CITY OF CAMERON
MINUTES
OCTOBER 3, 2011

REGULAR SESSION

Frank A. Buck	A
Mark L. Carr	P
Dennis M. Clark	P
Jerri Ann Eddins	P
David Fry	P

The City Council of the City of Cameron, Missouri met in Regular Session on Monday, the 3rd day of October 2011, at six o'clock p.m. at City Hall. Mayor Pro-Tem Jerri Ann Eddins led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Mayor Pro-Tem Jerri Ann Eddins presided with the following Councilmembers present: Mark L. Carr, Dennis M. Clark and David Fry. Absent: Frank A. Buck.

Present were Interim City Manager Mark Gaugh, Attorney for the City Mitch Elliott and City Clerk Barbara J. O'Connor.

Minutes of the September 19, 2011, meeting were approved as submitted with a unanimous voice vote on motion made by Councilmember Carr and seconded by Councilmember Fry. Absent: Mayor Buck.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Maxine Thompson, 7085 NE Jones Road, Cameron, Missouri, addressed the Council supporting the proposed tax initiatives and discussing the salary issue. Ms. Thompson said she enjoys the library, band concerts, etc. Paying the proposed sales taxes is an avenue to better streets and conditions for the City. Longevity – good quality employees are important and salaries should reflect employee value.

Julie Becker, 424 East Third Street, stated the proposed sign bill affects her free speech and is too restrictive. Ms. Becker expressed her concern about digital signs creating safety issues. Fireworks regulations were questioned by Ms. Becker. City Attorney Elliott thanked Ms. Becker for her comments and said Public Participation is a time to make a statement and not to ask questions.

Schila Frazier, 103 East Fourth Street, inquired about control measures on City spending and asked to have City financial reports filed at the Cameron Library.

Gary Frazier, 103 East Fourth Street, discussed payroll transparency and benefits. Mr. Frazier said the City needs a leader to get the City back on track.

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INTERIM CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Interim City Manager Gaugh reported planned roof repairs at various City facilities will have to be bid under prevailing wage standards. This will make the cost higher and potentially exclude local contractors. Interim City Manager Gaugh will provide Council with more information on the repairs.
2. City Staff is preparing to issue 20 letters regarding dangerous structures.
3. The City is working with the correctional facilities on wastewater issuea in an effort to reduce costs and eliminate cold weather problems from the facilities lagoons.

Council asked about MoDOT progress on resurfacing US 69/Walnut. Interim City Manager Gaugh will check with MoDOT and report to Council.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill 2011-63, **AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF CAMERON, CLINTON AND DEKALB COUNTIES, MISSOURI, REPEALING ARTICLE 23, SIGN REQUIREMENTS, OF CHAPTER 13, ZONING OF THE CAMERON CITY CODE AND ENACTING NEW ARTICLE 23, SIGN REQUIREMENTS, THEREIN** was read on third reading by title by City Clerk O'Connor. Copies of said Bill 2011-63 were available for the public. Motion was made by Councilmember Fry and seconded by Councilmember Carr to pass said bill on third reading. Discussion. Councilmember Clark said his position is unchanged from the first votes. The Bill is too restrictive regarding freedom of speech and political signs in particular. Councilmember Carr said he would be agreeable to changes regarding political signs. Councilmember Fry pointed out the importance of remaining content neutral with the sign regulations. City Attorney Elliott said the Planning and Zoning Commission had worked a long time to get the Bill to this point and noted it will be hard to enforce the regulations. Bill 2011-63 passed by the following roll call vote: "Aye": Councilmembers: Carr, Eddins and Fry. "Nay" Clark. Absent: Mayor Buck. The Mayor thereupon declared said bill duly adopted and said bill was numbered **ORDINANCE 5693**, was thereupon signed by the Mayor Pro-Tem and attested by the City Clerk.

