

MINUTES

April 9, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

at the Lonnie Feeler Memorial Building,

104 East Third Street, Belle Mo 65013

CALL TO ORDER CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor James Mitchell called the meeting to order, and the pledge of allegiance was recited. The meeting started at 6:35 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Present were Mayor James Mitchell, Alderman Steve Vogt, Alderwoman Barb Howarth, and Alderwoman Jeanette Struempfler. Alderman Kevin Guffey was absent.

Also present were City Treasurer Charro Reasor, City Clerk Sherree Burkholder, and Public Works Supervisor, Jim Goben.

ADDITIONS TO AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mayor James Mitchell requested additions be made to the agenda.

Proposed additions: Asphalt Quotes, Bridge on South Alvarado Street, Roof on City Maintenance Building to be added to New Business. Also, Mike Elliott to be added as an Invited Guest and removed Jeff Medows. The Code Book was added to the Treasurers Report. Also added to the agenda was Ordinance #655, Ordinance #656, and Ordinance #657.

Alderman Steve Vogt made a motion to approve the agenda with the suggested changes. Alderwoman Jeanette Struempfler seconded the motion with all in favor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes from Regular and Closed Session held on March 11, 2025

Minutes from Special Meeting held on March 31, 2025

An acknowledgement was made by council as documentation of the text message quorum notifying council that Feb 11th packets were available.

Alderwoman Barb Howarth made a motion to approve the Minutes from Regular and Closed Session held on March 11, 2025. Alderwoman Jeanette Struempfler seconded the motion with all in favor.

Alderman Steve Vogt made a motion to approve the Minutes from Special Meeting held on March 31, 2025. Alderwoman Jeanette Struempfler seconded the motion with all in favor.

INVITED GUESTS:

Jeff Medows: was not able to attend.

Mike Elliott: Emergency Management Director discussed his role as the director and provided contact information to the council. He also discussed the possibility of getting assistance for the city through SEMA. He requested that the city consider paying a quarterly stipend of 500.00 per month for his services.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION:

Rebecca Withouse asked if the city had any new information concerning the city's Municipal Court. She also voiced concern regarding a water leak at 406 Alvarado.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Charro Reasor presented the bills to be paid and the cash summary. Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf made a motion to approve the cash summary and the bills to be paid. Alderman Steve Vogt seconded the motion with all in favor.

A motion to approve Missouri Rural Water Legislative Support was made by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf and seconded by Alderwoman Barb Howarth with all in favor.

Information regarding the lack of an updated code book was presented with the proposed fees for making the necessary upgrades. The last update was made in March of 2021.

Alderman Steve Vogt made a motion to approve updates (codes 608-616A) to the city code book.

Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf seconded the motion with all in favor. This update does not complete the necessary revisions but is the first phase.

OLD BUSINESS:

Sensus Contract: Announce Consensus of the Council for the Sensus Contract

Mayor Mitchell announced the council's approval of the Sensus Contract via text with all members in favor. With the approved contract the city obtained 4 years of tech support and no more than an annual 3% increase over the next 4 years. During the council's discussion, a member of the audience interjected questions and comments. This interruption occurred even though it was not the appropriate time for public inquiries. She questioned the legality of the vote when done by text. The city's attorney quickly responded to her concern; however, she continued to question his interpretation of the law. The Sensus Contract stands as approved via text and is in accordance with the law as stated by the city attorney.

NEW BUSINESS:

Asphalt Quotes: Three quotes were received and after consideration of each, Alderman Steve Vogt made a motion to approve the Meyers quote for 35,500.00 for the asphalt project. Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf seconded the motion with all in favor.

Bridge on S. Alvarado: The city maintenance department closed South Alvarado Street until the bridge is repaired. After the tremendous amount of rain that recently occurred, erosion left a water main and sewer line exposed. The city is seeking estimates to fix the problem. The necessary repairs may require straightening the flow of the creek and removing trees as well.

Roof On City Maintenance Building: The recent rain damaged the roof on the maintenance building. As soon as quotes come in, the roof must be repaired before further damage occurs.

Ordinance 655: An Ordinance Revising Section 405.220 that prohibits the drilling of private water wells within city limits in the Belle. **Following the first reading,** a motion to accept was made by Alderwoman Barb Howarth and was seconded by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf with all in favor.

Roll Call Vote as follows:

Alderman Steve Vogt- Aye

Alderwoman Barb Howarth-Aye

Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf- Aye

Alderman Kevin Guffey-Absent

Following the second reading, a motion to accept was made by Alderwoman Barb Howarth and was seconded by Alderman Steve Vogt with all in favor.

