

**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**AUGUST 31, 2020**

The Sikeston City Council meeting of August 31, 2020 was called to order at 5:00 p.m. at the Clinton Building located at 501 Campanella Drive, Sikeston. Present at the meeting were: Mayor Steven Burch and Councilmembers Brian Self, Ryan Merideth, Brandon Sparks, Karen Evans, Onethia Williams and Gerald Settles. Staff in attendance were: City Manager Jonathan Douglass, City Counselor Tabatha Thurman, City Clerk Rhonda Council, City Treasurer Karen Bailey, Director of Public Works Jay Lancaster, Public Works Superintendent Brian Dial, Director of Public Safety James McMillen, Parks Director Dustin Care, Community Development Director Lorenzo Ware, Airport Manager Chris Hart and Public Safety Captains Ryan Smith and Austin Henley.

**PUBLIC HEARING – ESTABLISHMENT OF 2021 MUNICIPAL TAX LEVY**

Councilman Merideth motioned to begin the Public Hearing to discuss the Establishment of the 2021 Municipal Tax Levy. The motion was seconded by Councilman Self and the following vote recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye,  
Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

Finance Director Karen Bailey presented the State Auditor's Office Assessed Valuation Summary and Tax Rate Calculations for establishing the 2021 property tax rates. Tax rates remained the same with no increase from last year.

No remarks were heard from the public.

There being no further discussion before the City Council, Councilman Sparks moved to adjourn from the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilman Merideth and the following roll call vote was recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye,  
Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

**ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

**1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, Emergency Bill #6201, Establishing the 2021 Tax Levy**

Councilman Self moved for the first reading of Bill Number 6201. The motion was seconded by Councilman Settles and the following roll call vote was recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye,  
Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

Counselor Thurman presented the bill for reading. This bill as adopted shall become emergency Ordinance Number 6201 fixing the rate of taxation on all taxable property in the City of Sikeston, Missouri for the fiscal year 2020-2021.

Councilman Settles moved for the second reading of Bill Number 6201. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sparks and the following vote recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye,

Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

Counselor Thurman presented the bill for a second reading.

BILL Number 6201

ORDINANCE Number 6201

AN EMERGENCY BILL, WHICH UPON ADOPTION AND PASSAGE, SHALL BECOME ORDINANCE NUMBER 6201, AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE RATE OF TAXATION ON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF SIKESTON, MISSOURI, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021.

WHEREAS, the Sikeston City Council held a public hearing in accordance with Section 67.110 RSMO prior to the adoption of the City's 2020-2021 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 four thousand one hundred seventy-one ten thousandths cents (\$.4171) per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessed valuation on all taxable property in the City of Sikeston, Missouri, for the year 2020-2021.

Section III. That for the purpose of maintaining a public library fund, there is hereby levied a tax rate of twenty cents (\$.20) per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessed valuation on all taxable property in the City of Sikeston, Missouri, for the year 2020-2021.

Section IV. That for the purpose of maintaining public parks, there is hereby levied a tax rate of one thousand eight hundred eighteen ten thousandths cents (\$.1818) per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessed valuation on all taxable property in the City of Sikeston, Missouri, for the year 2020-2021.

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 6201 was introduced and read the first time this 31<sup>st</sup> day of August 2020.
- B. Bill Number 6201 was read the second time and discussed this 31<sup>st</sup> day of August 2020. Following discussion, Councilman Settles moved to approve Bill Number 6201. The motion was seconded by Councilman Self, discussed and the following roll call vote was recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye,  
Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

C. Ordinance 6201 shall be in full force and effect from and after Monday, August 31, 2020.

Authorization to Submit Application for Federal/State Assistance for Fuel System with MoDOT

The City of Sikeston has access to federal funds that can be used for replacing the fuel system at the Sikeston Airport. These are unused funds the City had from 2017 that must be utilized before the end of September or lose them. Including consulting services, the total project cost is \$708,543. Of this amount, the City would have a local share of \$45,227. To start this project, authorization is needed to submit an application to MoDOT for federal/state assistance.

Councilman Self moved to authorize submitting an application to MoDOT for federal/state assistance. The motion was seconded by Councilman Self and the following vote recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye,  
Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, Bill #6202, Authorization to Execute Agreement with MoDOT for Fuel System

With authorization to utilize the assistance for the Airport Fuel System with MoDOT, the next step is to execute the program agreement with them. This agreement will lay out the roles and responsibilities of this project. It will also cover the costs related to design engineering. Construction and construction inspection costs will be covered in a future supplemental agreement.

Councilman Self moved to authorize the mayor to execute the program agreement with MoDOT. The motion was seconded by Councilman Settles and the following vote recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye,  
Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

Authorization to Execute Aviation Project Consultant Agreement with Waters Engineering

The final step to program the Airport Fuel System project with MoDOT is to execute the consultant agreement and submit it to MoDOT Aviation. This agreement is with Waters Engineering, who was selected as our airport consultant as part of a 5-year RFQ.

Councilman Self moved to authorize the City Manager to execute the Aviation Project Consultant Agreement with Waters Engineering. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sparks and the following vote recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye,  
Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

Authorization to Proceed with Legion Park Fountain Project

Historic Downtown Sikeston (HDS), along with City staff, began working last year on the Legion park Fountain project. HDS contracted with Hydrodramatics for the fountain design and components in the amount of \$71,600. When parts were finally shipped, numerous key components were not included. Still needing to order various plumbing and electrical components, total cost of items left to purchase was \$14,833. HDS has approximately \$2,000 remaining to use for this project, leaving a balance of \$12,833. Due to two major fundraising events being cancelled due to COVID19 (St. Patrick's Day and the Wine Festival), HDS does not

have the funds to cover this cost. Because the City is a partner on this project and the fountain will be an enhancement to a city park, staff wanted authorization to purchase the remaining components utilizing city funds.

Councilman Settles moved to authorize the City to purchase the remaining components in the amount of \$12,833 to proceed with the Legion Park Fountain Project. The motion was seconded by Councilman Self and the following roll call vote recorded.

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye,  
Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, Bill #6203, Qualifications of Board of Municipal Utilities Board Members

Councilman Sparks moved for the first reading of Bill Number 6203. The motion was seconded by Councilman Self and the following vote recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye,  
Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

City Counselor Thurman presented the bill for reading. This bill as approved shall become Ordinance Number 6203 and shall amend Article IV, Chapter 130, of the Municipal Code of Sikeston, Missouri, regarding qualifications of members of the Board of Commissioners of the Sikeston Board of Municipal Utilities.

#### Award Purchase of Pickup Truck for Street Department

Department of Public Works Street Department seeks to purchase a 2021 Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD Crew Cab 4WD pickup truck from state contract vendor Don Brown Chevrolet of St. Louis for \$32,902.00. This purchase is included in the FY21 budget.

Councilman Sparks moved to authorize the purchase of a 2021 Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD Crew Cab 4WD pickup truck for the Street Department from Don Brown Chevrolet in the amount of \$32,902.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Merideth and the following roll call vote recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye,  
Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

#### Authorization to Purchase 911 Phone System

The current 911 emergency phone system is nearing its end of life and is no longer compatible with the expectations of the public. NextGen 911(CallWorks) services is a new program recommended for Public Safety and will allow for features that include text-to-911. Motorola is the contracted vendor with the State of Missouri for this product.

A grant from the MO Department of Public Safety, which is a 60/40 match grant, was approved totaling \$178,639.33. The first year quote from Motorola for equipment and maintenance is \$178,639.33, which the grant will pay \$107,183.59 and the remaining portion of \$71,455.74 to be paid by the City.

A proposal for years 2-10 was quoted at \$158,302.15, which the City can lease from Motorola. After reviewing several choices, it was determined that a 4-year lease at \$42,536.40 per year was the best option. This lease would include updates, maintenance and service.

Councilwoman Evans moved to proceed with the purchase of the NextGen 911 Motorola phone system for \$178,639.33 which includes using grant funds from the MO Department of Public Safety in the amount of \$107,183.59 and the City's remaining portion of \$71,455.74. The motion was seconded by Councilman Self and the following roll call vote recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye,  
Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

#### Authorization to Purchase Fire Hose

Department of Public Safety's Fire Division request permission to purchase 27 sections of 5-inch fire hose in various lengths (20-100 ft.; 5-50 ft.; and 2-25 ft.). Current fire hose is around 21 years old and is primarily used to supply water from the hydrant to the fire trucks during operations. Tactical Fire Equipment, LLC is the sole vendor for this area for Mercedes Brand Fire Hose. The cost for 27 sections is \$18,778.35 which includes a 20 year warrant against hose delamination.

Councilman Settles moved to authorize the purchase of 27 sections of fire house from Mercedes Brand Fire Hose in the amount of \$18,778.35. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sparks and the following roll call vote recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye,  
Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

#### Approval to Purchase Equipment Utilizing CARES Act Funds

Department of Public Safety's Fire Division provides fire protection services not only to the City of Sikeston but other surrounding communities. Because service is also provided to nursing homes and residential care facilities in the area and several of these locations have been listed as COVID affected addresses and hot spots, there runs a risk of fire gear contamination. There are certain guidelines set forth for gear decontamination, which includes soaking the gear in a disinfectant, laundering and drying. Our current inventory has one gear extractor (washer) and no dryer so when gear is washed, it can take up to two days to dry.

Fire Division would like to purchase 64 sets of fire gear, 2 gear extractors (washers) and 2 gear dryers. This would outfit each employee that may respond to fire calls with a second set of gear. The total cost will be \$246,958.00. Scott County has indicated they will provide us with CARES Act Funds to cover the cost of the equipment but will issue a reimbursement check once the City submits proof of purchase. The Capital Improvement Fund has sufficient funds to cover the advance payment.

Councilman Self moved to authorize the City to purchase 64 sets of fire gear, 2 gear extractors (washers) and 2 gear dryers in the amount of \$246,958.00 with Scott County issuing a reimbursement check back to the City in the same amount using the CARES Act Funds. The motion was seconded by Councilman Settles and the following roll call vote recorded:

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye,  
Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

#### Other Items

Open House for the Sikeston Rec-Plex & Bootheel Golf Course Master Plan will be held September 1 from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the Clinton Building, 501 Campanella Drive.

Due to Labor Day holiday, the next Council meeting will be held Tuesday, September 8 at 5:00 p.m. at the Clinton Building, 501 Campanella Drive.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

Sparks Aye, Merideth Aye, Self Aye, Settles Aye, Evans Aye,  
Williams Aye, and Burch Aye, thereby being passed.

APPROVED:

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BRANDON SPARKS, MAYOR PRO TEM

ATTEST:

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RHONDA COUNCIL, CITY CLERK

SEAL: