

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 24, 2015

CALL TO ORDER/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

The special Sikeston City Council meeting of August 24, 2015 was called to order at 11:30 a.m., in the City Council Chambers, located at 105 East Center, Sikeston. Present at the meeting were: Mayor Steven Burch and Councilmen Bob Depro, Karen Evans, Jon Gilmore, Maude Harris, Ryan Merideth and Gerald Settles. Staff in attendance were: City Manager Jonathan Douglass, City Counselor Chuck Leible, City Clerk Carroll Couch, City Treasurer Karen Bailey, Governmental Services Director Linda Lowes, Public Works Director Jay Lancaster, Economic Development Director Ed Dust, Director of Public Safety Drew Juden, Parks Director Jiggs Moore, Street Superintendent Brian Dial, Senior Building Official Collin Cecil, and Network Administrator Dave Warren.

PUBLIC HEARING

Establishment of 2015 Municipal Tax Levy

Councilman Depro moved to open the Public Hearing for establishment of the 2015 Municipal Tax Levy. The motion was seconded by Councilman Settles and the following roll call vote recorded:

Depro Aye, Evans Aye, Gilmore Aye, Harris Aye,
Merideth Aye, Settles Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

City Clerk Carroll Couch explained that in accordance with RSMO 67.110, all political subdivisions must establish their 2015 property tax rates by September 1, after a public hearing. After receiving assessed valuation data from both Scott and New Madrid Counties, the State Auditor's Office calculates rates permitted in order to be in compliance with laws pertaining to revenue restrictions established by the Hancock Amendment and those subdivisions with voluntary reduction restrictions.

No comments were heard.

Councilman Gilmore moved to close the Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilman Harris and the following roll call vote recorded:

Depro Aye, Evans Aye, Gilmore Aye, Harris Aye,
Merideth Aye, Settles Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Ordinance Number 5997, Approval of the 2015 Tax Rates

Councilman Depro moved for the first reading of Bill Number 5997. The motion was seconded by Councilman Merideth and the following vote recorded:

Depro Aye, Evans Aye, Gilmore Aye, Harris Aye,
Merideth Aye, Settles Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

Counselor Leible presented Bill Number 5997 for reading, an emergency bill, which upon adoption and passage, shall become Ordinance Number 5997, an ordinance fixing the rate of taxation on all taxable property in the City of Sikeston, Missouri, for the Fiscal Year 2015-2016.

Due to the requirements of the State of Missouri, this is presented as an emergency bill which upon approval, shall be forwarded to Scott and New Madrid Counties and the State Auditor's Office for final approval.

Councilman Depro moved for the second reading of Bill Number 5997. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gilmore and the following vote recorded:

Depro Aye, Evans Aye, Gilmore Aye, Harris Aye,
Merideth Aye, Settles Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

Counselor Leible presented the bill for a second reading.

BILL Number 5997

ORDINANCE Number 5997

AN EMERGENCY BILL, WHICH UPON ADOPTION AND PASSAGE, SHALL BECOME ORDINANCE NUMBER 5997, AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE RATE OF TAXATION ON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF SIKESTON, MISSOURI, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016.

WHEREAS, the Sikeston City Council held a public hearing in accordance with Section 67.110 RSMO prior to the adoption of the City's 2015-2016 Tax Rate.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Sikeston, Missouri, as follows:

Section I. This ordinance will not be codified in the Municipal Code Book of the City of Sikeston.

Section II. That for the purpose of maintaining a general fund, there is hereby levied a tax rate of forty and twenty-four thousandths cents (\$.4024) per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessed valuation on all taxable property in the City of Sikeston, Missouri, for the year 2015-2016.

Section III. That for the purpose of maintaining a public library fund, there is hereby levied a tax rate of seventeen and fifty four thousandths cents (\$.1754) per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessed valuation on all taxable property in the City of Sikeston, Missouri, for the year 2014-2015.

Section IV. That for the purpose of maintaining public parks, there is hereby levied a tax rate of seventeen and fifty four thousandths cents (\$.1754) per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessed valuation on all taxable property in the City of Sikeston, Missouri, for the year 2015-2016.

Section V. General Repealer: Any other ordinance or parts thereof inconsistent herewith, are hereby repealed.

Section VI. Severability: Should any part or parts of this Ordinance be found or held to be invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining part or parts shall be severable and shall continue in full force and effect.

Section VII. Emergency Clause: Due to requirements of the State of Missouri, this ordinance will become effective upon its passage.

Section VIII. Record of Passage:

A. Bill Number 5997 was introduced to Council and read the first time this 24th day of August 2015.

B. Bill Number 5997 was read the second time this 24th day of August 2015. Councilman Depro moved to approve Bill Number 5997. The motion was seconded by Councilman Settles, discussed and the following roll call vote recorded:

Depro Aye, Evans Aye, Gilmore Aye, Harris Aye,
Merideth Aye, Settles Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

C. Ordinance 5997 shall be in full force and effect from and after Monday, August 24, 2015.

Bill Number 5996, Calling for the November Special Election

Councilman Settles moved for the second reading of Bill Number 5996. The motion was seconded by Councilman Merideth and the following roll call vote recorded:

Depro Aye, Evans Aye, Gilmore Aye, Harris Aye,
Merideth Aye, Settles Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

Counselor Leible presented the bill for reading.

