CITY OF BLUE SPRINGS, MISSOURI
MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
January 7, 2025

A meeting of the City Council of the City of Blue Springs, Missouri, was held on Tuesday, January 7, 2025, 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Howard L. Brown Public Safety Building, 1100 SW Smith Street, Blue Springs, Missouri with Mayor Chris Lievsay presiding.

COUNCILMEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jerry Kaylor
Katie Tholen
Councilmember District 3 - VACANT
Galen Ericson
Kent Edmondson
Susan Culpepper

Also present were City Administrator Christine Cates, Attorney Lindsey Kolisch, and City Clerk Erin Ford.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mayor Lievsay led in the pledge of allegiance.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Mayor Lievsay called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The City Clerk confirmed a quorum of the Council was present.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Edmondson moved to approve the Consent Agenda and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Ericson.

- Minutes of the December 16, 2024 City Council Meeting.
- **Resolution No. 01-2025** approving the disposition of Information Technology 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.
- **Resolution No. 02-2025** approving the purchase of utility meters and meter parts in an amount up to $300,000 from Schulte Supply, Inc.
- **Resolution No. 03-2025** approving a contract in the amount of $615,021.00 with CAMM Construction, Inc., for the demolition and renovation of the Pink Hill Parks Maintenance office and breakroom. This project is approved as CIP PR-81 for the Pink Hill Park Maintenance Building Improvements.
- **Liquor License for HR Mart LLC dba HR Mart** located at 1501 NW Woods Chapel Rd, Blue Springs, MO 64015 to sell intoxicating liquors in the original package for consumption off premises (weekdays only) and Sunday Sales.
- **Liquor License for Blue Mart LLC dba Blue Mart** located at 1900 SW Eastbound US 40 Hwy, Blue Springs, MO 64015 to sell intoxicating liquors in the original package for consumption off premises (weekdays only) and Sunday Sales.
- **Resolution No. 04-2025** approving Task Order #5 to Contract No. 2024-166 with SC Engineering, LLC dba Cochran for South Outer

Road watermain improvement design, bidding, subsurface exploration and construction management in the amount of $304,190. The project is approved as CIP WA-19 South Outer Road Watermain Replacement.

- A list of Mayoral appointments to the City's Boards and Commissions is as follows:
  Public Art Commission:
  New appointment: Christie Brady (term expiring 5/2026)
- **Resolution No. 05-2025** authorizing the City of Blue Springs, Missouri to offer General Obligation Bonds for sale to provide funding for street projects.
- **Resolution No. 06-2025** approving a contract in the amount of $283,783.00 with Berry, Dunn, McNeil & Parker LLC to conduct a Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan.

The Consent Agenda was approved with the following vote:

Kaylor – Aye	Edmondson – Aye
Tholen – Aye	Culpepper – Aye
Ericson– Aye	Mayor Lievsay – Aye

3h – DISTRICT 3 APPOINTMENT

Item 3h – Appointment of Nick Brummel to District 3

The appointment of Nick Brummel to the District 3 Council seat vacated by Councilmember Fowler was removed from the Consent Agenda at the request of Councilmember Culpepper for separate consideration.

Councilmember Culpepper moved to approve the appointment of Nick Brummel to the vacant District 3 Council seat. Motion seconded by Councilmember Ericson and carried unanimously.

INTRODUCTION AND 1ST READING – BILL NO. 5281 – CODE AMENDMENT REGARDING INVALID INSURANCE CARDS

Councilmember Kaylor introduced Bill No. 5281 amending Chapter 380 the Code of Ordinances, City of Blue Springs Missouri, by adding Section 380.145, Alteration, Production or Sale of an Invalid Insurance Card. City Clerk Erin Ford made the first reading of Bill No. 5281 by title; copies of the proposed Bill having previously been made available to the public.

Councilmember Culpepper moved to approve Bill No. 5281 upon its first reading and proceed with the second reading. Motion seconded by Councilmember Tholen and carried unanimously.

