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FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK 10/05/2023 – 10/19/2023

GREETINGS:

I'm glad that you took the time to attend our Annual Townhall. We hope the information shared was helpful and that you had an opportunity to hear the concerns of your fellow citizens and get your questions answered. If not, call City Hall at 314-867-0076 to talk with me, the City Clerk, or the Directors.

- **ON JUNE 19, 2025, our city turns 75 years old. We want to start planning for this momentous occasion. If you want to join the planning committee, call City Hall at 314-867-0076. Meetings will be held in person and via Zoom.**
- **Starting at the beginning of the new year, we will hold community meetings to get input from citizens concerning our \$1,000,000 grant award.**
- **If you want to help, write grants for the city, you can join the grant writing class on Tuesdays. Class is from 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm at the Recreation Center and via Zoom. Call city hall at 314-867-0076 to register.**

WHAT'S BEEN DONE:

- Patrick Barret, Chairman of the Planning and Zoning Commission; Clayton Klien, City Engineer; Jeff Ross, Director of Public Works, and I will start planning our Street Repair, Light Enhancement, and Traffic Enforcement Project. We are inviting citizens to become involved.
- We have been awarded \$1,000,000 grant from the USDA Urban and Community Forestry Grant.
- We received \$22,258.80 in funding from Ameren to upgrade lights in City Hall and the Recreation Center.
- I met with Gail Brown, President of Urban Planning Development Corporation to talk about possible economic development projects.

- We received seven applications for Chief of Police. Letters were sent out to five, informing them that they would be advanced to the second phase.
- Met with Samantha Williams, Community Development Executive for Ameren, to discuss the process and procedures for our lighting upgrade project.
- Met with Josh from Waste Management to discuss amendments to our contract and citizens' complaints.
- Held meetings with Police Officers to hear their concerns.
- Met with Rebecca Zoll, President and CEO of North County Inc.
- Met with Angela Dorn, CPA and Partner at SKICH LLP, to talk about assisting with preparing for the FY2022 audit.
- Met with Tim Wilde, Outreach Coordinator for Aloe Prime, in partnership with Ameren, to talk about our lighting upgrade project.
- Met Brenden Finnerty, Commercial Banker with Regions Bank, to discuss community collaboration.
- Met with several citizens to discuss their concerns.
- I taught grant writing classes.

HEALTH:

- All cloth furniture needs to be steamed and cleaned.
- Three air conditioning units need replacing or repaired: the Public Works Department, the Administration Building, and the Recreation Center.

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE:

- Prepare for FY 2022 and FY 2023 Audits (to be discussed and voted on tonight).
- Hire a part-time Assistant Finance Director.
- Hire an Administrative Assistant for the Mayor.
- Hire a full-time Building Inspector.
- Hire two full-time laborers for the Public Works Department.
- Appoint someone to serve the unexpired term in Ward #1.

Sec. 7-3 [Code 1964, § 9-8]

If a vacancy occurs in any elective office, the mayor or the person exercising the duties of the mayor shall cause a special meeting of the board of aldermen to convene where a successor to the vacant office shall be selected. The successor shall serve until the next regular election. If a vacancy occurs in any office not elected, the mayor shall appoint a suitable person to discharge the duties of such office until the first regular meeting of the board of aldermen after that, at which time such vacancy shall be permanently filled.

- Appoint and Reappoint Citizens to serve on Boards and Commissions.

Sec 2-282 [Ord. No. 1493 , § 1, 9-5-1991]

The members of the commission established by this article shall be appointed by the mayor with the approval of the board of aldermen. They shall serve terms of office concurrent with the mayor until their successors are duly appointed and qualified.

- a. (6) Youth Commission
- b. (5) Public Safety Commission
- c. (2) Planning & Zoning Commission
- d. (5) Citizen Advisory Commission (still needs to be established).
- e. (5) Economic Development Commission (still needs to be established).
- f. (5) Human Resource Commission (still needs to be established).

SECURITY:

- A new security door system needs to be installed on the front and side doors in City Hall.
- A new security door system needs to be installed on the back doors of the Police Station.
- New lighting and bulbs must be replaced in the Recreation Center and City Hall parking lots.
- New lighting must be installed in front and back of City Hall (to be discussed and voted on tonight).

EQUIPMENT:

- We need to purchase five copiers. Two for the police department, one each for the building and Public Works departments, and one for the front office. The police department's will be purchased with Police forfeiture funds.

What's Happening Next:

- **We will be applying for the Urban Park Grant. This grant will help us replace the bathroom, pavilion, and playground equipment in Tanglewood Park.**