

**CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LADUE**  
**ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI**  
**MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2020**

The meeting of the City Council of the City of Ladue, St. Louis County, Missouri, was held on Monday, October 19, 2020, at 4:00 p.m., by Video Conference via Zoom and at City Hall, 9345 Clayton Road. The following members were present:

The Hon. Nancy Spewak, Mayor, presided over the meeting from her office at City Hall via Zoom.

Members of the Council present via Zoom:

Stacey Kamps  
John Howell  
John Fox  
Patrick Hensley  
William Brennan  
Harold Burroughs

Six Council Members present.

Also present were Ms. Laura Rider, Assistant to the Mayor/City Clerk at City Hall in the Council Chambers via Zoom. Also present via Zoom were Mr. Sam Zes, Finance Director; Police Chief Ken Andreski, Jr.; Fire Chief Steven Lynn; Ms. Anne Lamitola, Public Works Director; Ms. Andrea Sukanek, City Planner; and Ms. Erin Seele, City Attorney. Mr. Roger Stewart, Building Official was absent.

Mayor Spewak announced that due to current and various restrictions ordered by St. Louis County on public gatherings due to Covid-19, the meeting was held by video conference and encouraged those interested in participating to join the meeting via the Zoom link posted on the meeting agenda.

**Approval of the Agenda:** Council Member Fox moved approval of the agenda, upon second by Council Member Brennan the motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of the Minutes:** Mayor Spewak asked if there were any amendments, corrections or clarifications to the minutes of the Regular Meetings of September 21, 2020 and September 29, 2020. Council Member Burroughs moved approval of the minutes as submitted for the Regular Meetings of September 21, 2020 and September 29, 2020, upon second by Council Member Brennan the motion passed unanimously.

**Public Forum:** No one wished to address the Mayor and Council.

**New Business:**

**Proposed Legislation:**

**Bill No. 2257** – An ordinance authorizing the vacation of the City of Ladue Missouri's interest in a utility easement located at 8348 and 8350 Delcrest Drive in University City.

Mayor Spewak read Bill No. 2257 followed by a second reading by Council Member Fox.

Ms. Sukanek explained the history of the 1947 subdivision plat which dedicated the utility easements to University City and Ladue because the property was along the border of Ladue, but located in University City, and that the impetus for the bill was that the owner would like to vacate a portion of the easement for a new construction project. Ms. Sukanek reported that several utilities would also need to vacate their interest in the easement.

Council Member Fox moved approval of Bill No. 2257, upon second by Council Member Hensley the roll call vote thereupon was as follows:

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Council Member Brennan   | "Aye" |
| Council Member Burroughs | "Aye" |
| Council Member Howell    | "Aye" |
| Council Member Fox       | "Aye" |
| Council Member Kamps     | "Aye" |
| Council Member Hensley   | "Aye" |

There being six aye votes and zero nay votes the motion passed unanimously.

**Resolution No. 2020-23** – A resolution authorizing the Mayor on behalf of the City of Ladue, Missouri to enter into an agreement with Missouri Healthnet for the reimbursement of uncompensated costs associated with the transportation of Department of Social Services, MO Healthnet participants.

Chief Lynn reported that the City entered into an agreement with Missouri Healthnet two years prior and is required to renew the agreement annually. The Chief went on to explain the calculation used for determining the reimbursement amount of uncompensated costs.

Council Member Brennan moved adoption of Resolution No. 2020-23, upon second by Council Member Hensley the motion passed unanimously.

**Resolution No. 2020-24** – A resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute on behalf of the City of Ladue, Missouri a scope of services with Christner for professional master planning services under the on-call professional services contract for conducting master planning of Rodes Park located at 10 S. Warson, associated with the Municipal Park Planning Grant.

Ms. Lamitola presented the resolution and reported its introduction came about due to a few different issues that come before the City regarding Rodes Park. Both St. Louis Garden Club and Ladue Garden Club have approached the City with planting plans, there is a creek that has stream bank stabilization issues and there is no parking on site. Rodes park has largely been used passively, and the City's

Beautification, Open Space and Tree Advisory Board (BOSTA) is interested in staying more organized in management of the park and recommended that the City develop a master plan. BOSTA's interest encompasses organizing the plantings, adding a few more benches and a few parking spaces. Ms. Lamitola reported that the City has an opportunity to obtain a municipal park planning grant for \$6,400 to create a master plan working with Christner, the City's share would be \$1,600.

