CITY OF BLUE SPRINGS, MISSOURI
MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 18, 2024

A meeting of the City Council of the City of Blue Springs, Missouri, was held on Monday, March 18, 2024, at 5:15 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Howard L. Brown Public Safety Building, 1100 SW Smith Street, Blue Springs, Missouri with Mayor Carson Ross presiding.

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

At 5:15 p.m. Mayor Ross opened the meeting, and the City Clerk confirmed a quorum of the Council was present.

COUNCILMEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Kaylor – ABSENT	Ericson
Lievsay	Edmondson
Fowler	Culpepper
	Mayor Ross

CLOSED SESSION

Councilmember Culpepper moved for the Council go into closed session pursuant to Section 610.021 (1) & (12) Revised Statutes of Missouri, for the purpose of privileged communications between a governmental body or its representative and legal counsel relating to Litigation and Contract Negotiations, and that any minutes, documents and other records discussed or taken during the closed session remain closed, and that the regular meeting of this body reopen at 6:00 p.m. Motion seconded by Councilmember Lievsay and carried with the following votes:

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

COUNCILMEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jerry Kaylor - ABSENT	Galen Ericson
Chris Lievsay	Kent Edmondson
Ron Fowler	Susan Culpepper

Also present were City Administrator Christine Cates, Interim City Attorney John Mullane, and City Clerk Erin Ford.

CALL OPEN SESSION TO ORDER AND CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Mayor Ross called the open session of the March 18, 2024 Blue Springs City Council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led in the pledge of allegiance. The City Clerk confirmed a quorum of the Council was present.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Ericson moved to approve the following Consent Agenda items and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Lievsay.

- **Minutes of the March 4, 2024** City Council Meeting
- **Resolution 18-2024** designating an Acting City Administrator in the absence of City Administrator Christine Cates pursuant to Section 5.3 of the City of Blue Springs Home Rule Charter, and rescinding Resolution No. 35-2023.

- **Resolution 19-2024** approving a City Council Authorization Form for participation in grants with the Missouri Department of Transportation Highway Safety and Traffic Division.
- **Resolution 20-2024** approving a change order in the amount of $32,100 to increase the contract price to $72,800 from RiggingPro, Inc. for installation of ceiling mounts and Ninjacross system for Blue Surf Bay Waterpark, CIP project PR-40.

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

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

HOOT OWL MEADOWS REZONING AND GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (RZ-10-23-8939) AND (GDP-10-23-8940) – MOTION TO CONTINUE

Councilmember Culpepper moved to continue Bill 5194 approving the Rezoning (RZ-10-23-8939) and Bill 5195 approving the General Development Plan (GDP-10-23-8940) for Hoot Owl Meadows to the April 1, 2024, City Council meeting. Motion seconded by Councilmember Ericson and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING – SHEPHERD ROAD VACATION (VAC-06-23-8812) MOTION TO CONTINUE

At the request of the Applicant, Mayor Ross declared the public hearing on a vacation of a 410-ft. portion of right-of-way located generally east of NW R D Mize Road and north of Sunny Pointe 3rd Plat (VAC-06-23-8812) continued indefinitely with no action taken on the matter.

PRESENTATION – GOOGLE FIBER EXPANSION

Rachel Merlo, Head of Government and Community Affairs of Google Fiber Missouri, LLC presented on expanding Google fiber service to Blue Springs and addressed questions from Council.

RESOLUTION 21-2024

Councilmember Ericson moved to adopt Resolution 21-2023 approving a Non-Exclusive License Agreement between the City and Google Fiber Missouri, LLC for the installation of network facilities in the City public right-of-way. The agreement provides a License Fee of 1% of gross revenues to the City for the use and occupancy of public right-of-way. Motion seconded by Councilmember Culpepper and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING – DOWNTOWN MASTER PLAN

Mayor Ross opened the Public Hearing to consider approval of the Downtown Master Plan at 6:19 p.m. The minutes of the public hearing were recorded by a certified court reporter. City Clerk Erin Ford entered one exhibit into the record.

STAFF REPORT

Assistant Director of Community Development Cara Elbert reviewed the details of the proposed Downtown Master Plan and addressed questions from the Council.

APPLICANT

Cory Scott, Senior Partner with RDG Planning & Design presented the City of Blue Springs Downtown Master Plan and addressed questions from Council.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Jon Burke with Downtown Alive! spoke in support of the Downtown Master Plan.

The Mayor hearing no further comments for or against, closed the public hearing at 6:37 p.m.

RESOLUTION 22-2024

Councilmember Culpepper moved to adopt Resolution 22-2023 approving the Downtown Master Plan. Motion seconded by Councilmember Ericson and carried unanimously.

INTRODUCTION AND 1ST READING – BILL NO. 5197 – CONTRACT WITH JACKSON LEWIS FOR LEGAL SERVICES

Councilmember Culpepper introduced Bill No. 5197 approving a contract for legal services between the City of Blue Springs, Missouri, and Jackson Lewis, PC to provide representation of the City in labor relations advice and counsel. City Clerk Erin Ford made the first reading of Bill No. 5197 by title; copies of the proposed Bill having previously been made available to the public.

Councilmember Fowler moved to approve Bill No. 5197 upon its first reading and proceed with the second reading. Motion seconded by Councilmember Lievsay and carried unanimously.

2ND READING – BILL NO. 5197

Ms. Ford made the second reading of Bill No. 5197 by title. Councilmember Edmondson moved to adopt Bill No. 5197 upon its second reading and give it **ORDINANCE NO. 5313,** with a copy attached hereto and made a part of the minutes. Motion seconded by Councilmember Lievsay and carried with the following vote:

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

INTRODUCTION AND 1ST READING – BILL NO. 5198 – CONTRACT WITH KANSAS CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY FOR TRANSIT SERVICE

Councilmember Culpepper introduced Bill No. 5198 approving a one-year Contract for Transit Service with Kansas City Area Transportation Authority in the amount of $118,854 to provide commuter bus services from Blue Springs to the downtown Kansas City area. City Clerk Erin Ford made the first reading of Bill No. 5198 by title; copies of the proposed Bill having previously been made available to the public.

Councilmember Fowler moved to approve Bill No. 5198 upon its first reading and proceed with the second reading. Motion seconded by Councilmember Ericson and carried unanimously.

2ND READING – BILL NO. 5198

Ms. Ford made the second reading of Bill No. 5198 by title. Councilmember Edmondson moved to adopt Bill No. 5198 upon its second reading and give it **ORDINANCE NO. 5314,** with a copy attached hereto and made a part of the minutes. Motion seconded by Councilmember Ericson and carried with the following vote:

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

PRESENTATION – FISCAL YEAR 2023 AUDIT

Kristen Hughes, Senior Director of RSM US LLP will present the City's financial year 2023 audit report.

VISITORS

Resident Ron Bond spoke in support of Google fiber expansion. Resident Ken Horrell spoke in opposition to allowing backyard chickens in Blue Springs.

MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thoughts to Ponder:

> "I do not want someone who stands next to me because they are lonely. I want someone who stands next to me because they cannot imagine standing next to anyone else."
>
> (M. Burr)

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:07 p.m., Councilmember Fowler moved for the Council go into closed session pursuant to Section 610.021(3) Revised Statutes of Missouri, for the purpose of privileged communications between a governmental body or its representative and legal counsel relating to Personnel, and that any minutes, documents and other records discussed or taken during the closed session remain closed, and that the special meeting of this body stand adjourned at the completion of such session. Motion seconded by Councilmember Lievsay and carried with the following votes:

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

CITY OF BLUE SPRINGS

ATTEST

Erin M. Ford
Erin Ford, City Clerk

Carson Ross, Mayor