

**CITY OF BLUE SPRINGS, MISSOURI  
MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING  
JUNE 1, 2020**

A meeting of the City Council of the City of Blue Springs, Missouri, was held on Monday, June 1, 2020, 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Carson Ross presiding.

A State of Emergency for Jackson County, Missouri was declared on March 12, 2020 and subsequent amendments by Jackson County Executive Order requiring residents to stay at home and limiting public gatherings to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus. As provided in Sections 610.020(1) and 610.020(4) RSMo., the City Council participated in this meeting via video-conference and telephone to ensure safe social distancing measures were taken. The public was able to attend via telephone conference.

**CONFIRMATION OF A  
QUORUM -  
COUNCILMEMBERS IN  
ATTENDANCE**

Jerry Kaylor  
Chris Lievsay  
Ron Fowler

Galen Ericson  
Kent Edmondson  
Susan Culpepper

Also present were City Administrator Eric Johnson, Assistant City Administrator Christine Cates, City Attorney Jacqueline Sommer, and City Clerk Sheryl Morgan.

**CALL MEETING TO  
ORDER**

Mayor Ross called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilmember Culpepper moved to approve the following Consent Agenda items and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Kaylor.

- **Minutes of the May 18, 2020** City Council Meeting
- **Resolution No. 45-2020** approving the disposition of Information Technology, Human Resources, and Administration department records which have met the required retention period as prescribed by the Blue Springs Records Retention, Management, and Destruction Policy dated November 28, 2016 and in accordance with the Missouri Secretary of State's records retention guidelines

The above Consent Agenda items were approved with the following vote:

Kaylor – Aye  
Lievsay – Aye  
Fowler – Aye

Ericson – Aye  
Edmondson – Aye  
Culpepper – Aye  
Mayor Ross – Aye

**PUBLIC HEARING –  
AMENDMENTS TO THE  
UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT  
CODE RELATING TO  
FENCING  
(UDCT-03-20-7250)**

Mayor Ross opened the Public Hearing to consider amendments to the Unified Development Code related to fence construction and materials (UDCT-03-20-7250) at 6:02 p.m. The minutes of the public hearing were recorded by a certified court reporter. City Clerk Sheryl Morgan entered one exhibit into the record.

**STAFF REPORT**

Interim Community Development Director Mike Mallon presented the proposed amendments to the Unified Development Code.

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

Mr. Mallon addressed questions from Council regarding the three-foot separation between neighboring fences, as well as materials.

**IN SUPPORT OF**

Kevin Horrell addressed Council in support of the amendment.

The Mayor hearing no further comments for or against, closed the public hearing at 6:16 p.m.

**INTRODUCTION AND 1ST  
READING – BILL NO. 4755  
– AMENDMENTS TO THE  
UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT  
CODE RELATING TO  
FENCING  
(UDCT-03-20-7250)**

Councilmember Culpepper introduced Bill No. 4755 approving amendments to the Unified Development Code related to fence construction and materials (UDCT-03-20-7250). City Clerk Sheryl Morgan made the first reading of Bill No. 4755 by title; copies of the proposed Bill having previously been made available to the public.

Councilmember Fowler moved to approve Bill No. 4755 upon its first reading and proceed with the second reading. Motion seconded by Councilmember Ericson and carried with the following votes:

Lievsay – Aye  
Fowler – Aye  
Ericson – Aye

Edmondson – Aye  
Culpepper – Aye  
Kaylor – Aye  
Mayor Ross – Aye

**2ND READING – BILL NO.  
4755**

Ms. Morgan made the second reading of Bill No. 4755 by title. Councilmember Fowler moved to adopt Bill No. 4755 upon its second reading and give it **ORDINANCE NO. 4908**, with a copy attached hereto and made a part of the minutes. Motion seconded by Councilmember Ericson and carried with the following vote:

Fowler – Aye  
Ericson – Aye  
Edmondson – Aye

Culpepper – Aye  
Kaylor – Aye  
Lievsay – Aye  
Mayor Ross – Aye

**PUBLIC HEARING –  
SUBSTANTIAL  
AMENDMENTS TO THE  
COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT BLOCK  
GRANT PLAN**

Mayor Ross opened the Public Hearing to consider substantial amendments to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) 2017-2021 Consolidated Plan, 2017-2021 Citizen Participation Plan, and the 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan to accommodate and allocate \$158,235 in CDBG-CV funds received through the CARES Act at 6:20 p.m. The minutes of the public hearing were recorded by a certified court reporter. City Clerk Sheryl Morgan entered two exhibits into the record. Exhibit No. 2 is an email, letter and fact sheet from Cindy Miller, President of Blue Springs Downtown Alive! sent to the businesses in the Downtown District.

**STAFF REPORT**

Interim Assistant Community Development Director Matt Wright presented the proposed substantial amendments.

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION** Council and staff discussed the ability to increase the maximum for small business loans to \$10,000.

**IN SUPPORT OF** Melodie Chrisman of Community Services League expressed her gratitude for the CDBG funds allocated and discussed how additional funds from the CDBG-CV grant could use used to benefit individuals and families in Blue Springs.

Cindy Miller, President of Blue Springs Downtown Alive! stated she felt putting people back to work would lessen the need for assistance from the Community Services League and requested additional funds from the CDBG-CV grant.

The Mayor hearing no further comments for or against, closed the public hearing at 6:51 p.m.

**RESOLUTION 46-2020 - SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENTS TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PLAN** Councilmember Fowler moved to adopt Resolution No. 46-2020 approving substantial amendments to the CDBG 2017-2021 Consolidated Plan, 2017-2021 Citizen Participation Plan, and the 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan to accommodate and allocate \$158,235 in CDBG-CV funds received through the CARES Act. Motion seconded by Councilmember Kaylor

**MOTION TO AMEND RESOLUTION NO. 46-2020** Councilmember Ericson moved to amend Resolution No. 46-2020 to amend the proposed substantial amendments to the 2019-20 Annual Action Plan by increasing the allocation for the small business loan program from \$100,000 to \$135,000, and reducing the allocation for Community Services League from \$58,235 to \$23,235. Motion seconded by Councilmember Culpepper and carried with a 5-2 vote as follows:

Ericson – Aye	Kaylor – NO
Edmondson – Aye	Lievsay – Aye
Culpepper – Aye	Fowler – NO
	Mayor Ross – Aye

**2<sup>nd</sup> MOTION TO AMEND RESOLUTION NO. 46-2020** Councilmember Ericson moved to amend Resolution No. 46-2020 to add the following sentence to the end of Paragraph 1: All unexpended CDBG-CV funds not committed to the Small Business Loan Program (Economic Development activities) by September 1, 2020 will be administratively re-allocated and committed to the Community Services League (Public Service activities). Motion seconded by Councilmember Culpepper and carried with the following vote:

Edmondson – Aye	Lievsay – Aye
Culpepper – Aye	Fowler – Aye
Kaylor – Aye	Ericson – Aye
	Mayor Ross – Aye

**VOTE ON RESOLUTION NO. 46-2020, TWICE AMENDED** Resolution No. 46-2020, as twice amended carried with the following vote:

Culpepper – Aye  
Kaylor – Aye  
Lievsey – Aye

Fowler – Aye  
Ericson – Aye  
Edmondson – Aye  
Mayor Ross – Aye

**PUBLIC HEARING –  
VACATION OF PUBLIC  
RIGHT-OF-WAY –  
MOTION TO CONTINUE**

Mayor Ross advised the Council that the applicant, Lee Ryherd on behalf of the adjacent property owner, RGH Land LLC, has requested a continuance of the public hearing for consideration of a vacation of a portion of the NW South Outer Road Public Right-of-Way located adjacent to 2501 NW South Outer Road (VAC-05-20-7301) to the next Council meeting. Councilmember Culpepper moved to continue the public hearing to the June 15, 2020 Council meeting. Motion seconded by Councilmember Fowler and carried with the following vote:

Kaylor – Aye  
Lievsey – Aye  
Fowler – Aye

Ericson – Aye  
Edmondson – Aye  
Culpepper – Aye  
Mayor Ross – Aye

**MAYORAL  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Ross reminded the public of the Municipal Election on Tuesday, June 2, 2020.

Thoughts to ponder:

“The message of what has happened to the wrongful killing of George Floyd is being hijacked and lost with the destruction of peaceful protests that is legal and needed by a bunch of opportunistic criminals and thugs. Looting, burning of businesses and police cars while attacking police officers are unacceptable. There are reports that many of them don’t even live in the cities they are destroying. How disgraceful. Our attention should be on George Floyd and those before him seeking justice and a change of attitude in America. God created all of us in his image and after his likeness. Many of you are as saddened as I am and disgusted in what we are witnessing by those who have an agenda other than seeking justice for George Floyd. I employ them to stop the looting, burning and destroying property that don’t belong to them all the while we are still fighting the invisible and silent killer, Coronavirus and COVID-19 pandemic. May God bless us all and may God bless America.”

*(Mayor Carson Ross)*

**VISITORS**

Preston Smith addressed Council requesting the playgrounds be reopened for use. Council and staff discussed the restrictions and desire to open the playgrounds and splashpad.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:30 p.m., there was no further business to come before the Council, Councilmember Kaylor moved the meeting be adjourned. Motion seconded by Councilmember Fowler and carried with the following vote:


Lievsay – Aye  
Fowler – Aye  
Ericson – Aye

Edmondson – Aye  
Culpepper – Aye  
Kaylor – Aye  
Mayor Ross – Aye

CITY OF BLUE SPRINGS

ATTEST:

  
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Sheryl Morgan, City Clerk

  
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Carson Ross, Mayor