

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Portageville City Hall  
November 1, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the City of Portageville Board of Aldermen was held on Monday, November 1, 2021, at City Hall, 301 E Main St. Mayor Vince Berry called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Present

Alderman McCrate  
Alderman Adams  
Alderman Johnston  
Alderman Walker

Council Members Absent

Following roll call, the City Clerk reported that a quorum was present.

Also present were:

Rachel Wrather, City Clerk  
George DeLisle  
Sam Tillman  
Mary Kate Hollingshead  
Jimmy Wyman  
Linda Sweatt  
Scott Patterson  
Ronnie Adams  
Lance Crafton  
Joey Walters  
TR Thompson

Terry McVey, City Attorney  
Al DeLisle  
Jonathan Thacker  
Susan Warren  
Roosevelt Mosby  
Carol Bowden  
Corey Sisk  
Chris Cooley  
Mark Gibbins  
Chris Stinnett

APPROVAL OF  
AGENDA

Moved by Alderman McCrate, seconded by Alderman Adams and unanimously carried, to approve the agenda as submitted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES  
Reg. Mtg.- 10/4/2021

Mayor Berry asked members of the Council if they had read a copy of the Minutes made available to them three days prior to the meeting. All answered in the affirmative.  
Mayor Berry asked if there were any additions or deletions to the minutes. There were none. Moved by Alderman McCrate, seconded by Alderman

Adams and unanimously carried, to approve the submitted minutes for the month of October.

## DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

### RONNIE ADAMS - CHIEF OF POLICE

Turned in a written report for the month of October.

### GEORGE DELISLE- FIRE CHIEF

Turned in a written report for the month of October.

Chief DeLisle stated that an emergency light was needed for the backend of the fire truck for approximately \$800.00 from Strobes and More. Discussion followed. Alderman McCrate made a motion to approve the purchase from Strobes and More for \$800.00. Alderman Adams seconded. All members voted in favor.

### PARK BOARD

Turned in a written report for the month of October.

Chief DeLisle mentioned that there was a tree in Meatte Park near the Tennis Court that had recently caught fire. It is dead and needs to be removed. Mayor Berry stated he would look at it and get in contact with Todd Higgs, Park Board President.

### JOEY WALTERS- STREET & SOLID WASTE SUPERINTENDENT

Turned in a written report for the month of October.

Walters stated that they were going to have to repair the hood of the 5410 Tractor. Alderman Johnston said he would check on locating an aftermarket part.

### JIMMY WYMAN- WATER SUPERINTENDENT

Turned in a written report for the month of October.

Alderman McCrate asked Wyman if he had done any further investigation on stopping the water leak at the plant. Wyman stated no that the current solution was still holding. Alderman McCrate asked him to check with Missouri Rural Water about finding someone to line the area for the next meeting.

Mayor Berry reminded Wyman that an employee evaluation needed to be completed on Larry Dooley as his probationary period would be expiring soon.

### TERRY WHEELER- SEWER SUPERINTENDENT

Turned in a written report for the month of October.

Terry Wheeler was not present, but Mayor Berry updated the Board of Alderman that the new pump was in at the lift station at the water plant. He also stated that we would need to be looking into digging out the retention pond at the water plant that is located near the lift station area.

SCOTT PATTERSON- PRE-TREATMENT COORDINATOR

Turned in a written report for the month of October.

Patterson stated that re-evaluation and testing would need to be done according to DNR. He would be taking approximately 48 samples over the next 6 to 8 weeks. He will be required to redo the EPA spreadsheet with another peer review.

ROOSEVELT MOSBY- ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Turned in a written report for the month of October.

JONATHAN THACKER- CODE ENFORCEMENT

Turned in a written report for the month of October.

Mayor Berry reported that the cameras were installed and active at the burn pile.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

No report was submitted for the month of October.

Jonathan Thacker confirmed that it was the recommendation of Planning and Zoning to change the following lot from R1 to I1:

- South Part of Lot 6 of SW ¼ SE ¼ Section 25-21-12

Mayor Berry asked for a motion to draft an ordinance approving the above rezoning. Motion was made by Alderman McCrate. Alderman Johnston seconded. All members voted in favor. Terry McVey, City Attorney, will draft the ordinance for the December 6, 2021 meeting.

