

**CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS  
BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 7, 2020 – 7:30PM**

Mayor Pierson read a statement regarding the reason for the zoom meeting.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Tommie Pierson, Sr., Alderwoman Barbara West, Alderwoman Theresa Reed, Alderman Michael Wiese, Alderman James Thomas, Alderman Jim Christian, Alderwoman Alease Dailes, Alderwoman Miranda Avant-Elliott, City Attorney Dorothy White-Coleman, Police Chief Jeremy Ihler, City Clerk Fran Stevens

**MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY** Mayor Pierson at 7:30pm.

**ROLL CALL:** City Clerk called the roll and all members were present except Alderwoman Dinah Tatman, Ward 1.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Motion to approve agenda made by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott seconded by Alderman Wiese. Motion carries. Alderwoman Avant-Elliott stated that 5 Alderpersons requested the 4/16/2020 BOA meeting.

**PRESENTATION OF THE UNAPPROVED MINUTES: 3/19/2020, 4/16/2020, 4/30/2020**

Motion to approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes of March 19, 2020 made by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott seconded by Alderwoman West. Motion carries.

Motion to approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes of April 16, 2020 made by Alderwoman Dailes seconded by Alderwoman West. Motion carries.

Motion to approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes of April 30, 2020 made by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott seconded by Alderwoman Dales. Motion carries.

**MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** The meeting was opened to the public to speak 3 minutes each.

Judy Draper, Municipal Judge – Gave a synopsis and discussed various stages of opening Bellefontaine Neighbors Municipal Court, hiring of court clerk and desire to be open by June 2020.

**Wanda Lane 99XX Martingale** – Inquired if the 5/7/2020 BOA Meeting was posted on the website, stated that the (3) bills presented at this meeting was not posted for the public and inquired if the Conoco Station is still violating ordinances and questioned if they were given special privileges. City Clerk responded that the 5/7/2020 meeting notice was posted on the website and the (3) bills were not posted. Mayor responded that the Conoco Station was not receiving special privileges from him.

**Everetia Perry – 12XX Danfield** – Stated that she has been a BN resident since 2004 and has noticed that recently there are a lot of gun shots heard. Inquired if BN has shot spotter and is curious as to what steps are being taken to combat this behavior. Police Chief stated that he would address this issue in his message.

**Melanie Sims – 60XX Haddock** – Stated that the refund for park rental was not honored and wanted to know if she would be reimbursed for the bank fee associated with the return. City Clerk responded that the Finance Clerk is handling this issue and explained that the check was not honored because the amount associated with the check was increased when presented to the bank.

**Rickey L Hopkins, Sr. – 11XX Darr Dr.** – He had reoccurring issues with basketball goals and children playing ball disturbing residents. Alderwoman West informed him that she would review the ordinance with the Police Chief.

Questions regarding invoices over \$500.00: Alderwoman Reed:

- Vernier Sales & Service – Amy -Parks and Rec explained that this was payment for the boiler.

- Additional \$700.00 for Attorney invoice – Attorney D. White-Coleman explained that this was a mistake made by her finance department in charging for each meeting attended in March. The submitted invoice should deduct \$700.00.
- Additional charge for City Attorney making copies for the BOA. City Attorney stated this not unusual.
- Charges for internal conversations with Attorney’s office staff. City Attorney stated after review of at least 2 years of prior Attorney’s invoices she will revise her invoices if BN has not paid for internal consultations.
- Charges for discussion with Alderwoman Tatman regarding the Bellefontaine Family Fest 2020?

**APPROVAL OF INVOICES OVER \$500.00**

Motion to approve invoices over \$500.00 in the amount of \$10,580.45 made by Alderwoman Reed seconded by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott. Motion carries.

**CHIEF OF POLICE:** Chief Ihler stated that the gun violence has risen and he gave a report of numerous incidents involving gun association. Question was posed as to who to call when hearing guns shots and Chief answered to call 911 and give description best as possible.

Alderwoman Dailes stated that more police patrol is needed. Alderwoman West stated that the Police Department is diligent and care about the municipality. Alderwoman Reed questioned the resources given to citizens and there was conversation regarding citizens and police situations. Alderwoman Reed concluded that it would be nice for the police to stop and introduce themselves when driving around and see residents. Alderman Wiese encouraged residents to ask questions and come to meetings. Chief Ihler discussed the body camera program and the need to upgrade at a cost of \$1,783.00. Chief Ihler will provide information for the next special meeting to be held on 5/13/2020. There are no BN Policemen with COVID-19.

