

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
BRIDGETON CITY HALL
12355 NATURAL BRIDGE ROAD
March 1, 2023
7:00 P.M.**

The regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Briggs on Wednesday, March 1, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present:

Councilmember Hein
Councilmember Saettele
Councilmember Grimmer

Councilmember Hood
Councilmember Luke
Councilmember Norris

Absent:

Councilmember Zimmer

Councilmember Patel

Mayor Briggs noted a quorum present.

Also, in attendance: David Linenbroker, City Attorney
Kevin Bookout, City Administrator
Robert Gunn, City Engineer/Director of Public Works
Mark Mossotti, Chief of Police
Brendan Kane, Director of Parks and Recreation

AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Hein moved to approve the March 1, 2023 agenda. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Luke and carried by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Mike Sonderman – complimented the city’s street department on their quick response to two calls he made, within the last two years, regarding damaged streets. He advised that in both instances, the response times was just a matter of a few hours.

Complimented the city's senior services drivers, Rick and Mike, for the care and consideration they demonstrate towards the residents; sometimes even skipping lunch to accommodate a Bridgeton senior citizen. They go beyond all expectations.

He added that considering the upcoming Municipal election and the possibility of changes, he thanked all the city officials that are currently serving.

2. Mike Pinson – stated that due to the complaints regarding trash in Bridgeton, he has put together an “adopt a highway” plan with volunteers that will include Highway 270, Highway 180 and Highway 67.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Grimmer moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 15, 2023. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Saettele and carried by voice vote.

APPOINTMENTS, PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chief Mark Mossotti introduced new Bridgeton Officer Phillip Quinn. Officer Quinn was sworn in on February 1st and has 20 years of law enforcement experience. He is married, has six children, and attended Parkway North High School. He received recognition in 2022 from his previous employer for exemplary performance. Chief Mossotti added that one of the things that most impressed him about Officer Quinn is that he makes it a point during his shift to get out of his vehicle and meet at least three people. This level of community relations is very valuable.

Officer Quinn was welcomed by Police Commission members Nancy Lupia, Casey Jewitt, and Terry Thornburgh.

Officer Quinn advised that he is very excited to be with the City of Bridgeton. He added that the staff is super nice and when the next new officer is appointed, he would like to be that employee that extends the same warm welcome he has received. Mayor Briggs and the City Council also welcomed Officer Quinn.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS

None

PUBLIC HEARING

None

PERMITS, WAIVERS AND APPEAL REQUESTS

None

EMERGENCY LEGISLATION, CONTRACTS AND BIDS

None

PERFECTION OF BILLS

None

CONSIDERATION OF NEW BILLS

None

DISCUSSION ITEM

None

CLOSED SESSION

None

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Councilmember Saettele

Stated that it would have been nice if tonight's meeting had been held via zoom since there was very little on the agenda to discuss.

Councilmember Grimmer

- Advised that he spoke with Robert Gunn, City Engineer, and was reminded that Mr. Gunn has vests, gloves, and trash pickup tongs available to anyone that would like to volunteer to pick up trash in the city.

- Advised that he spoke with Karen Robinson, City Clerk, and learned that at her previous city, when they experienced similar situations like tonight's agenda, the meeting was cancelled. He added that it makes perfect sense to consider making a change to allow such action in Bridgeton.

Councilmember Hein

- Asked Chief Mossotti if the radio that Officer Quinn is wearing is connected to St. Louis County or is it only connected to the City of Bridgeton.
- Asked Chief Mossotti how many officers is the city still short.
- Advised that if anyone knows of a retired masonry person to please send them his way. The St. Gerard Subdivision monument sign on Natural Bridge has partially collapsed.

Councilmember Luke

- Advised that there was a Stormwater meeting held tonight prior to the City Council meeting and there will be something submitted to the City Council for consideration at the next City Council meeting.
- Acknowledged that she is aware that Katie Tucker has reached out to the former Special Events committee members for assistance with 4th of July events but wanted to know if she needed more help.

Councilmember Norris

- Advised that she attended the annual Legislative Conference in Jefferson City and was able to meet with Missouri State Representative Gretchen Bankert and Missouri State Senator Brian Williams. She suggested to everyone if they had any concerns to reach out to either one of them.
- Conference discussions also included upgrades to the Department of Revenue's computer system that will assist in the temporary license plates issue for vehicles. One change for sure is that you will be required to pay the taxes on a vehicle at the time of purchase.
- Discussions also included juvenile court issues.
- Personal property assessment discussions were held but need to consider what will the impact be on schools and personal property.
- MODOT representatives advised that they are short 1,000 employees, which is the reason for the issues with grass cutting and trash pickup. They also mentioned that highway 70 will be widened in some areas to third lanes.
- Asked if Bridgeton employees receive exit interviews when they depart the city.
- Added that there are 50 sit down and carryout restaurants in the city. Bridgeton is very sound, and the best is yet to come.

Councilmember Hood

Advised that he attended the annual Legislative Conference and was very impressed and plans to attend next year.

STAFF REPORTSRobert Gunn, City Engineer/Director of Public Works

Advised that bids were opened for concrete replacement project. This will be presented to the City Council for consideration on March 15th.

Brendan Kane, Director of Parks and Recreation

- Advised that Katie has reached out to the former Special Events Commission members as mentioned. They will meet next week, so at that point we will know what else is needed. He added that the city's website is current with information regarding the 4th of July festivities.
- The Golf course opened today, and it was very busy from open to close.
- Registration began for Summer Day Camp, and they have already collected \$25,000 on day one. Monday registration will open for non-residents.

Chief Mark Mossotti

- In response to Councilmember Hein – the radio that Officer Quinn is wearing tonight is the same radio that all Bridgeton officers wear and it is connected to St. Louis County.
- In response to Councilmember Hein - currently there is one conditional hire in the works for another police officer. Once that position is filled, there will only be one vacancy.
- In response to Councilwoman Norris – advised that police officers are given an exit interview when they leave the city.

Kevin Bookout, City Administrator

In response to Councilwoman Norris – advised that non-uniform Bridgeton employees are also given an exit interview when they leave the city.

MAYOR'S REPORT


Advised that Senator Williams' wife just gave birth to their first son. The Legislative conference was great, they were able to speak with various state senators and there is legislation being worked on to address the crime bill and juvenile court issues.

CLOSED SESSION

None

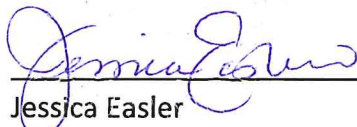
ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business to come before the regular session of the City Council, Councilmember Hood moved to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Norris at 7:21 at P.M. and carried by voice vote.



Terry W. Briggs, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jessica Easler
Executive Assistant