BILL Number 5996

ORDINANCE Number 5996

THIS BILL, AS APPROVED, SHALL BECOME ORDINANCE NUMBER 5996, PROVIDING FOR AN ELECTION TO PRESENT THE QUESTION OF A CITY SALES TAX FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS WITHIN THE CITY, WITH MORATORIUM.

SO NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIKESTON, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I: This ordinance shall be codified in the City Municipal Code.

SECTION II: That the Sikeston City Council has established that a City election be held to submit to the voters the question:

“SHALL THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE CITY OF SIKESTON, MISSOURI
IMPOSE A SALES TAX OF ONE HALF CENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF
FUNDING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS?”

YES

NO

IF YOU ARE IN FAVOR OF THE QUESTION, PLACE AN 'X' IN THE BOX OPPOSITE 'YES'. IF YOU ARE OPPOSED TO THE QUESTION, PLACE AN 'X' IN THE BOX OPPOSITE 'NO'.

SECTION III: That said election be held on the 3rd day of November, 2015, and that appropriate steps be taken to ensure that said election be held on said day.

SECTION IV: That said election, should it be successful, shall terminate on the tenth (10th) anniversary of the institution of the tax thus collected.

SECTION V: General Repealer. Any other ordinances or part(s) thereof inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION VI: Severability. Should any other part or parts of this ordinance be found or held to be invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining part or parts shall be severable and shall continue in full force and effect.

SECTION VII: Record of passage:

A. Bill number 5996 was introduced to Council and read the first time this 3rd of August, 2015.

B. Bill number 5996 was read the second time and discussed this 24th day of August, 2015. Councilman Settles moved to approve Bill Number 5996. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gilmore and the following roll call vote recorded:

Depro Aye, Evans Aye, Gilmore Aye, Harris Aye,
Merideth Aye, Settles Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed,
becoming ordinance 5996.

C. Ordinance 5996 shall be in full force and effect from and after September 24, 2015.

Authorization to Seek Bids for Ditch Cleanout

Director Lancaster reported that many of the drainage ditches in town are in dire need of being cleaned out. The FY2016 Budget includes \$50,000 for this purpose. Public Works staff has identified and prioritized the cleanout projects and requested permission to seek bids. If the cost exceeds \$50,000, then staff will remove the lower priority items. Bidding and specifications will be handled by staff. A construction time frame of 60-90 days is expected.

Councilman Depro moved to authorize city staff to proceed with bids for ditch cleanout. The motion was seconded by Councilman Settles and the following roll call vote recorded:

Depro Aye, Evans Aye, Gilmore Aye, Harris Aye,
Merideth Aye, Settles Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

Briefing, Boards and Commissions Appointments

Director Lowes reported that 36 board and commission positions will expire in October 2015. Of this number, 24 are open to reappointment and 12 are new appointments or those where the appointee has served two consecutive, complete terms.

Staff will provide a complete summary of appointee attendance, as well as those appointees/applicants with unpaid taxes.

Authorization to Proceed with Wayfinding/Monument Sign Project

During the FY-16 budget process, Staff was asked to design and implement a program for the placement of wayfinding and monument signage throughout the community. Through the collaborative efforts of CVB and DPW staff with Historic Downtown Sikeston and Chamber of Commerce representatives, a preliminary mast plan was developed.

Council agreed to go forward with the proposed design and to obtain professional assistance for formal design with engineering specifications.

ADJOURNMENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Harris moved to adjourn into executive session for the discussion of property [RSMO 610.021 (2)]. The motion was seconded by Councilman Depro and the following roll call vote recorded:

Depro Aye, Evans Aye, Gilmore Aye, Harris Aye,
Merideth Aye, Settles Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

Councilman Depro moved to offer the railroad right-of-way trail rights, east of Lambert's property line, keeping rights for signage, for sale to the City of Miner for not less than \$100,000. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gilmore and the following roll call vote recorded:

Depro Aye, Evans Aye, Gilmore Aye, Harris Aye,
Merideth Aye, Settles Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

No further action was taken in executive session.

ADJOURNMENT OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Harris moved to adjourn from executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Evans and the following roll call vote recorded:

Depro Aye, Evans Aye, Gilmore Aye, Harris Aye,
Merideth Aye, Settles Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the City Council, Councilman Harris moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Evans and the following roll call vote was recorded:

Depro Aye, Evans Aye, Gilmore Aye, Harris Aye,
Merideth Aye, Settles Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

APPROVED:

STEVEN BURCH, MAYOR

ATTEST:

CARROLL L. COUCH, CITY CLERK

SEAL: