

## REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN

September 27, 2022

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen of the City of Warson Woods was held on Tuesday, September 27, 2022. Upon roll call, the following members of the Board were reported present:

Mayor Sean Fitzgerald  
Alderman Charlie Luisetti  
Alderwoman Dawn Bickford  
Alderman G.P. Dorris  
Alderman Rob Hurtt  
Alderman Jim Newman  
Alderwoman Hannah Mayer  
Alderwoman Laura Lee

City Attorney Drew Weber, Chief of Police Bob Stanczak and City Clerk Kathy Mahany. This meeting was also held by Online Video Alderman Rob Hurtt and Financial Advisor Jeff Blume were present via Zoom. Alderwoman Lucy Pfyl was excused.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### PUBLIC HEARING

*(Establishing Real Estate and Commercial Tax Rates for 2022)*

Category	Tax Rates 2021	Proposed Tax Rates 2022	Increase/Decrease
Residential	\$ 0.2790	\$ 0.2800	\$ 0(.0001)
Agricultural	-	-	-
Commercial	\$ 0.3520	\$ 0.3520	\$ 0(0)
Assessed Valuation	Prior Tax Year--2021	Current Tax Year--2022	Increase/Decrease
<b>Real Estate</b>			
Residential	\$ 72,781,010	\$ 72,606,050	\$ (174,960)
Agricultural	-	-	-
Commercial	\$ 9,660,425	\$ 9,926,587	\$ 266,162
Total Real Estate	\$ 82,441,435	\$ 82,532,637	\$ 91,202
<b>Personal Property*</b>	\$ 7,627,612	\$ 10,130,456	\$ 2,502,844
<b>New Improvements</b>			
<b>New Construction</b>	\$ 271,300	\$ 5,300	\$ (266,000)
<b>Adjusted A/V</b>	\$ 90,069,047	\$ 92,668,393	\$ 2,599,346

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing at 7:03 p.m.

Alderman Luisetti stated that there is an error on the original Bill No. 1723. It was caught prior to the meeting and was corrected. A revised copy of the Bill has been placed in front of everyone. The Bill reads the rate will be set at 0.2713 and it should read 0.2800.

At this time Financial Advisor Jeff Blume explained how the tax rate is calculated.

The Public Hearing closed at 7:09 p.m.

## APPROVAL of the AGENDA

Alderman Dorris moved, seconded by Alderwoman Mayer, to approve the agenda as submitted. On Voice Vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

## MINUTES

Regular Board Meeting—August 16, 2022

Public Safety Meeting—September 13, 2022

Alderman Dorris moved, seconded by Alderwoman Mayer, that the minutes be accepted as submitted. On Voice Vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

## TREASURER'S REPORT—August 2022

Alderman Luisetti moved, seconded by Alderwoman Lee, that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as submitted. Jeff Blume stated that the payment for the lawn service should be changed from part time wages to park maintenance. Alderman Hurtt (via zoom) asked what signs were purchased. The Police Chief answered it was the new signs for the crosswalk on Woodlawn Ave. Alderman Luisetti then asked about the cost for the Brain Mill and Kuhlman Design. The City Clerk answered the Brain Mill is a monthly invoice for the web-site that went up last year because of all the new Audio/Visual equipment and the Kuhlman invoice is higher because the last few months it was lower than it should have been and now it has been corrected. On Voice Vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

## BILLS & RECURRING DISBURSEMENTS

Alderman Luisetti moved, seconded by Alderman Dorris, that the Bills and Recurring Disbursements, with the Addendum, be approved as submitted. Alderman Luisetti asked why the cost of the prosecutor is going from \$200 per month to \$600 per month. It was decided to hold this discussion until the bill comes up on the agenda.

On Voice Vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

GLENDALE FIRE REPORT- June 2022, Alderman Luisetti asked if the two reported overdoses are they going to the St. County for prosecution? The Chief answered no it will be handled by the Attorney General's Office.

WARSON WOODS POLICE REPORT – June 2022, Alderman Luisetti asked about the tree house on North Dr. It was explained that the complaint came from someone in Ladue. The Building Commissioner handled the complaint.

PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMPLAINTS—No action required.

## MISC. REPORTS.

COLLECTOR—Kathy Mahany, no report.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER—Ron Stuckel submitted the attached report.

PARK COMMISSIONER— In Alderwoman Pfyl's absence Alderwoman Mayer informed everyone that volunteers are needed for the Fall Festival. People can sign up on the web site and Facebook. Next Alderwoman Lee said since the tennis courts need to be replaced and that won't happen until the spring, the courts will be painted to accommodate pickleball. This way we can test resident usage.

CITY ENGINEER—Ron Stuckel submitted no additional report.

CITY ATTORNEY—Drew Weber informed the Board that he met with the attorney for Freddy's Restaurant and explained to him what the city is requesting be re-submitted for a new P&Z meeting. It was mentioned that the Freddy's Restaurant people submitted new information yesterday and the new meeting is scheduled for October 11<sup>th</sup>.

TREASURER—At this time the Financial Advisor, Jeff Blume, discussed the Treasurer's Report. He ended his statement by saying at this time the City is in great financial shape.

PUBLIC WORKS/PARKS—Alderman Jim Newman, reported on several items. He began by saying we cannot find someone to do our snow plowing so we are now getting bids for purchasing a snow plow and doing our own plowing. He thinks it will cost approximately \$10,000.00 but by doing our own plowing it will save the city money in the first season. We have volunteers to help Bruce with the plowing, the Police Chief, Officer Fitzgerald, and Aldermen Dorris and Newman. We will have to add the Aldermen to our insurance policy.

Next, he said he looked into the resident complaint that the trash was not picked up and him wanting a refund. As Mr. Newman looked into it, he found a clause in the contract that says if the residents' trash is not picked up with-in 24 hours of Waste Connections being notified the resident is entitled to a \$5.00 refund per day it is not picked up.

At this time Alderman Dorris said he has been in contact with our insurance company regarding the damage done to the Pavilion. He went on to say he received a revised settlement from the insurance company for approximately \$18,000.00. This will cover everything except the power washing. That bid came in quite pricy so we can power wash it ourselves. He would like to see the resident who caused the damage pay our deductible which is \$500.00.

Alderman Dorris moved, seconded by Alderman Newman, to accept the revised settlement from our insurance company. On Voice Vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

Lastly, Alderman Luisetti stated he would like the City Attorney to look into having Aldermen and the Police Department doing snow plowing. We will need an answer by the October Board Meeting on October 18<sup>th</sup>.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE—Alderwoman Hannah Mayer began by saying that she posted the Junior Alderperson program in the newsletter and on Facebook. She will also add a link to it on the website. Residents between the ages of 12 and 18 can apply on line to participate in the program the deadline to apply is November 15<sup>th</sup>.

Next, Alderwoman Lee stated she is looking into a new system to take the place of our outdated ADP Select Link program. The new program is called Code Red, it is state of the art and will cost \$1,000.00 less per year to run. She said that the Cities of Glendale, Kirkwood, Oakland and Brentwood all use the Code Red system. She then asked the City Attorney to look at the contract and draw up a bill to enter into the contract for this system by the October 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

MAYOR—Sean Fitzgerald began by informing everyone that he has had further conversations with the people who want to put up a new cell tower and remove the current one located on the top of the Breadsmith store.

He said they are still talking to our landlord but they would like another option as where to put the tower if they cannot come to an agreement with our landlord. Mayor Fitzgerald does not want (the city) to get between either the cell tower people or the landlord.

They are looking at placing it in Royal Oak Park just behind the Police Department. They have mentioned the tower being between 75 and 100 ft. in height.

He said the tower will start with 2 providers but have the capacity to add several more. He was told that the tower will produce approximately \$15,000.00 revenue per year.

OLD BUSINESS-Nothing to report.

MISC. OLD BUSINESS

Alderman Hurtt began by saying he and Alderwoman Lee, at the request of Alderman Luisetti, have contacted our Building Commissioner/City Engineer, Ron Stuckel, regarding the cost of his services as compared to how much the city charges for Zoning and Building Permits. After a lengthy discussion it was decided to have the City Attorney draw up a bill changing our zoning cost from \$75.00 to \$200.00 to help pay the cost of Mr. Stuckel’s services for the October meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. An Ordinance Amending the 2021-2022 Fiscal Budget. Bill No. 1722 After being read two times by title only, Alderman Luisetti moved, seconded by Alderwoman Mayer, to Amend the 2021-2022 Fiscal Budget. After Discussion Bill No. 1722 was tabled to the October 18<sup>th</sup> Regular Board Meeting.
- B. An Ordinance Levying and Imposing an AD Valorem Tax for Fiscal year 2022. Bill No. 1723. After being read two time by title only, Alderman Luisetti moved, seconded by Alderman Dorris, that Bill No. 1723 becomes Ordinance No. 1664.

By Roll Call the Vote was as follows:

	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Not Present
Luisetti	<u>  X  </u>	_____	_____	_____
Dorris	<u>  X  </u>	_____	_____	_____
Hurtt (via zoom)	<u>  X  </u>	_____	_____	_____
Mayer	<u>  X  </u>	_____	_____	_____
Pfyl	_____	_____	_____	<u>  X  </u>
Newman	<u>  X  </u>	_____	_____	_____
Lee	<u>  X  </u>	_____	_____	_____
Bickford	<u>  X  </u>	_____	_____	_____

The Ordinance was announced passed 7-0.

- C. Sikich LLP Financial Statement Audit Risk Communications. Dated August 15, 2022 Alderman Dorris moved, seconded by Alderwoman Lee, to receive the Sikich LLP Financial Audit Risk Communication. On Voice Vote, the motion was unanimously approved.
- D. An Ordinance Entering into a Contract with Brian Malone as Prosecutor for the City of Warson Woods. After Discussion Bill No. 1724 was tabled to the October 18<sup>th</sup> Regular Board Meeting.

**MISC. NEW BUSINESS**

Chief Stanczak informed the Board that our Public Works Employee, Bruce Frazier had his personal truck broke into in downtown St. Louis. Several items were taken along with his city issued cell phone.

At this time Alderman Luisetti discussed appointing Jeff Blume as our City Treasurer. After a short discussion the City Attorney read the qualifications for the position. One of them being he must be a registered voter in the State of Missouri. Mr. Blume lives in Michigan and is not registered in Missouri to vote. He is registered in the state of Michigan. The appointment could not be made.

“Notice is hereby given that, subject to a motion duly made and adopted, the Board of Aldermen may also hold a closed meeting for the purpose of dealing with matters relating to one or more of the following: Section 610.021(1), RSMo. (Legal actions, causes of action or litigation involving a public governmental body and any confidential or privileged communications between a public governmental body or its representatives and its attorneys); Section 610.021(3), RSMo. (Hiring, firing, disciplining or promoting of particular employees by a public governmental body when personal information about the employee is discussed or recorded); and Section 610.021(13), RSMo. (Individually identifiable personnel records, performance ratings or records pertaining to employees or applicants for employment).”

Alderman Dorris moved, seconded by Alderman Newman, to close Regular Session and go into Executive Session.

By Roll Call, the vote was as follows:

	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Not Present
Luisetti	<u>  X  </u>	_____	_____	_____
Mayer	<u>  X  </u>	_____	_____	_____
Newman	<u>  X  </u>	_____	_____	_____
Lee	<u>  X  </u>	_____	_____	_____
Hurt (via zoom)	<u>  X  </u>	_____	_____	_____
Dorris	<u>  X  </u>	_____	_____	_____
Pfyl	_____	_____	_____	<u>  X  </u>
Bickford	<u>  X  </u>	_____	_____	_____

The motion was announced passed 7-0. The meeting closed at 8:59 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Alderwoman Bickford moved, seconded by Alderwoman Lee, the meeting be adjourned. On Voice Vote, the motion was unanimously approved. The meeting closed at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Mahany, City Clerk

Sean Fitzgerald, Mayor

5.