Council Member Fox moved adoption of Resolution No. 2020-24, upon second by Council Member Burroughs the motion passed unanimously.

**Resolution No. 2020-25** – A resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute on behalf of the City of Ladue, Missouri the notice of award and grant agreement for the Tree Resource Improvement and Maintenance (TRIM) Program administered by the Missouri Department of Conservation in cooperation with the Missouri Community Forestry Council.

Ms. Lamitola reported that Ladue had not previously pursued the TRIM grant but with the generous gift from the Ladue Garden Club, a tree inventory had been conducted and a tree management plan was developed with recommendations for select tree removal, tree trimming, stump removal and tree planting. The City applied and was awarded the TRIM grant in the amount of \$10,000. The cost of the project is \$19,940, with funding for the City's share allocated in the Road & Bridge Fund. The grant agreement requires the project to be completed before May 2021. The BOSTA Board recommended that the Council approve entering into the grant agreement.

Council Member Hensley moved adoption of Resolution No. 2020-25, upon second by Council Member Howell the motion passed unanimously.

**Resolution No. 2020-26** – A resolution of the City Council of the City of Ladue, Missouri declaring the City's intent to become an equal participant of the West Central Dispatch Center (WCDC) for police dispatching services.

Chief Andreski reported on discussions the Police Department Administration had with representatives of West Central Dispatch Center (WCDC) who had approached him with a proposal for Ladue to become an equal partner of WCDC for police dispatching and his subsequent research on all aspects of dispatch consolidation. The Chief reported that WCDC, consisted of Creve Coeur, Frontenac and Town & County, was formed 10 years ago and had operated successfully since inception. The Chief explained that the trend in dispatching was moving to consolidated centers and recommended moving ahead of a possible forced consolidation in the future. Ladue dispatchers would be offered positions at WCDC, with exception of one dispatcher retained at Ladue to maintain the department's records and serve as greeter during regular business hours. After hours calls would be routed to WCDC. WCDC would have responsibility for personnel matters but Ladue would maintain control over the City's philosophy in police response to calls for service. WCDC has excellent customer service equal to Ladue's customer service standard for dispatchers and officers. Ladue would have equal representation on the WCDC oversight board. By joining WCDC more resources would be available which would only improve response.

Chief Andreski reported that the current system used by the Police Department for resident security alarm monitoring is antiquated and some equipment is no longer supported. The system would need to be upgraded in the very near future whether or not dispatching was to be consolidated. The current surveillance system used by the Police Department is far from adequate and is not compatible with the WCDC technology, therefore, if consolidation were to occur changes would be needed.

Discussion ensued regarding options for replacing the security alarm monitoring system, communicating the changes to residents, number of in-person visits and calls to the Police Department and how those would be handled.

Mr. Bill Francis, Chairman of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners addressed the Council and reported that the Commissioners unanimously recommended that the Council approve the transition of dispatching services to WCDC. Mr. Francis explained that he and the Chief had many conversations and initially he had an emotional response, not wanting to relinquish control, the same as it had been when the Fire Chief proposed fire dispatching consolidation but noted how well that has worked.

Mayor Spewak commented that dispatch consolidation had been discussed previously with the former Chief, that this was an ideal opportunity to join with likeminded departments, instead of at some point in the future, forced consolidation.

There was discussion regarding cost savings and improvements resulting from consolidation such as more dispatchers on duty and quicker response for mutual aid. Council Member Fox reported that he had discussed the matter at length with Chief Andreski and was comfortable with the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners recommendation. Council Member Burroughs added that he felt that consolidation seemed a prudent move and all possible steps should be taken for a seamless transition.

Upon conclusion of discussion Council Member Hensley moved that the Council should announce the City's intent to join WCDC, upon second by Council Member Fox the motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Brennan moved adoption of Resolution No. 2020-26, upon second by Council Member Burroughs the motion passed unanimously.

**Resolution No. 2020-27** - A resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute agreements on behalf of the City of Ladue, Missouri with Regions Bank for custodial services relating to both the City of Ladue Firemen and Policemen Pension Plan and the Retirement Plan for Employees not covered by the Firemen and Policemen Pension Plan.

Ms. Rider presented the resolution and reported that the Employee Retirement Plan Joint Committees reviewed the pension funds custodial fees during the regular course of business and while the City has had a long standing relationship with Commerce Bank for custodial services, the Joint Committees instructed the investment manager, Marquette Associates, to conduct a market check.