ORDINANCES OR  
RESOLUTIONS

Mayor Berry introduced Bill No. 1314:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BY-LAWS OF THE PARK BOARD OF THE CITY OF PORTAGEVILLE.

Mayor Berry entertained a motion for the First Reading of Bill No. 1314. A motion was made by Alderman Adams and seconded by Alderman Johnston. All members voted in favor.

Mayor Berry entertained a motion for the Second Reading of Bill No. 1314. A motion was made by Alderman Johnston and seconded by Alderman McCrate. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting was as follows: Alderman McCrate, yea; Alderman Adams, yea; Alderman Walker, yea; Alderman Johnston, yea.

After hearing Bill No. 1314 read two times, passed, and approved, Mayor declared Bill No. 1314 to become Ordinance No. 1314 this 1st day of November 2021.

OLD BUSINESS

PAY INCREASE FOR FULL TIME OFFICERS

Mayor Berry stated that he would like to see a 4% increase to the pay rank scale established for the Portageville Police Department. This would set the

new hire rate at \$16.32 per hour and establish the following hourly pay scale: Administration, \$16.32; Patrol, \$16.32; Sergeant, \$16.90; Captain, \$19.28. Discussion followed. A motion was made by Alderman Walker to approve the 4% increase. Alderman Adams seconded. All members voted in favor.

#### PAY INCREASE FOR FULL TIME DEPARTMENTAL EMPLOYEES

Mayor Berry stated that it was time to vote on the additional 4% wage increase that is budgeted for full time employees in the Administration, Water, Sewer, Solid Waste and Street Departments. This increase was contingent on if each department stayed under budget for their salaries. Discussion followed. Alderman Walker made a motion to approve the 4% increase. Alderman Adams seconded. All members voted in favor.

#### TEMPORARY SALARY ADJUSTMENT SAFETY AWARD 2021

Mayor Berry stated that a vote was needed to award each full-time employee a one-time temporary salary adjustment of \$600 net for the 2021 Safety Award. Discussion followed. Alderman Adams made a motion to award the \$600 net and Alderman Johnston seconded. All members voted in favor.

#### UTILITY RATE INCREASES

Mayor Berry presented a plan for utility rate increases in water, sewer and trash over the next 5 years that he would like the Board of Alderman to remove. The issue was tabled until the December 6, 2021 meeting.

#### REJIS SYSTEMS

Mayor Berry stated that Rejis Systems had come down to the Police Department to present a proposal for their software that could potentially replace our current software. Discussion followed. The issue was tabled until the December 6, 2021 meeting.

#### EARTHQUAKE INSURANCE

Mayor Berry asked Mark Gibbins to explain the current situation with our Earthquake insurance. Gibbins stated that he had received a quote for \$30,000.00 with a \$5 million cap. Discussion followed. Mayor Berry stated that he would get with Gibbins and look for items to remove from the list to insure and hopefully lower the price. The issue was tabled until December 6, 2021.

#### EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL

Gibbins stated that he had reviewed the renewal information from United Healthcare and could see benefits with the Core Premier plan that Mayor Berry presented him with. After checking on the network, the major change to the current plan is that Saint Francis Healthcare Systems will no longer be considered in network. Discussion followed. Alderman Walker made a

motion to approve the Core Premiere plan effective January 1, 2022 until December 31, 2022. Alderman Adams seconded. All members voted in favor.

PROPERTY VARIANCE - ROBERT LOUGHERY/ TERESA DENNISON  
Loughery or Dennison were not present. The issue was tabled until December 6, 2021.

FIRE DEPARTMENT FLOOR

Mayor Berry stated that a quote from Richard Mullins had been received to prepare and install metallic epoxy coating to the Fire Department Floor in the amount of \$5.00 per square foot at 6,000 square feet for a total of \$30,000.00. This price includes the discount for the members of the Fire Department being responsible for all clean up and prepping. Discussion followed. It was decided that the floor should be tabled until further notice and placed on the departments wish list for the next years budget.

NEW BUSINESS

ARPA FUND BANK ACCOUNT FORMAL VOTE

Mayor Berry stated that we needed a formal vote to open a new bank account for the American Rescue Plan Act payment that was received on 10/8/2021 in the amount of \$296,927.47. Motion was made by Alderman Adams and seconded by Alderman McCrate. All members voted in favor.

COURT CLERK POSITION

Mayor Berry stated that he had been informed that Municipal Court Clerk, Rebecca Graham, had submitted her resignation for the end of the year. Judge Stinnett would like Meagan Wheeler, Assistant City Clerk, to take her spot effective immediately for training to begin. Discussion followed. Alderman Walker made a motion to appoint Meagan Wheeler as Municipal Court Clerk with a salary of \$400.00 per month. Alderman Adams seconded. All members voted in favor.

TORNADO SIREN REPAIR AT FBC

Mayor Berry stated that three quotes had been received to repair the tornado siren located at First Baptist Church in Portageville. The quotes were as follows:

Kelley Electric Kennett, MO	\$2350.00 with alternate underground option for an additional \$390.00
L&B Solutions Portageville, MO	\$1625.00
Greer Electrical Piggott, AR	\$2652.00

Alderman Johnston made a motion to award Kelley Electrical the job at \$2740.00 which included the option to run underground instead of

overhead. Alderman Walker seconded. All members voted in favor. Since this is a matter of public health and safety, Terry McVey stated that the Health Fund could be used to pay for the project.

#### FARM #3144 LEASE BIDS

Mayor Berry stated that two bids had been received for Farm #3144 cash rent for a 2-year term beginning January 8, 2022 and lasting until January 7, 2024. The bids were as follows:

Mikel Moody Portageville, MO	\$1900 per year
Joe Scherer Portageville, MO	\$2020 per year

Alderman Johnston made a motion to accept the higher bid from Joe Scherer in the amount of \$2020.00 per year. Alderman Adams seconded. All members voted in favor.

#### DEPUTY COLLECTOR APPOINTMENT

Mayor Berry stated that Section 115.140 allows the appointment of a Deputy Collector who will possess all the qualifications and powers and be charged with the same duties as the Collector. Discussion followed. Mayor Berry asked for a motion to appoint Carol Bowden as the Deputy Collector at an additional \$400 per month. Motion was made by Alderman Adams and seconded by Alderman Walker. All members voted in favor.

#### EMPLOYEE HAMS

Mayor Berry asked the Board of Alderman if they would like to give all the employees holiday hams again this year. Discussion followed. Alderman Adams asked for pricing from Hayes and Food Rite. Once pricing is obtained a text vote will be taken.

#### MISSOURI SPORTS HALL OF FAME – BIDEWELL

Mayor Berry announced that Jim Bidewell will be inducted in to the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame on November 14, 2021. Discussion followed. Mayor Berry asked for a motion to draft a proclamation and present it to Jim Bidewell officially making November 14, 2021 Jim Bidewell Day in Portageville, Missouri. Motion was made by Alderman Johnston. Alderman Walker seconded. All members voted in favor.

#### TRAFFIC SIGNS – FIRE & POLICE

Mayor Berry presented a quote from Traffic Safety Store for a set of 48" Reflective Detour signs that were needed by the Police and Fire Departments when directing traffic. Discussion followed. Mayor Berry asked for a motion to approve two sets at approximately \$636.00. Motion was made by Alderman Walker. Alderman Adams seconded. All members voted in favor.

TREE REMOVAL – HUFFMAN AVE

Mayor Berry explained that there was a dead tree on the corner of Huffman and Eighth that was on City property and the street department removed a hanging limb to prevent damage to a citizen’s property. Upon looking at the tree, it needs to be removed. Three quotes were obtained as follows:

Moore’s Tree Service Marston, Missouri	\$1200.00
Mega Tree Service Portageville, Missouri	\$1600.00
Dorsey’s Tree Service Campbell, Missouri	\$1800.00

Alderman Walker made a motion to allow Moore’s Tree Service to remove the tree for \$1200.00. Alderman McCrate seconded. All members voted in favor.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mayor Berry asked if there were any visitors present who would like to address the Board of Alderman.

Mayor Berry stated Ben French was on the agenda but could not make the meeting. He is seeking an adjustment on his sewer bill for filling his swimming pool even though the adjustment period for that purpose is closed. Discussion followed. Alderman Adams made a motion to approve a removal of sewer charges for 25,000 gallons from his current utility bill. Alderman Walker seconded. All members voted in favor.

APPROVAL OF  
FINANCIAL REPORTS  
Municipal Court  
City Collector  
City Treasurer

CHRIS STINNETT, MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE

Stinnett turned in a written report for the month of October as follows:

Fines Collected	\$673.00
Inmate Security	\$8.00
Crime Victim Compensation	\$1.48
LET Fund	\$8.00
Clerk Fees	\$48.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$738.48</b>

MICHELE CRAWFORD, CITY COLLECTOR

RACHEL WRATHER, CITY TREASURER

Crawford and Wrather turned in a written report for the month of October as follows:

Turned over to City Treasurer:	\$123,371.11
Received from City Collector:	
Park Fund	\$56.69

General Fund	\$399.24
Health Fund	\$68.03
Street Fund	\$15.00
Solid Waste Fund	\$32,152.78
Water & Sewer Fund	\$89,359.37
Red Building	\$200.00
Meter Deposits	\$1,120.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$123,371.11</b>
Received from City Clerk:	
General Fund	\$48,332.14
Street Fund	\$11,353.20
Sales Tax	\$63,867.57
Solid Waste Fund	\$423.81
Shop With A Cop Fund	\$1350.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$422,754.19</b>
Interest on Deposits	\$32.95
<b>TOTAL DEPOSITS</b>	<b>\$546,158.25</b>

Mayor Berry entertained a motion to approve Municipal Court Judge, City Collector and City Treasurer reports for the month of October. Motion was made by Alderman McCrate and seconded by Alderman Adams. All members voted in favor.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

A list of outstanding bills was given to the Mayor and Council for the month of October. After checking the bills, Mayor Berry asked for a motion. Motion was made by Alderman Adams and seconded by Alderman Walker. All members voted in favor.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Berry asked if there were any comments from any members of the Board of Alderman.

Mayor Berry explained that due to our auto-read water meters still not coming in, he spoke to First State Community Bank about the option of pushing the first payment on the loan back. In order to do this we would need to close out this loan and pay approximately \$800 in interest and then reset up a new one once the meters finally arrive. Discussion followed.

Alderman Adams made a motion to continue the current loan and make the first payment of \$69,790.07 as scheduled in February 2022 using the Water and Sewer Repair Fund. The loan payment amount will be replaced to the fund in 12 monthly payments beginning February 2022 in the amount of \$5815.84 from the Water Fund. Alderman McCrate seconded. All members voted in favor.



EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Alderman Adams, seconded by Alderman Walker to adjourn to Executive Session in accordance with Section 610-021.1 RSMo to discuss personnel and litigation.

The vote thereon was as follows:

Alderman McCrate "Aye"  
Alderman Adams "Aye"  
Alderman Walker "Aye"  
Alderman Johnston "Aye"

Motion was made by Alderman McCrate and seconded by Alderman Adams to adjourn back to regular session at 8:04 p.m.

Roll call was as follows:

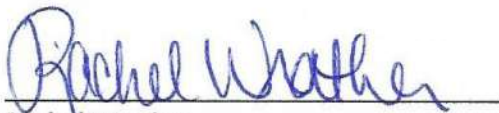
Alderman McCrate "Aye"  
Alderman Adams "Aye"  
Alderman Walker "Aye"  
Alderman Johnston "Aye"

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

There will be a Public Hearing of the Building Commission held on Monday, December 6, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall, 301 E Main, Portageville. There will be a regular monthly meeting on Monday, December 6, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, 301 E Main, Portageville.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, moved by Alderman Johnston, seconded by Alderman Adams and unanimously carried, to adjourn at 8:05 p.m.



Rachel Wrather  
City Clerk



Vince Berry  
Mayor