surcharges, this ordinance adds a strength multiplier for excessive strengths and also allows for this rate to be changed based on annuals costs without a total ordinance change; and

WHEREAS, the strength multiplier accounts for replacement and upgrade costs associated with high strength discharges. If proper pre-treatment is performed by the industries, they do not have to pay these surcharges.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIKESTON, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I: This ordinance shall be codified in Title VII Utilities, Chapter 725, Section 725.050 (4) Determination of Rates, of the Sikeston Municipal Code.

SECTION II: Title VII, Chapter 725, Section 725.050 (4) is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 725.050 Determination of Rates.

4. Commercial or industrial users shall be subject to an excessive strength charge in addition to the basic sewer service charge when the BOD or SS concentrations of a discharge exceeds three hundred (300) milligrams per liter (mg/L). All analyses shall be performed on composite samples collected over a twenty-four (24) hour period.

The excess strength charge shall be based upon the volume of wastewater and a wastewater strength factor. The wastewater strength is measured by the degree of organic pollution in the wastewater; the higher the strength, the more treatment costs the City.

The wastewater strength factor shall be calculated by the differential between the actual wastewater strength in mg/L and the allowable 300 mg/L all divided by 300 mg/L rounded up to the nearest whole number.

This strength factor is then multiplied by the following average treatment costs for a final excessive strength charge:

- a. Forty-nine cents (\$0.49) for each pound of excess BOD; and
- b. Seven cents (\$0.07) for each pound of excess TSS

These surcharge calculations may be revised annually based upon the previous fiscal year's wastewater treatment costs."

SECTION III: General Repealer Section. Any other ordinance or parts thereof inconsistent herewith, are hereby repealed.

SECTION IV: Severability. Should any part or parts of this Ordinance be found or held to be invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining part or parts shall be severable and shall continue in full force and effect.

SECTION V: Record of Passage.

- A. Bill Number 6213 was introduced and read the first time this 30th day of November, 2020.
- B. Bill Number 6213 was read the second time and discussed on this 4th day of January, 2021. Following discussion, Councilman Self moved to approve Bill Number 6213. The motion was seconded by Councilman Merideth, discussed and the following roll call vote was recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Absent, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye,
Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

C. Ordinance 6213 shall be in full force and effect from and after February 3, 2021.

Appointment to SEMO University – Sikeston Advisory Council

Timothy Greenway was appointed to the SEMO University Advisory Council in September 2020 but due to his work schedule, he is unable to fill this obligation and advised he would like to withdraw from this position. There were two Resource Bank Applications on file – Christina King (907 Davis) and Lori Caldwell (107 Holmes). This appointment goes into effect immediately with the term expiring December 2023.

Councilwoman Williams motioned to appoint Lori Caldwell to fill the appointment on the SEMO University – Sikeston Advisory Council. The motion was seconded by Councilman Self and the following vote recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye,
Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

Acceptance of Donation of 131 N. New Madrid

131 N. New Madrid is located at the southwest corner of New Madrid and Front Street and since January 2013 has been leased by the City for municipal court hearings. City staff was informed that the Moore family wished to gift the property to the City in exchange for a tax gift letter.

Councilman Sparks moved to accept the donation of 131 N. New Madrid from the Moore family in exchange for a tax gift letter. The motion was seconded by Councilman Merideth and the following vote recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye,
Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

Tournament Staffing Needs

The Parks and Recreation Department seeks approval of hiring 11 additional part-time/seasonal staff workers to work weekend tournaments at the Recreation Complex for the months of May-July. The need to hire additional staff for weekend tournaments reduces the amount of overtime needed to pay full-time staff. The projected revenue from concession sales will cover the costs of the additional workers.

Councilman Self moved to authorize the hiring of 11 additional part-time/seasonal staff workers to work weekend tournaments during the months of May-July. The motion was seconded by Councilman Settles and the following vote recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye,
Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

Award Bid #21-10, Fuel Pump Replacement

The City's fuel site has issues with diesel fuel quality as well as damaged fuel lines between the city pump and Board of Municipal Utilities (BMU) tanks. Bids were sent out for replacement of the fuel pump and fuel line.

Two bids were received and staff recommends awarding the bid to Midsouth (Cape Girardeau, MO) with their bid of \$27,183.00.

Councilman Self moved to award the bid for fuel pump and fuel line replacements to Midsouth out of Cape Girardeau, MO in the amount of \$27,183.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Merideth and the following vote recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye,
Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

Authorization to Proceed with 2021 Street & Drainage Improvement Program

Public Works Department has prepared the annual street and drainage plan which was passed by Planning & Zoning on December 8, 2020. Staff would like authorization to proceed with the program which includes development of plans and specifications and bidding the project. It would also authorize assigning engineering consultants for this project.

Councilman Sparks motioned to authorize proceeding with the 2021 Street & Drainage Program and assigning engineering consultants for this project. The motion was seconded by Councilman Self and the following vote recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye,
Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

Approve 24-Month Extension of Unilever Option on Property in the North Industrial Park

In December 2017, the City of Sikeston and Unilever execute a land swap where the City took possession of the vacated Unilever south plant on County Line Road and Unilever was granted an option to acquire 16.85 acres just south of their plant on Rose Parkway in the north industrial park. The option was valid for three (3) years with the possibility of extending for an additional two (2) years. Unilever has indicated their desire to extend the option for an additional two (2) years, through December 21, 2022.

Councilman Settles motioned to approve the 24-month extension to Unilever which would expire December 21, 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Evans and the following vote recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye,
Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

Other Items

Mayor Burch commented on the educational "Wear Because You Care" campaign that was created to promote awareness and the importance of wearing masks in public to control the spread of Covid-19. Several videos have been posted on social media, including the Mayor and Council members urging citizens to wear masks, and also of employees wearing their masks in the workplace. Mayor Burch stated that there has been positive feedback from this campaign with more businesses wanting to be included.

ADJOURNMENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

There being no further business before the City Council, Councilman Sparks moved to adjourn into executive session for property. The motion was seconded by Councilman Merideth and the following roll call vote was recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye, Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

Mayor Burch called the executive session to order. Present were: Mayor Steven Burch and Councilmen Ryan Merideth, Brandon Sparks, Brian Self, Karen Evans, Gerald Settles and Onethia Williams. Staff present were: City Manager Jonathan Douglass, City Counselor Tabatha Thurman, City Clerk Rhonda Council, Finance Director Karen Bailey, Public Works Director Jay Lancaster and Public Safety Director James McMillen.

No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Sparks moved to adjourn from executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Self and the following roll call vote recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye, Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the City Council, Councilman Merideth moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sparks and the following roll call vote was recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye, Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

APPROVED:

STEVEN BURCH, MAYOR

ATTEST:

RHONDA COUNCIL, CITY CLERK

SEAL: