



City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2024 8:00 AM

Council Chambers - 111 E. Maple Ave.

THE CITY COUNCIL WILL MEET FOR A STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION TO DISCUSS THE GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND

1. Minutes

Roll call

Those present: Mayor Rowland, Councilmember Fears, Councilmember Perkins, Councilmember Stewart, Councilmember McCandless, Councilmember Wiley and Councilmember Vaught

City Manager Zach Walker gave a presentation recommending three possible plans for the General Obligation Bond, should it pass.

The Good Plan which covers the cost of the Justice Center at \$99.8M, Streets at \$35M and Bridges & Culverts at \$4.4M totaling \$139.2M with Levy per \$100 AV: \$0.58 cents.

The Better Plan which covers the cost of the Justice Center at \$109.6M (good plan plus the firing range) Curbs & Sidewalks at \$10M, Streets at \$60M, Bridges & Culverts at \$7.9M, Historic Sites at \$6.4M, Park Revitalization at \$5M, Animal Shelter at \$3M and Square Site Work at \$3M totaling \$204.9M with Levy per \$100 AV: \$.086 cents.

The Best Plan which covers the cost of the Justice Center at \$122.6M, Curbs & Sidewalks at \$20M, Streets at \$35M, Bridges & Culverts at \$15M, Historic Sites at \$10M, Park Revitalization at \$20M, Animal Shelter at \$5M, Public Buildings at \$3M and Recreation Center at \$68M totaling \$298.6M with Levy per \$100 AV: \$1.25.

The City Manager's Recommendation is the "180" Plan which covers the cost of the Justice Center at \$109.6M (being done in phases), Curbs & Sidewalks at \$10M, Streets at \$35M, Bridges & Culverts at \$15M, Historic Sites at \$6.4M and Square Site Work at \$4M totaling \$180M with Levy per \$100 AV: \$0.75 cents.

The average Municipal levy comparison with surrounding cities is \$0.93206.

The goal is to get this on the April 2025 ballot. If not April then it would not go until the August 2026 ballot.

David Martin, bond counsel at Gilmore and Bell, made recommendations on the number of ballot questions.

Khalen Dwyer with Columbia Capital Management, LLC discussed the financial aspect of this on tax payers and gave examples of the levies depending on what amount was approved.

Radd Way with Project Advocates discussed different building phases of the Justice Center.

The cost of repair for Adventure Oasis was discussed. That cost would be \$1.6M to get Adventure Oasis open again and \$8.4M to update and make more modern.

After much discussion, it was decided the Council would move forward with these three items/questions:

\$60M – Streets

\$11.4M – Parks/Rec/Tourism (athletic complex, TMB, Vaille, Bingham Waggoner – no Adventure Oasis)

\$130M – Public Safety which includes the animal shelter

\$201.4M Total

Notice to the Election Board will need to be given by January 28th. Zach will prepare a draft ordinance and send it out to the Council for preliminary approval.

1st Reading for this ordinance will be placed on the 12/2/24 agenda. The second reading will be on the 12/16/24 agenda.

Council agrees to reopen the agenda for 12/2 to have this item added.

Council also agreed to have a study session on November 25th to discuss the Obligation Bond.

Meeting Adjourned

Presiding Officer of the City Council
of the City of Independence, Missouri

ATTEST:

City Clerk