

CITY COUNCIL  
PALMYRA MISSOURI

March 4, 2010

The Palmyra City Council met on the above date in City Hall at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Graham opened the meeting by leading the Pledge of Allegiance. The following council members answered roll call: Carolyn Andresen, Gerre Feigenspan, Emmett Garner, Jim Bross and Tim Wright. Absent was councilmember Gary Coleman. Also present were Eddie Bogue, Raymond Houston, Melodie Brigman, Chase Hickman, Mark Cheffey, Gary Crane, Christine Crawford and Robert Lovegreen.

A motion was made by Councilman Garner and seconded by Council member Andresen to approve the consent agenda as presented. The roll call vote was as follows: Ayes; Andresen, Feigenspan, Garner, Bross and Wright. Nays; none. The motion carried. The consent agenda included the following items:

- a. Approval of the February 18th Minutes
- b. Bills for Approval
- c. Municipal Judge's Report-February

Gary Crane reported that the fire department has been awarded grant funds to purchase a fire truck. The match for the rural fire board and the city totals \$10,500. He also stated that he received notification from the conservation department that grant funds have been awarded for a radio for the truck. Crane stated that interviews are being held tonight for a new fireman. Crane left the meeting.

Committee reports included a report from Councilman Feigenspan, police committee chairman. Renovations in the police department are expected to begin the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month and be completed within ten days.

Councilman Wright reported that the Street and Alley Committee met with Street Commissioner Houston and approved the list of streets that he plans to have asphalted this year using capital improvement funds. Mayor Graham stated that the roads in the park are in need of attention. Houston informed the council that the contractor for the Main Street repaving has increased the cost to us to pave the parkways.

Councilman Garner reported that the finance committee met with the park board president and was presented their proposed budget. He expressed concerns that they are projecting higher sales tax revenue. Mrs. Crawford answered questions regarding the proposed wage increases did not give an exact amount that was being proposed for the park director. Crawford stated that \$16 per hour is the figure that they would like to reach. Minimum wage for the park employees was discussed and will be researched by the city attorney.

The council was presented with a proposed budget with three scenarios for wage increases. Discussion followed with Feigenspan and Wright speaking in favor of a larger raise. Bross and Garner expressed concerns because of the state of the economy. Following a lengthy discussion, Garner made a motion to include in the proposed budget a .50 cent per hour raise. Councilman Bross seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Ayes; Garner and Bross. Nays; Andresen, Feigenspan and Wright. The motion did not pass.

A motion was made by Councilman Feigenspan and seconded by Councilman Wright to include in the proposed budget a .65 cent per hour raise. The roll call vote was as follows: Ayes; Andresen, Feigenspan and Wright. Nays; Garner and Bross. The motion carried and the city clerk was instructed to proceed with preparation of the budget using the .65 cent per hour figures.

Councilman Garner also stated that he would like for the personnel committee to pursue a change in the sick leave policy that would award the employees that do not abuse their sick leave.

**Councilmember Reports:** Andresen asked if we have any way to force property owners to clean the snow from their sidewalks. City Attorney Hickman read the ordinance that applies.

Councilman Garner asked Houston how many dump trucks he has and he answered four. Garner then asked if he ever loans them to the Board of Public Works to use and he stated that he does if they have a need for one. Garner stated that according to the BPW minutes they are looking to purchase a dump truck and he is against it.

Councilman Bross informed the council that he contacted MoDot with safety concerns regarding their plans to reduce traffic from four lanes to two as they make repairs on North River Bridge. He stated that the last time they did this someone was killed due to the traffic coming down the hill from the north.

Councilman Bross also stated that the BPW created a new position in order to give a raise and that he will not vote to approve their budget.

City Clerk Dodd presented a recommendation to purchase a new copier for city hall. A motion was made by Councilman Garner and seconded by Council member Andresen to approve the purchase of a copier from Ridders

Business supply in the amount of \$4,365.00 with the cost being shared 50/50 by the BPW. The roll call vote was as follows: Ayes; Andersen, Feigenspan, Garner, Bross and Wright. Nays; none. The motion carried.

Dodd also informed the council that Melodie Brigman will be attending the next council meeting in her place.

Mayor Graham complimented the finance committee on the work they did on the budget. Councilman Garner recognized the efforts of the department heads and city clerk.

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Loren Graham, Mayor

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Rhonda J. Dodd, CMC, MRCC  
City Clerk