St. Charles County Council Journal
Regular Meeting – January 27, 2020

The St. Charles County Council met on Monday, January 27, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the County Council Chambers, 100 North Third Street, St. Charles, Missouri. Pastor Scott McNees with the Redemption Assembly of God Church in Wentzville provided the invocation and Council Member Schneider led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following roll call was taken by the Clerk:

- Council Member Joe Cronin present
- Council Member Joe Brazil present
- Council Member Mike Elam present
- Council Member Dave Hammond present
- Council Member Terry Hollander present
- Council Member Nancy Schneider present
- Council Member John White present

County Executive Staff present:

- Steve Ehlmann, County Executive
- Joann Leykam, Director of Administration
- Jennifer George, Assistant Director of Administration
- John Greifzu, Assistant Director of Administration

County Counselor’s Office:

- John Watson, County Counselor

IN THE MATTER OF )
) )
PUBLIC COMMENTS )

Council Chair Hollander opened public comments. He requested comments be limited to three minutes per speaker with three alternating pro and con positions on any particular topic. He also requested that anyone who addressed the Council fill out a speaker’s card for the record prior to the start of the meeting.

Charles Williamson, St. Charles County resident warned the Council of upcoming activity in Gov. Parson’s office as it relates to the levees along the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers. Williamson explained the U.S. Corps of Engineers have agreed the levees along the Illinois side of the Mississippi River have been built higher than what is allowed. Williamson explained members of UMIMRA (Upper Mississippi Illinois Missouri River Association) are involved with the discussions and their interests do not include protecting the Missouri landowners. Williamson requested the Council to be aware of talks being held in Jefferson City.
Council Member Cronin stated he worked with former Council Member Jerry Daugherty on the U.S. Corps of Engineers’ Plan H and requested Williamson send him information on the current issues.

**Miscellaneous**

Arnie C. A.C. Dienoff, O’Fallon resident, stated he is in opposition on the consulting services for the St. Charles County Airport along with the bill to approve funding for runway lighting. Dienoff stated the Airport floods every year and should be raised or shut down. Dienoff repeated his request for the resignation of St. Charles County Police Chief David Todd and to hold a national search for a replacement. Dienoff stated he has submitted a Public Records request for the details on the destruction of records in the County Executive’s office that is currently on the Consent Agenda.

**IN THE MATTER OF**

**ORAL REPORT**

**FROM THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

There was no Oral Report.

**IN THE MATTER OF**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Council Chair Hollander requested consideration of the Consent Agenda. Council Member Cronin made a motion to remove the three (3) Professional Services Contracts for the Highway Department, seconded by Council Member Elam and unanimously. Council Member Elam made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as modified, seconded by Council Member Hammond and unanimously approved. The following items were approved:

**Approval of Journal of the previous meeting** – 1-13-2020 Meeting

**Approval of Bids**

- Highway – 3 Single Axle Dump Trucks w/ Snow Equipment/Rush Truck Ctrs
  (Knapheide)/$367,701.00
  - 1 Tandem Axle Dump Truck W Snow Equipment/Rush Truck Ctrs
  (Knapheide)/$140,594.00
  - Interstate Drive Extension/Karenbrock Construction, Inc./$1,403,466.83
  - Information Systems – Closet Switch Upgrades/Software House/$293,518.62

**Nominations and Appointments**

- Community Assistance Board - Don Brannam/new appointment replacing Timothy Meyer/term expires 6-30-2022
- Employee Activity Board - Vicki Nixon/new appointment replacing Christy Ringling
- Industrial Development Authority - Tom Dempsey/new appointment replacing Kevin Kast/term expires 12-15-2025
- Planning and Zoning Commission - Terry Hollander/5th District Councilman/new appointment replacing Mike Klinghammer

**Miscellaneous**

- Registrar – Records Destruction/Assessor’s Office
  - Records Destruction/Executive Office
- Highway – Consultant Services - Smartt Field west ramp rehab/Javiation, Inc./$32,053.00
IN THE MATTER OF ITEMS 
REMOVED FROM THE 
CONSENT AGENDA 

Highway – Prof. Services - Interstate Drive Improvements/Oates Associates/$291,223.00
 – Prof. Services - Highway N Overlay and Sidewalk Improvements/Bartlett & West, Inc./$169,042.00
 – Prof. Services - Central School Rd. & St. Peters Howell Rd./H R Green, Inc./$199,443.00

Council Member Cronin requested an explanation from Craig Tajkowski regarding the price and need for the professional services. Tajkowski explained under State Statute rules, they are not allowed to negotiate a price until the firm itself has been chosen after review of the company’s qualifications. Once chosen then the price of things can be discussed. If they think the first company is not qualified, they can review their second choice, however the former company’s price and qualifications cannot be discussed. Cronin questioned if the Highway Department would be better off to hire qualified professional engineers and draftsmen to save money. Tajkowski replied the various companies have large amounts of capital invested in software and programs along with personnel and enough projects from government and private sector to keep them busy year round as opposed to the Highway Department not having the programs or enough work to keep them busy. Cronin also questioned the need for the overlay and sidewalk improvement project along Highway N. Tajkowski replied it is not a state mandate, however the interest from the public is in such high demand, if it is not included in the plans, often Federal funding is denied.

There being no further discussion, Council Member Cronin motioned to place the three items back on the Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Member Brazil and unanimously approved.

Council Member Elam made a motion to approve the three Highway Department Professional Services Contracts, seconded by Council Member Brazil and unanimously approved.

IN THE MATTER OF 

BILLS FOR FINAL PASSAGE 

Bill No. 4809 – Sponsored by Council as a Whole – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN ST. LOUIS COUNTY, ST. CHARLES COUNTY, JEFFERSON COUNTY, THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF ST. LOUIS COUNTY, THE CITY OF O‘FALLON AND THE CITY OF FLORISSANT, AND MOSAIC COMMUNITY PLANNING, LLC FOR ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE

There being no discussion, Council Chair Hollander requested the following roll call vote: Council Member Cronin -yes, Council Member Brazil – yes, Council Member Elam – yes, Council Member Hammond – yes, Council Member Hollander – yes, Council Member Schneider – yes and Council Member White – yes. Bill No. 4809 was unanimously approved.
Bill No. 4810 – Sponsored by Council as a Whole – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO EXECUTE THE CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY (“CMAQ”) AGREEMENT WITH THE MISSOURI HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION TO GRANT THE USE OF FUNDS TO IMPROVE THE INTERSECTION AT CENTRAL SCHOOL ROAD AND ST. PETERS HOWELL ROAD, FEDERAL PROJECT CMAQ-7302(683), FOR THE REIMBURSEMENT OF UP TO 80% OF THE ELIGIBLE COSTS, NOT TO EXCEED A MAXIMUM OF $1,000,000

There being no discussion, Council Chair Hollander requested the following roll call vote: Council Member Cronin -yes, Council Member Brazil – yes, Council Member Elam – yes, Council Member Hammond – yes, Council Member Hollander – yes, Council Member Schneider – yes and Council Member White – yes. Bill No. 4810 was unanimously approved.

Bill No. 4811 – Sponsored by Council as a Whole – AN ORDINANCE TO RENAME THE ST. CHARLES COUNTY AIRPORT THE “ST. CHARLES COUNTY REGIONAL AIRPORT – SMARTT FIELD”

Council Member Hammond stated for a speaker to claim they are a Public Advocate they should review the facts before making comments. Hammond pointed out the County Airport does not flood every year.

Council Member Cronin stated he has been a long time tenant at this airport and explained the hangars are reasonable to rent and the fuel used helps MODOT pay for their roads through the fuel tax.

There being no further discussion, Council Chair Hollander requested the following roll call vote: Council Member Cronin -yes, Council Member Brazil – yes, Council Member Elam – yes, Council Member Hammond – yes, Council Member Hollander – yes, Council Member Schneider – yes and Council Member White – yes. Bill No. 4811 was unanimously approved.

Bill No. 4812 – Sponsored by John White – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF MISSOURI HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION’S EMERGENCY AIRPORT AID AGREEMENT, PROJECT AIR 196-111A-1, TO REPAIR RUNWAY LIGHTING SYSTEM AND REPLACE PAPIs, AND TO ACCEPT A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF $43,380, WHICH REPRESENTS ONE HUNDRED PERCENT (100%) OF FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR QUALIFYING EXPENSES

There being no discussion, Council Chair Hollander requested the following roll call vote: Council Member Cronin -yes, Council Member Brazil – yes, Council Member Elam – yes, Council Member Hammond – yes, Council Member Hollander – yes, Council Member Schneider – yes and Council Member White – yes. Bill No. 4812 was unanimously approved.

IN THE MATTER OF

BILLS FOR INTRODUCTION

Bill No. 4813 – Sponsored by Council as a Whole – AN ORDINANCE APPROVING EXECUTION OF FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL COST APPORTIONMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE MISSOURI HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (“COMMISSION”) TO COORDINATE
THE PARTICIPATION OF ST. CHARLES COUNTY IN THE COST OF THE COMMISSION’S PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT FOR I-70 IN ST. CHARLES COUNTY, WHICH INCLUDES MOWING AND LITTER PICK UP ALONG I-70, FROM THE WARREN COUNTY LINE TO THE MISSOURI RIVER, JOB NO. WMSCF18Q

Council Member Cronin stated he was not supportive of this bill when it came before the council in 2019. Cronin explained it should not be St. Charles County tax dollars funding state roads. Cronin requested more information before he would support the bill. County Executive Steve Ehlmann agreed and explained he wished the State would pay for their own things. John Greifzu, Asst. Director of Administration pointed out it is mowing along Highway 70 as well as picking up trash and debris. Greifzu noted some trash items can be quite large such as mattresses and ladders.

Bill No. 4814 – Sponsored by Terry Hollander – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF MISSOURI HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION’S STATE BLOCK GRANT AGREEMENT, AMENDMENT #3, AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM GRANT – PROJECT 16-111A-1, TO EXTEND THE PROJECT TIME PERIOD TO ALLOW FOR COMPLETION OF THE WORK FOR DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTIN OF APRON REHABILITATION AT SMARTT FIELD AIRPORT

IN THE MATTER OF )

TABLED BILLS )

There were no bills removed from the table.

IN THE MATTER OF )
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND )
MISCELLANEOUS )

Council Member Cronin suggested having a work session in the upcoming months to discuss the prison situation and the lack of public defenders.

Council Member Schneider explained it is everyone’s right to have representation for a crime they are being charged with and pointed out according to the Public Defender’s office they are underpaid and understaffed. Schneider stated she would have a conversation with the Presiding Judge and see if they could come to an upcoming work session to answer some questions.

There being no further discussion, Council Member Elam made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Hammond and unanimously approved. The meeting ended at 7:35 p.m.

Examined and Approved

T. Hollander, Council Chair
St. Charles County, Missouri

/djv