**CITY ATTORNEY:** Explained the connection issues regarding COVID-19 and explained Bill No 2573 which address the operation plan and Bill No 2574 which address the change in sunshine law to allow video conferencing.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. **BILL NO. 2572, AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT WITH IDEMIA IDENTITY AND SECURITY USE, LLC LEASING BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT OF EQUIPMENT AND SOFTWARE TO READ FINGER AND PALM PRINTS INTRODUCED BY ALDERPERSON THOMAS.**
- B. **BILL NO. 2573, AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING AN EMERGENCY PURCHASING PROCEDURE FOR THE CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS, MISSOURI DURING A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS OR OTHER STATE OF EMERGENCY INTRODUCED BY ALDERPERSON CHRISTIAN.**
- C. **BILL NO. 2574, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1-26 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS, MISSOURI, TO PROVIDE FOR MEETINGS VIA VIDEO-CONFERENCE AND ADOPTING A VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING POLICY TO SUPPLEMENT THE OPEN METINGS AND RECORDS POLICY OF THE CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS, MISSOURI. INTRODUCED BY ALDERPERSON WIESE.**

Motion made by Alderman Thomas and seconded by Alderman Christian to tabled Bill Nos. 2572, 2573 and 2574 until a special meeting is held on 5/13/2020 because the public did not receive these bills before presentation. The (3) bills will be on the website and presented at the 5/13/2020 meeting.

Motion made by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott and seconded by Alderman Thomas to hold special meeting 5/13/2020 at 6:00pm. via zoom. Motion carries.

**D. REC CENTER FURNITURE AND CARPET CLEANING BIDS**

Motion made by Alderwoman Reed and seconded by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott to approve Midwest Carpet Cleaning Service in the amount of \$1,220.00 to clean Rec Center furniture and carpet. Motion carries.

Motion made by Alderwoman West and seconded by Alderman Wiese to send Request For Proposal for pool repair. Motion carries.

**REPORT OF MAYOR:** Mayor Pierson stated the County Executive is scheduled to lift the Stay At Home Order on 5/18/2020. He encourages everyone to continue to practice good health, wear mask and gloves and maintain social distance.

**REPORT OF ALDERMEN:**

**Alderman Avant-Elliott** – She is requesting to have a non-city business meeting for healthy board collaboration. Motion made by Alderman Avant-Elliott and seconded by Alderman West to postpone appointing individuals until after June 2, 2020. Encouraged everyone to complete the Census 2020.

**Alderman Dailes** – Influence Church wants to distribute food on the city hall parking lot on Fridays. She also noticed that a lot of people are moving into Bellefontaine Neighbors without building permits.

**Alderman Christian** – Reported that the pothole at 367 and Comet is being worked on by MoDOT. There are cones, asphalt and taping around the pothole. MoDOT will return in about 2 weeks.

**Alderman Thomas** – Reiterated the situation with the pothole at 367 and Comet and stated that he was present when they were working on the pothole. He is looking forward to June 2, 2020.

**Alderman Wiese** – Was wondering if there is any chance that the outside pool could not open this year and Martha (Rec Center) explained that the needed repairs will prevent opening. He mentioned that discussion about gun violence and crime should be discussed at every meeting. Questioned if there was a risk with the city given out food and City Attorney expressed that it should be stated if it is not a city function.

**Alderman Reed** – Planning and Zoning will have a meeting on May 11, 2020. Veteran's Home has cancelled it's Memorial Day function, inquired if the street department had patched Bella Brook and Running Brook and if the inspectors are working on grass violations. Was concerned about the Community Development Block Grant and asked the Mayor if protective gear was distributed to city workers. There was conversation regarding the Idemia Agreement.

**Alderman West** – Motion made by Alderman West and seconded by Alderman Avant-Elliott for the BOA to receive notice of Mayor Pierson's credit card activity. Motion carries.

**MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC** - The meeting was opened to the public to speak 3 minutes each.

**Wanda Lane – XX Martingale** – Stated that citizens should never be attacked by Alderpersons.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn BOA meeting made by Alderman Avant-Elliott and seconded by Alderman Wiese. Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 10:09PM.

**ATTEST:**

  
Fran Stevens, City Clerk

Approved by the Board of Aldermen on May 21, 2020