

**CITY OF HAZELWOOD
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 20, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Hazelwood City Council was called to order by Mayor Matthew G. Robinson 7:36 p.m. on Wednesday, May 20, 2020.

In response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) public health emergency and pursuant to the St. Louis County Stay-at-Home Order, some members of the City Council attended in-person in the Council Chambers at Hazelwood City Hall and others attended and participated by video conference in accord with Section 610.015, RSMo (“All votes taken by roll call in meetings of a public governmental body consisting of members who are all elected ... shall be cast by members ... who are physically present ... or who are participating via videoconferencing.”) It was impossible and impractical to hold the meeting in a manner physically accessible by the public. Section 610.020.2, RSMo (“Each meeting shall be held at a place reasonably accessible to the public ... unless for good cause such a place ... is impossible or impractical.”) Public access to the meeting was accommodated in person and via access to video conference pursuant to notice provided in accord with Section 610.020, RSMo.

On roll call, the following members of the Council were present:

Matthew G. Robinson
Russell Todd
Warren H. Taylor
Rosalie Hendon
Mary G. Singleton
Carol A. Stroker
Robert M. Aubuchon
Don W. Ryan
Tyler Wilson

City Clerk Christine Thomas declared a quorum was present. Also present were City Manager Matt Zimmerman and City Attorney Kevin O'Keefe.

AGENDA

Mrs. Singleton moved, seconded by Mr. Todd, to remove item 12.b., consideration of an agreement with Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission for the Phantom Road Improvement Project, from the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Hendon moved, seconded by Mrs. Stroker, to adopt the agenda as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Taylor moved, seconded by Mr. Todd, the adoption of the consent agenda as printed. The following vote was recorded on the motion:

AYE - 9

NAY - 0

- Mayor Robinson
- Mr. Todd
- Mr. Taylor
- Mrs. Hendon
- Mrs. Singleton
- Mrs. Stroker
- Mr. Aubuchon
- Mr. Ryan
- Mr. Wilson

The motion passed unanimously and the consent agenda, including a closed meeting immediately following the regular meeting to discuss litigation and consult with the City Attorney in accordance with the provisions of RSMo 610.021(1) and to discuss a personnel matter in accordance with the provisions of RSMo 610.021(3), was adopted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Taylor moved, seconded by Mr. Todd, to approve the minutes of the May 6 regular and closed Council meetings as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS - None

PROCLAMATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

CARES ACT FUNDING RESOLUTION

Mayor Robinson called for the reading of a resolution requesting St. Louis County provide municipalities an equitable distribution of the funding received from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act as reimbursement for actual public safety costs incurred during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Zimmerman stated St. Louis County received approximately \$175 million in CARES Act funding from the federal government. The CARES Act does not provide for any direct funding to local governments with populations less than 500,000. However, President Trump has instructed the Treasury Secretary to permit use of the funds to support local governments, in particular due to the loss of revenue. Mr. Zimmerman stated the resolution requests that St. Louis County, who is a direct recipient of CARES Act funding, provide an equitable distribution of the funding to municipalities across St. Louis County that have incurred added expenses as a result of maintaining public services during the pandemic. Mr. Zimmerman stated many, if not most cities in St. Louis County, will be adopting a similar resolution. The City is requesting \$1.1 million in funds, primarily for the cost of providing emergency services.

There were no objections and Resolution 2002 was read by title only:

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT MUNICIPALITIES WITHIN ST. LOUIS COUNTY RECEIVE AN EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF THE \$175 MILLION IN FUNDING RECEIVED BY ST LOUIS COUNTY FROM THE CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY ACT TO REIMBURSE MUNICIPALITIES FOR ACTUAL PUBLIC SAFETY COSTS INCURRED RELATED TO COVID-19.

Mrs. Hendon moved, seconded by Mrs. Singleton, the adoption of Resolution 2002. The following vote was recorded on the motion:

<u>AYE - 9</u>	<u>NAY - 0</u>
Mayor Robinson	
Mr. Todd	
Mr. Taylor	
Mrs. Hendon	
Mrs. Singleton	
Mrs. Stroker	
Mr. Aubuchon	
Mr. Ryan	
Mr. Wilson	

Resolution 2002 was unanimously adopted.

RESOLUTION ON
PROPOSITION TO
CREATE NID IN RFPD
SERVICE AREA

Mayor Robinson called for the reading of a resolution to submit to the voters, in the area of the City served by the Robertson Fire Protection District (RFPD), a proposition regarding the creation of a Neighborhood Improvement District (NID).

Mr. Zimmerman stated the NID proposal would raise the tax rate by \$1.36 per \$100 of assessed valuation and represents the difference between the actual cost to provide RFPD services (based on calendar year 2019 costs) and the amount it would cost to provide Hazelwood Fire Department services. The assessment would generate revenue of \$2.5 million.