Ms. Rider reported that the market check revealed that Regions Bank offered the most competitive fees for custodial and benefit payment services of the banks that were contacted and responded. The Employee Retirement Plan Joint Committees felt it was in the best interest of the pension plans and was their fiduciary responsibility to move custodial services to Regions Bank who offered the lowest fees and unanimously recommended to the City Council that the custodial services including benefit payments be transferred from Commerce Bank to Regions Bank.

Council Member Hensley moved adoption of Resolution No. 2020-27, upon second by Council Member Brennan the motion passed unanimously.

### **Financial Matters:**

The Mayor and Council reviewed the report of the Finance Director regarding significant financial transactions. The Mayor ordered the report filed for information.

The Mayor and Council reviewed the Vouchers for Payment for the month of September 2020. Council Member Burroughs moved their approval, upon second by Council Member Hensley the motion passed unanimously.

The Mayor and Council reviewed the Collector's Report for September 2020. The Mayor ordered the report filed for information.

The Mayor and Council reviewed the Treasurer's Report for September 2020. The Mayor ordered the report filed for information.

The Mayor and Council reviewed the Cash Flow Summary Report for September 2020. The Mayor ordered the report filed for information.

The Mayor and Council reviewed the Delinquent Real Estate Tax Report for September 2020. The Mayor ordered the report filed for information.

### **Department Reports:**

**Fire Department:** The Mayor and Council reviewed the Fire Department Activity Report for September 2020. The Mayor ordered the report filed.

**Police Department:** The Mayor and Council reviewed the Police Department Activity Report for September 2020. The Mayor ordered the report filed.

Chief Andreski reported that Lieutenant Ray Hahs was retiring after 32 years with Ladue Police Department.

**Public Works Department:** The Mayor and Council reviewed the Public Works Report for September 2020. The Mayor ordered the report filed.

Ms. Lamitola reported that leaf collection season had begun and announced a Honeysuckle Hack event at Edie's Mulch Site on November 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Building Office:** The Mayor and Council reviewed the Building Office Report for September 2020. The Mayor ordered the report filed.

**Municipal Court:** The Mayor and Council reviewed the Municipal Court Report for September 2020. The Mayor ordered the report filed.

**Administration/City Clerk:** The Mayor and Council reviewed the Administration Department Report.

**City Attorney:** Ms. Seele had nothing new to report.

**Committee Appointments:**

Mayor Spewak requested approval of the appointment of Harold "Chip" Wiese as a member of the Ladue Cellular Service Advisory Committee to fill the vacancy of Judi Combs Mattingly.

The appointment of Harold "Chip" Wiese as a member of the Ladue Cellular Service Advisory Committee was approved upon motion by Council Member Howell and second by Council Member Hensley.

Mayor Spewak noted the next Council meetings were scheduled for Monday, November 16, 2020 and Monday, December 21, 2020.

Mayor Spewak advised there were items for discussion in executive session involving litigation, legal matters and/or confidential communications between the Council and its attorneys pursuant to RSMo. Section 610.021 (1).

Council Member Fox moved to go into closed session for discussion of litigation, legal actions and/or any confidential or privileged communications from the City Attorney pursuant to RSMo. 610.021 (1) upon second by Council Member Hensley the roll call vote there upon was as follows:

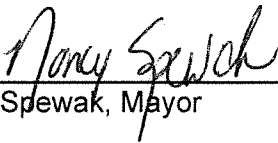
|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Council Member Howell    | "Aye" |
| Council Member Hensley   | "Aye" |
| Council Member Brennan   | "Aye" |
| Council Member Burroughs | "Aye" |
| Council Member Fox       | "Aye" |
| Council Member Kamps     | "Aye" |

There being six aye votes and zero nay votes the motion passed unanimously.

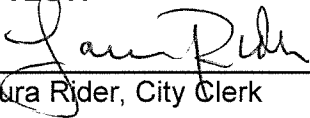
The Mayor and Council went into closed session at 5:04 PM with Ms. Erin Seele and Ms. Anne Lamitola.

The Mayor and Council returned to open session at 5:40 PM with Ms. Erin Seele and Ms. Anne Lamitola.

**Adjournment:** Council Member Brennan moved adjournment, upon second by Council Member Hensley, the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:41 P.M.

  
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Nancy Spewak, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
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Laura Rider, City Clerk