Resolution 2011-14, **A RESOLUTION TO DECLARE AS SURPLUS, GENERATORS AND SWITCHGEAR FROM THE UTILITIES DEPARTMENT WITHIN THE CITY OF CAMERON, CLINTON AND DeKALB COUNTIES, MISSOURI** was read by title by City Clerk O'Connor. Copies of Resolution 2011-14 were available for the public. Motion was made by Councilmember Carr and seconded by Councilmember Clark to pass Resolution 2011-14. Discussion. Interim City Manager Gaugh recommended Council surplus generators that had been used for electric peak shaving. Rate structure changes over the years have reduced the need to use the generators. The generators are also in need of expensive repairs in order for them to be operational. Interim City Manager Gaugh said one generator is scrap, one has no useable value. The last one is repairable but is oversized to have much value in the market. Councilmember Clark asked if the generator could be used for a backup generator at the Police Department. The generator is too large for that use. Councilmember Eddins suggested trading the generator for one that would serve the backup need

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at the Police Department. Interim City Manager Gaugh will look into trading the generators for a smaller unit. Resolution 2011-14 passed with a unanimous voice vote. Absent: Mayor Buck.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Gary Frazier, 103 East Fourth Street, discussed the City of Cameron budget for Police compensation versus the pay for the librarian stating the City needs to take a serious, long term look at payroll budget issues.

Bob Hart, 1004 East Second Street Terrace, suggested the 13 page sign ordinance that passed during the Council Session needs to be condensed.

Julie Becker, 424 East Fourth Street, expressed her displeasure with the passage of the sign ordinance.

David Watson, 1403 Glenda Terrace, addressed Council in support of City employees and encouraged Council to establish goals so people understand where the payroll process is headed. Mr. Watson asked Council to look at comparative communities to see what their employees are paid.

Schila Frazier, 103 East Fourth Street, said because the City budget was overspent in one area cuts were made in other areas to compensate. Ms. Frazier suggested cutting the top ten (10) salaries.

Jim O'Connor, 808 South Chestnut Street, distributed a signed statement to Council and read portions of the statement. Mr. O'Connor expressed his support of the Council and of the City employees, noting unprecedented growth that has taken place over the last 24 years under the leadership of Councils and Staff. Mr. O'Connor respectfully requested an end to public criticism of salaries and benefit packages.

Nada Woodworth, 1009 Timberline Drive, said City employee benefits are out of line. Ms. Woodworth referenced her own medical plan and stated she pays a portion of the premium herself.

MISCELLANEOUS

Councilmember Fry:

- Thanked the Cameron Ambulance District for the open house they had last Sunday. There was a nice display of equipment for citizens to view. Councilmember Fry said the City is fortunate to have a fantastic Ambulance Service, Fire Department and Police Department.

Councilmember Clark:

- Said Council needs to address and finish the compensation issue. Councilmember Clark suggested when Mayor Buck returns that a time frame be established. The City has exceptionally good employees performing a wide variety of jobs. Several employees donate personal time behind the scenes and there is a

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significant value with the experience and commitment of the employees that should be recognized. The key ingredient to some of the budget concerns is that for years there have not been enough revenues year after year and deferred maintenance resulted. In the past $300,000 was budgeted for capital improvement street projects. The money was not all spent and retained for larger projects that would benefit the City. This created deferred maintenance which will take time to recover from and return to acceptable standards.

Councilmember Carr:

- Thanked all who spoke and said it was a good process.
- Praised Mark Gaugh for his performance as Interim City Manager.
- Told Mayor Pro-Tem Eddins that she did a good job conducting the meeting.

Interim City Manager Gaugh:

- Informed all that the Missouri Department of Transportation and the City would be working at Third and Walnut on the crosswalks, repairing sidewalks, performing fire hydrant repairs and replacing street lights.

City Attorney Elliott:

- Noted there are different forms of governments with different provisions for each of the forms. City Attorney Elliott said you cannot go wrong being transparent.
- Reflected on his recent 45 year Cameron High School class reunion and the wonderful experience it was. Classmates returning to Cameron are proud of the City. Cameron is a wonderful City and City Attorney Elliott encouraged all to get along and not ruin a good thing.

Mayor Pro-Tem Eddins:

- Said she talked with a State of Missouri employee who has never had a pay cut, but said payroll issues for the State are addressed through attrition or benefit packages. Councilmember Eddins said you do not take away what has been given.

There being no further business on motion made by Councilmember Clark and seconded by Councilmember Carr, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m. with a unanimous voice vote. Absent: Mayor Buck.

APPROVED:

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Mayor Frank A. Buck

ATTEST:

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City Clerk

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