

**City of St. Clair
#1 Paul Parks Drive
St. Clair, MO 63077
City Council Meeting
January 4, 2010**

Mayor Blum called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

City Clerk, Chris Fawe called the roll. Present were Mayor Blum, Administrator Arndt, Alderman Tate, Alderman Marrocco, Alderman Pierce and Alderman Counts.

Attorney Voss was absent.

Mayor Blum led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda:

Mayor Blum asked for approval of the monthly bills from December 18, thru December 31, 2009, the Board of Alderman meeting minutes from December 21, 2009, and the Board of Alderman Executive Session Minutes from December 21, 2009.

Mayor Blum asked if everyone had a chance to review the bills.

Alderman Marrocco made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted and Alderman Counts provided the second.

Motion carried by voice vote.

Awards and Recognition: - none

Ordinances and Resolutions

1. Resolution 2010-01- A RESOLUTION WRITING OFF BAD DEBT FOR WATER, SEWER, AND TRASH COLLECTIONS.

Administrator Arndt stated the \$20.00, lower inactive account total is \$299.00, and the aging accounts 2004, and older the total is \$33,600.00. The total amount of debt to write off is about \$34,000.00.

Alderman Counts made the motion to approve Resolution 2010-1 and Alderman Pierce provided the second. Motion carried by voice vote.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: None

City Attorney: Kurt Voss – absent

Departmental Reports:

1. Administrator Jim Arndt

A) On December 31, 2009, Tim Hensley purchased a building permit for the new store in the Plaza. They are hoping to break ground in February and then be open before the holidays.

2. Public Works: Butch Terry- no report

3. Police Department: Chief Hammack- no report

4. Building Inspector: Joe Davis – no report

5. Planning and Zoning: Myrna Turner - absent

6. Parks: Kim Arndt – absent

Other Business:

Mayor and Board Members

1. Mayor Blum stated everyone knows that 2009 was challenging for everyone including the City of St. Clair, but also 2009 was a transforming year for the City of St. Clair. The City of St. Clair this year applied for and received over 5 million dollars in grant monies. That is awesome and outstanding and he does not believe any other administration has come close to obtaining that type of funding. Mayor Blum stated that is something that will continue, the City will be searching for grant money and any funding that is available. Mayor Blum stated this would be like a caterpillar building its cocoon and then turning into a butterfly, that 2012 will be the year that St. Clair comes out of its cocoon and really starts to blossom. Mayor Blum stated there is a lot going on, there is a lot that will be happening, and he is very excited about this. Mayor Blum stated many times the only things people hear in the community are the negative and there are some positive he would like to point out, one was very beneficial for St. Clair, being the cost in health insurance savings. Mayor Blum stated Administrator Arndt worked very hard on this and the City reduced the health insurance by 23%. Mayor Blum stated that also the trash contract was reduced by 8% for the first year. Mayor Blum stated there is a lot of work going on with this administration, along with the board and employees that is really starting to benefit this community.

2. Mayor Blum stated that it is time for the 2009 employee of the year award. Mayor Blum stated this is always difficult; there are so many deserving people. Mayor Blum stated looking at what has been accomplished in each department he is impressed and very happy. Mayor Blum stated Administrator Arndt works very hard and puts in many hours; he is a valuable asset to our community. **Mayor Blum stated he has a plaque for the employee of the year who has done an outstanding job for the City of St. Clair and that employee is Joe Davis. Mayor Blum stated Joe has done a great job transforming the building department into a very respectable department.**

3. Alderman Pierce asked if anyone has done anything in regards to 1007 Sara Jane. Alderman Pierce stated there are inches of ice in the front and back lawn. Alderman Pierce stated he tested this water and it is real close to what the City water is. Mayor Blum stated he has been told this is not a city water main leak. Alderman Pierce stated that confirms the test. Public works

director Butch Terry stated this has been an ongoing problem for many years and the City has brought in experts to look at the problem. Mr. Terry stated this is not a city main; the main has been dug up and the water is not coming from the main. Mr. Terry stated the water is coming under the road from a shelf rock. Mr. Terry stated it is a bad problem for the property owners, but the city did nothing to create this problem and it is not a city problem. Mr. Terry stated he did not want to do work on private property because after you have dug a yard up it would never be right again. Mr. Terry stated the City even bought a \$3500.00 leak detector to check this problem and there were no leaks found. Alderman Pierce stated he does not believe that it is a City main either and he has called Laclede Gas about looking at this problem. Alderman Tate asks how long it had been like that. Mr. Terry stated this has been happening for a very long time.

Public Participation: none

Motion for Executive Session:

Re-Opening of Open Meeting:

Adjournment: Mayor Blum called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. **Alderman Marrocco made the motion to adjourn and Alderman Pierce provided the second.**

Motion carried by voice vote.

Ron Blum, Mayor

Date Approved **1/18/2010**

Attest:

James Arndt, Administrator

Chris Fawe, City Clerk