

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF HAMILTON

August 9, 2023 – 5:30 p.m.

A regular meeting of the City of Hamilton Board of Aldermen was held on Wednesday, August 9, 2023, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:05 p.m. at City Hall, 200 S. Davis Street, Hamilton, Missouri.

**Present at the meeting were:**

Keith Gilbert, Mayor  
Cameron Fast, West Aldermen  
Robert Grant, West Aldermen  
Cole Crawford, East Aldermen  
Deedle Esry, East Aldermen

**City Staff present were:**

Rhabecca Boerklircher, City Administrator  
Leslie Bretz, City Clerk

**Call to Order:** Keith Gilbert call the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Cameron Fast led those present with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Agenda:** There was a motion by Cole Crawford, seconded by Robert Grant to approve the agenda and the board voted in favor.

**Public Hearing on establishing the 2023 Tax Levy:** Rhabecca Boerklircher read the Notice of Hearing to set the 2023 Tax Levy. Rhabecca reported that the City's total current valuation is up from last year. Robert Grant read the first reading of Bill No. 080923. Cameron Fast read the second reading of Bill No. 080923. After discussion by the board, there was a motion by Cole Crawford, seconded by Deedle Esry to approve Bill No. 080923 and the board voted in favor.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes from July 12, 2023, Regular Meeting:** There was a motion by Cameron Fast, seconded by Robert Grant to approve the meeting minutes from the July 12, 2023, regular meeting and the board voted in favor.

**Review and Approval of Bills:** There was a motion by Cole Crawford, seconded by Deedle Esry to approve the bills and the board voted in favor.

**Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Request:** Ken Anderson, Assistant Chief of CERT, spoke to the board regarding utilizing the basement at City Hall for shelter (Red Cross), storage, meeting location and a training location. Keith Gilbert and Robert Grant volunteered to

meet with CERT and see what the next steps are for the basement to be used. This matter has been tabled until the board knows what the next steps are.

**Approval of Park Board By-Laws:** After discussion by the board, Mayor Keith Gilbert asked the board to review the Park Board By-Laws. There was a motion by Cole Crawford, seconded by Deedle Esry to table this matter so that the Board may review the By-Laws and the board voted in favor.

**Resolution No. 2023-08 – Approval of Special Events Form:** Cole Crawford read the first reading of Resolution No. 2023-08. Deedle Esry read the second reading of Resolution No. 2023-08. There was a motion by Cole Crawford, seconded by Deedle Esry to approve Resolution No. 2023-08 and the board voted in favor.

**Bill No. 080523 – Budget Amendment – First Reading:** Cole Crawford read the first reading of Bill No. 080523. The second reading will be on August 22, 2023.

**Bill No. 080423 – Water and Sewer Rate Increase – First Reading:** Robert Grant read the first reading of Bill No. 080423.

**Domestic Fowl Ordinance:** Mayor Keith Gilbert stated that he will not be signing the Domestic Fowl Ordinance and thinks it is not enforceable and is a zoning issue. Keith Gilbert excused himself.

Robert Grant said the enforcement issue was mute. Robert Grant read RSMo 77.270. Deedle Esry said the zoning issue is mute. There was a motion by Deedle Esry, seconded by Robert Grant to have the Board President call roll so that the Domestic Fowl Ordinance can become an ordinance without the mayor's signature. Cole Crawford called roll and the votes were as follows: Deedle Esry – Aye; Cole Crawford – Nay; Robert Grant – Aye; and Cameron Fast – Aye. Domestic Fowl Ordinance passed without the mayor's signature.

**Bill No. 080623 – Contract for Sewer Jetting – First Reading:** Deedle Esry read the first reading of Bill No. 080623. After discussion by the board, it was decided to have a second reading. Cole Crawford read the second reading of Bill No. 080623. There was a motion by Robert Grant, seconded by Deedle Esry to approve Bill No. 080623 and the board voted in favor.

**Building Inspector:** Rhabecca Boerkircher reported on a building inspector for the City. After discussion by the board, Cameron Fast said he would like to see this go out for bid for a building inspector.

**Tennis Court Bids:** The City received four bids for the tennis court. There was a motion by Robert Grant to table this matter pending further information and review by the board. Cole Crawford seconded the motion and the board voted in favor.

**Comprehensive Plan:** Rhabecca Boerkircher reported that RFQ's are out. The comprehensive plan will cover everything from sports, community growth and housing. The RFQ's are due by September 1, 2023. Cameron Fast said he thinks the board should meet with the top three consulting firms. Robert Grant said he would like to see the community and businesses involved in the comprehensive plan.

**Water Plant Upgrades:** The board discussed the water plant upgrades. Robert Grant said he would like to get more service out of the current water plant. It was reported that the water meters will be updated to digital meters. The USDA Grant will cover this cost of updating the meters to digital meters.

#### **Project Updates**

**Streets – Wade Reed:** Wade Reed reported that Durapatching has slowed down recently due to only having two city street workers. Wade said 115 blocks have been patched so far this year with the Durapatcher. Last year at this time only 20 blocks were completed with the old city crew. Wade said they have been working on mowing. The dump truck was delivered on July 31, 2023. The pump (rebuild) and motor (new) on the slide at the pool was replaced.

**Police Department – Chief April Melte:** Chief Melte reported the police department is down 1 officer. The new hire had to resign due to health issues. April is working on a MIRMA Grant for new tasers. Tasers must be replaced every 5 years. Kid's Fishing Day is August 26<sup>th</sup>.

**People Service:** The board reviewed the report from People Service.

**Public Comment – Melissa Hill:** Melissa Hill did not show up for public comment. Eloise Clark did speak during public comment regarding Pitbull and Pitbull mixes in her neighborhood. She was told by the board to file a nuisance complaint. A nuisance complaint has previously been filed.

**Council Work Session on the Strategic Plan on August 22, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.:** Next work session is set for August 22, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

**Unfinished Business:** None.

**Closed Session:** Pursuant to RsMO 610-032-1, involving legal actions, causes of action or litigation involving a governmental body, Cole Crawford made a motion to close the meeting at 7:05 p.m. Cameron Fast seconded the motion and the board voted in favor. Cole Crawford

made a motion to open the meeting at 7:56 p.m. Robert Grant seconded the motion and the board voted in favor.

**Adjournment:** Cole Crawford made a motion to adjourn at 7:57 p.m. Robert Grant seconded the motion and the board voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Leslie Bretz".

Leslie Bretz  
City Clerk  
City of Hamilton