Roll Call Vote as follows:

Alderman Steve Vogt- Aye
Alderwoman Barb Howarth-Aye
Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf- Aye
Alderman Kevin Guffey-Absent

Ordinance 656: An Ordinance Revising Section 125.080 A change of the number of days for the Municipal Court to make payments in accordance with the Missouri State Statutes. **Following the first reading**, a motion to accept was made by Alderman Steve Vogt and was seconded by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf with all in favor.

Roll Call Vote as follows:

Alderman Steve Vogt- Aye
Alderwoman Barb Howarth-Aye
Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf- Aye
Alderman Kevin Guffey-Absent

Following the second reading, a motion to accept was made by Alderman Steve Vogt and was seconded by Alderwoman Barb Howarth with all in favor.

Roll Call Vote as follows:

Alderman Steve Vogt- Aye
Alderwoman Barb Howarth-Aye
Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf- Aye
Alderman Kevin Guffey-Absent

Ordinance 657: An Ordinance to revise Section 125.300 wording to read as follows: Section 125.300 Bond. The court clerk is to be bonded by the city in the sum of 50,000.00. The bond to be paid by the city, conditioned on the faithful performance of said duties and the said clerk will pay over all monies belonging to the city, as provided by law, that may come into the court clerks hands.

Following the first reading, a motion to accept was made by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf and was seconded by Alderman Steve Vogt with all in favor.

Roll Call Vote as follows:

Alderman Steve Vogt- Aye
Alderwoman Barb Howarth-Aye
Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf- Aye
Alderman Kevin Guffey-Absent

Following the second reading, a motion to accept was made by Alderman Steve Vogt and was seconded by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf with all in favor.

Roll Call Vote as follows:

Alderman Steve Vogt- Aye
Alderwoman Barb Howarth-Aye
Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf- Aye
Alderman Kevin Guffey-Absent

STAFF REPORTS:

Mayor- James Mitchell:

The mayor announced that the next regular council meeting will be held on May 13, 2025.

City Wells: The newer well on the East side of town is in good condition, however the panel box inside the council chambers is in need of repair. The city is seeking an estimate from Steve Durbin of Aesthetix Electrical Company to make those repairs.

City Operation Updates: The mayor discussed the latest rain and problems that occurred due to the excessive amount of water falling in a short time period. He explained, "we had drains overflowing and streets flooding". Many problems were reported by community members during the storm.

Mayor Mitchell requested that citizens use due order when problems arise at any time.

Public Works-Jim Goben: Jim provided updates on projects in progress including the city park and the bridge on South Alvarado Street. He also stated that the park lake overflowed during the latest rain event.

City Marshal- Jerry Coborn: Jerry gave the aldermen a report on citations that were written, the number of calls made and other police activities (domestic disputes, etc.)

Alderman- Steve Vogt: "A transportation meeting is scheduled for tomorrow (4/10/25)". He also discussed the negative impact that results from counterproductive phone calls being made. He further stated, "this council has come along way in the past year" and requested that consideration be given for those things as well.

City Attorney:

Nothing currently.

MOTION TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION:

MOTION TO ADJOURN FROM OPEN SESSION AND ENTER CLOSED SESSION (Legal, Personnel and Real Estate Council) 7:50 PM

Jeanette Struempf made a motion to leave the open session and enter closed session. Alderwoman Barb Howarth seconded the motion with a roll call vote to follow.

Alderman Steve Vogt- Aye

Alderwoman Barb Howarth-Aye

Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf- Aye

Alderman Kevin Guffey-Absent

James Mitchell
James Mitchell, Mayor Date

Sherree Burkholder May 13, 2025 (for 4-9-25 meeting)
Sherree Burkholder, City Clerk Date

The City of Belle Board of Aldermen may enter Closed Session before or during this meeting, if such action is approved by a majority of the Board of Aldermen present, with a quorum, to discuss litigation matters as authorized by 610.021 (1) RSMo, real estate matters as authorized by 610.021 (2), or personnel

matters as authorized by 610.021 (3). RSMo Chapter 610.021 (13) Individually identifiable personal records, Performance rating or records pertaining to employees or applicants for employment.

ADA: Visitors with special needs (such as audio or other physical accommodations) must notify the city as soon as possible, preferably 48 hours in advance. The city will make reasonable accommodations for all disabilities to the extent possible.

APPROVED