Community and Economic Development Coordinator Becky Ahlvin gave preliminary feedback on the survey from the May 18 budget “pop-up” meeting. Mrs. Ahlvin stated 119 residents provided feedback. Of the five revenue options, the increase in the fire sales tax from \$.25 to \$.50 and an increase in the non-residential utility tax rate are the favored revenue options. The majority prefer a combination of expense reductions and revenue increases.

There were no objections and Resolution 2003 was read by title only:

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTING A PROPOSITION REGARDING THE CREATION OF A NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT IN CONNECTION WITH FIRE PROTECTION, EMERGENCY AND AMBULANCE SERVICES PROVIDED BY ROBERTSON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT.

Mr. Taylor moved, seconded by Mrs. Stroker, the adoption of Resolution 2003. The following vote was recorded on the motion:

<u>AYE - 8</u>	<u>NAY - 1</u>
Mayor Robinson	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Todd	
Mr. Taylor	
Mrs. Hendon	
Mrs. Singleton	
Mrs. Stroker	
Mr. Aubuchon	
Mr. Ryan	

Resolution 2003 was adopted by a vote of eight in favor and one opposed, with Mr. Wilson casting the dissenting vote.

CITIZENS HEARINGS AND PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

Mayor Robinson explained the procedures to be followed during a hearing. He invited anyone desiring to make a comment to come forward at this time.

No one came forward to address the Council.

Mayor Robinson stated written comments may be submitted to: Hazelwood City Council, 415 Elm Grove Lane, Hazelwood, MO 63042 or CityClerk@hazelwoodmo.org with "Citizen Comment" in the subject line.

Mayor Robinson asked Mrs. Thomas if any written comments had been received for this evening's meeting.

Mrs. Thomas replied none were received.

PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

COMMUNICATIONS

CHARTER NEW PROGRAMMING	Notification of the launch of a new Latino Package and Country Music Television was received from Charter Communications.
----------------------------	---

EWGCG LOCAL BRIEFINGS The April 30 issue of Local Government Briefings was received from the East-West Gateway Council of Governments.

EWGCG LOCAL BRIEFINGS The May 7 issue of Local Government Briefings was received from the East-West Gateway Council of Governments.

AUTOMATIC RENEWAL OF CDBG COOPERATION AGREEMENT Notice that the City's Community Development Block Grant Cooperation Agreement will automatically renew for fiscal years 2021, 2022 and 2023 was received from St. Louis County Human Services.

Mr. Taylor moved, seconded by Mr. Todd, to receive and file all communications. The motion passed unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PROPOSITION FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT SALES TAX INCREASE Mr. Zimmerman stated, per Council's direction, a bill to place a proposition on the August 4 ballot to increase the sales tax for operations of the Hazelwood Fire Department from \$.25 to \$.50 has been prepared.

Mr. Zimmerman stated it's estimated the fire tax increase would generate additional revenue of \$780,000 annually. However, next year's estimate is \$600,000 due to the impact of the pandemic. Mr. Zimmerman stated an emergency second reading is necessary in order to meet the May 26 certification deadline for placement of a proposition on the August ballot.

Mrs. Singleton asked if another revenue option should also be placed on the ballot.

Mr. Zimmerman responded there are pros and cons to placing multiple propositions on the ballot and it is likely to create challenges for passage of the NID initiative.

Mrs. Singleton asked, in the event the sales tax increase is passed and the City's financial situation improves, if the tax could be reduced or eliminated.

Mr. O'Keefe replied voter approval of the proposition authorizes the City to levy the tax and does not require the City to levy it. There is always an option to suspend or reduce the rate of taxation.

Mr. Aubuchon moved, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to call for submission to the voters of a proposition authorizing an increase in the sales tax for operations of the Hazelwood Fire Department and to place the draft bill on the agenda for introduction. The motion passed unanimously and the bill was added to the agenda as item 17.a.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

**WORK SESSION
AGENDA ITEMS** No items were added to the July 8 Council work session agenda.

**BOARD/COMMISSION
APPOINTMENTS** Mayor Robinson nominated the following for reappointment to their respective board/commission: Jim Sewell and Tom Oswald, Board of Adjustment/Architectural Board of Review; Marty Opfer and Scott Womble, Civil Service Board; Kent Manis and Curtis Manning, Board of Appeals; Christopher Dopuch, Parks and Recreation Board; Dorothy Hitt, Historic Preservation Commission; William Hammerly, Neighborhood Watch Commission; Toni Grimes, Community Enrichment Commission; and Jamily Maloney, Industrial Development Authority.

Mr. Aubuchon moved, seconded by Mrs. Hendon, to approve the preceding reappointments. The motion passed unanimously.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

**CONTRACT FOR
INTERNET AND
PHONE SERVICES** Police Captain Jim Hudanick reported staff recommends authorizing a five year contract with Charter Communications Operating, LLC, for telephone and fiber internet services for all City facilities at an annual cost not to exceed \$24,180.

Captain Hudanick stated the City is currently on a month-to-month contract extension. The City will realize a savings of \$10,700 over the span of the contract.

Mrs. Hendon moved, seconded by Mrs. Singleton, to concur with the staff recommendation to authorize a five-year contract with Charter Communications Operating, LLC, for telephone and internet services for an annual cost not to exceed \$24,180 and to place the draft bill on the agenda for introduction. The motion passed unanimously and the bill was added to the agenda as item 17.b.

**BUDGET POP-UP
MEETING** Mr. Zimmerman suggested scheduling an additional budget "pop-up" meeting Wednesday, May 27, at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom webinar.

The Council was in favor of scheduling the meeting.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT - None

CITY CLERK'S REPORT - None

COMMISSION AND BOARD REPORTS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING OF BILLS

ELECTION FOR
SALES TAX
PROPOSITION

Mayor Robinson called for the first reading of a bill calling for submission to the voters of a proposition authorizing an increase in the sales tax for operations of the Hazelwood Fire Department.

There were no objections and Bill 4870 was read by title only:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HAZELWOOD, MISSOURI, CALLING FOR SUBMISSION TO THE VOTERS OF THE CITY OF A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE IN THE SALES TAX FOR OPERATIONS OF THE HAZELWOOD FIRE DEPARTMENT AND DECLARING THAT AN EMERGENCY EXISTS ALLOWING THE PASSAGE OF THIS BILL ON THE DAY OF ITS INTRODUCTION.

Mr. O’Keefe noted the bill includes a clause for emergency passage.

Mr. Aubuchon moved, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to find and declare an emergency exists with respect to the adoption of the bill, in accordance with Section 8 of Article II of the City Charter, and to give it second reading and consideration for adoption this evening. The motion passed unanimously.

There were no objections and Bill 4870 was read a second time by title only:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HAZELWOOD, MISSOURI, CALLING FOR SUBMISSION TO THE VOTERS OF THE CITY OF A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE IN THE SALES TAX FOR OPERATIONS OF THE HAZELWOOD FIRE DEPARTMENT AND DECLARING THAT AN EMERGENCY EXISTS ALLOWING THE PASSAGE OF THIS BILL ON THE DAY OF ITS INTRODUCTION.

Mr. Aubuchon moved, seconded by Mrs. Hendon, the adoption of Bill 4870 as an ordinance. The following vote was recorded on the motion:

<u>AYE - 9</u>	<u>NAY - 0</u>
Mayor Robinson	
Mr. Todd	
Mr. Taylor	
Mrs. Hendon	
Mrs. Singleton	
Mrs. Stroker	
Mr. Aubuchon	
Mr. Ryan	
Mr. Wilson	

Bill 4870 was unanimously adopted as Ordinance 4754-20.

CONTRACT Mayor Robinson called for the first reading of a bill to
PHONE & INTERNET authorize a contract for phone and internet services at all City
SERVICES facilities.

There were no objections and Bill 4871 was read by title only:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A FIVE YEAR CONTRACT WITH CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS OPERATING, LLC FOR TELEPHONE AND FIBER INTERNET SERVICES FOR ALL CITY FACILITIES AT AN ANNUAL COST NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY-FOUR THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY DOLLARS (\$24,180).

Bill 4871 will be on the agenda for second reading on June 3.

SECOND READING OF BILLS AND ACTION ON BILLS

BILL 4846 The second reading of Bill 4846 to authorize the issuance of
BOND ISSUANCE taxable industrial revenue bonds for development of
TRADEPORT, LOT 1 TradePort Lot 1, Building IV, was postponed.

BILL 4869 Mayor Robinson called for the second reading of Bill 4869 to
AMEND DEVELOPMENT approve an amendment to the development plan for Silgan
PLAN & PERFORMANCE Plastics and an amendment to the Performance Agreement
AGREEMENT with Silgan Plastics.

There were no objections and Bill 4869 was read by title only:

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR SILGAN PLASTICS CORPORATION, A DELAWARE CORPORATION AND A SECOND AMENDMENT TO PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND SILGAN PLASTICS CORPORATION, A DELAWARE CORPORATION.

Mr. Aubuchon moved, seconded by Mr. Todd, the adoption of Bill 4869 as an ordinance. The following vote was recorded on the motion:

<u>AYE - 9</u>	<u>NAY - 0</u>
Mayor Robinson	
Mr. Todd	
Mr. Taylor	
Mrs. Hendon	
Mrs. Singleton	
Mrs. Stroker	
Mr. Aubuchon	

Mr. Ryan
Mr. Wilson

Bill 4869 was unanimously adopted as Ordinance 4755-20.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CITY HALL CLOSED Mayor Robinson announced City Hall will be closed on May 25 in observance of Memorial Day.

COUNCIL MEETING Mayor Robinson announced the next regular Council meeting will be held Wednesday, June 3, at 7:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

ATTEST:

Matthew G. Robinson - Mayor
City of Hazelwood, Missouri

Christine Thomas, CMC - City Clerk
City of Hazelwood, Missouri