2ND READING – BILL NO. 5281

Ms. Ford made the second reading of Bill No. 5281 by title. Councilmember Edmondson moved to adopt Bill No. 5281 upon its second reading and give it **ORDINANCE NO. 5386,** with a copy attached hereto and made a part of the minutes. Motion seconded by Councilmember Culpepper and carried with the following vote:

Tholen – Aye
Ericson – Aye
Edmondson – Aye
Culpepper – Aye
Kaylor – Aye
Mayor Lievsay – Aye

INTRODUCTION AND 1ST READING – BILL NO. 5282 – CODE AMENDMENT REGARDING POSSESSION OF A DEFACED FIREARM

Councilmember Kaylor introduced Bill No. 5282 amending Chapter 220 Article XI Offenses Concerning Weapons and Firearms of the Code of Ordinances, City of Blue Springs Missouri, adding Section 220.861, Possession of a Defaced Firearm. City Clerk Erin Ford made the first reading of Bill No. 5282 by title; copies of the proposed Bill having previously been made available to the public.

Councilmember Culpepper moved to approve Bill No. 5282 upon its first reading and proceed with the second reading. Motion seconded by Councilmember Tholen and carried unanimously.

2ND READING – BILL NO. 5282

Ms. Ford made the second reading of Bill No. 5282 by title. Councilmember Edmondson moved to adopt Bill No. 5282 upon its second reading and give it **ORDINANCE NO. 5387,** 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
Kaylor – Aye
Tholen – Aye
Mayor Lievsay – Aye

INTRODUCTION AND 1ST READING – BILL NO. 5283 – CODE AMENDMENT REGARDING SEATBELTS AS PRIMARY OFFENSE

Councilmember Kaylor introduced Bill No. 5283 amending Section 385.050 Seat Belts, of the Code of Ordinances City of Blue Springs, Missouri to allow this offense to be a primary basis for a stop or detention. City Clerk Erin Ford made the first reading of Bill No. 5283 by title; copies of the proposed Bill having previously been made available to the public.

Councilmember Culpepper moved to approve Bill No. 5283 upon its first reading and proceed with the second reading. Motion seconded by Councilmember Tholen and carried unanimously.

2ND READING – BILL NO. 5283

Ms. Ford made the second reading of Bill No. 5283 by title. Councilmember Edmondson moved to adopt Bill No. 5283 upon its second reading and give it **ORDINANCE NO. 5388,** 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
Kaylor – Aye
Tholen – Aye
Mayor Lievsay – Aye

INTRODUCTION AND 1ST READING – BILL NO. 5284 – 2024 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT SIDEWALK PROGRAM EASEMENTS

Councilmember Kaylor introduced Bill No. 5284 accepting temporary construction easements and a permanent sidewalk easement from the abutting property owners for the 2024 Community Development Block Grant Sidewalk Program, Project 24-09-01. City Clerk Erin Ford made the first reading of Bill No. 5284 by title; copies of the proposed Bill having previously been made available to the public.

Councilmember Culpepper moved to approve Bill No. 5284 upon its first reading and proceed with the second reading. Motion seconded by Councilmember Tholen and carried unanimously.

2ND READING – BILL NO. 5284

Ms. Ford made the second reading of Bill No. 5284 by title. Councilmember Edmondson moved to adopt Bill No. 5284 upon its second reading and give it **ORDINANCE NO. 5389** with a copy attached hereto and made a part of the minutes. Motion seconded by Councilmember Ericson and carried with the following vote:

Edmondson – Aye
Culpepper – Aye
Kaylor – Aye
Tholen – Aye
Ericson – Aye
Mayor Lievsay – Aye

INTRODUCTION AND 1ST READING – BILL NO. 5285 – LEGAL COUNSEL FOR CONDEMNATION AND EASEMENT NEGOTIATIONS

Councilmember Kaylor introduced Bill No. 5285 authorizing legal counsel to institute condemnation proceedings if property interests cannot be acquired by purchase through good faith negotiations and authorizing the City to acquire a permanent sanitary sewer easement and a temporary construction easement for property located at 9304 S. M-7 Highway. City Clerk Erin Ford made the first reading of Bill No. 5285 by title; copies of the proposed Bill having previously been made available to the public.

Councilmember Culpepper moved to approve Bill No. 5285 upon its first reading and proceed with the second reading. Motion seconded by Councilmember Tholen and carried unanimously.

2ND READING – BILL NO. 5285

Ms. Ford made the second reading of Bill No. 5285 by title. Councilmember Edmondson moved to adopt Bill No. 5285 upon its second reading and give it **ORDINANCE NO. 5390** with a copy attached hereto and made a part of the minutes. Motion seconded by Councilmember Ericson and carried with the following vote:

Culpepper – Aye
Kaylor – Aye
Tholen – Aye
Ericson – Aye
Edmondson – Aye
Mayor Lievsay – Aye

PRESENTATION – 2024 CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

Ken Horrell and Kelli Montgomery, Chair and Vice Chair, respectively of the 2024 Charter Review Commission, presented the Commission's findings, recommendations for amendment, as well as items for future City Council consideration.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Council discussed proposed Charter amendments which were presented and referenced in the following format:

1. Article III - City Council and IV - Mayor:
   a. Require residency during the term of an elected official
   b. Initiate term limits to four terms
   c. Extend the timeline for Mayor to fill vacancy on Council
   d. Mayor added to roll call voting rotation
   e. Second reading of Ordinances at separate meeting
   f. Public comment on proposed Ordinances
2. Article VI - Administrative Organization, Personnel System and Comprehensive Development Plan
   a. Add ability to have a Health Department
   b. Change Comprehensive Plan title and timeline for updates
3. Article IX – Initiative, Referendum and Recall
   a. Clarify qualifications for Petitioners' Committee and outline process to add additional circulators
   b. Remove outdated references and allow for pickup of documents and change Petition template to add line for printed name
   c. Extend timeline to submit signatures after initial filing
4. General/Clarifying amendments:
   a. 3.18 - Independent Audit
   b. 5.4.E - Budget and Capital Improvement Program
   c. 7.5 and 7.6 - Council Action on Budget and Capital Improvement Program
   d. 7.6 - Public Record
   e. 7.9 - Tax Rates and Tax Rolls

MOTION TO DIRECT STAFF

Councilmember Tholen moved to direct staff and City Attorney to add

2. Article VI - Administrative Organization, Personnel System and Comprehensive Development Plan
   a. Add ability to have a Health Department
   b. Change Comprehensive Plan title and timeline for updates

to draft ballot language for the April 8, 2025 municipal election. Motion seconded by Councilmember Culpepper and carried unanimously.

MOTION TO DIRECT STAFF

Councilmember Tholen moved to direct staff and City Attorney to add

3. Article IX – Initiative, Referendum and Recall
   a. Clarify qualifications for Petitioners' Committee and outline process to add additional circulators
   b. Remove outdated references and allow for pickup of documents and change Petition template to add line for printed name
   c. Extend timeline to submit signatures after initial filing

to draft ballot language for the April 8, 2025 municipal election. Motion seconded by Councilmember Edmondson and carried unanimously.

MOTION TO DIRECT STAFF

Councilmember Edmondson moved to direct staff and City Attorney to add

1. Article III - City Council and IV - Mayor:
   a. Require residency during the term of an elected official
   f. Public comment on proposed Ordinances

to draft ballot language for the April 8, 2025 municipal election. Motion seconded by Councilmember Tholen and carried with the following vote:

Kaylor – Aye	Edmondson – Aye
Tholen – Aye	Culpepper – No
Ericson– Aye	Mayor Lievsay – No

MOTION TO RECONSIDER

Councilmember Ericson moved to reconsider the previous vote on Items 1a and 1f. Motion seconded by Councilmember Kayor and carried with Councilmember Edmonson voting no.

Council reconsidered directing staff and City Attorney to add

1. Article III - City Council and IV - Mayor:
   a. Require residency during the term of an elected official
   f. Public comment on proposed Ordinances

to draft ballot language for the April 8, 2025 municipal election and **failed** with the following vote:

Tholen – No	Culpepper – No
Ericson– No	Kaylor – No
Edmondson – No	Mayor Lievsay – No

MOTION TO DIRECT STAFF

Councilmember Edmondson moved to direct staff and City Attorney to add

1. Article III - City Council and IV - Mayor:
   a. Require residency during the term of an elected official

to draft ballot language for the April 8, 2025 municipal election. Motion seconded by Councilmember Tholen and carried unanimously.

MOTION TO DIRECT STAFF

Councilmember Tholen moved to direct staff and City Attorney to add

4. General/Clarifying amendments:
   a. 3.18 - Independent Audit
   b. 5.4.E - Budget and Capital Improvement Program
   c. 7.5 and 7.6 - Council Action on Budget and Capital Improvement Program
   d. 7.6 - Public Record
   e. 7.9 - Tax Rates and Tax Rolls

to draft ballot language for the April 8, 2025 municipal election. Motion seconded by Councilmember Edmondson and carried unanimously.

MOTION TO DIRECT STAFF

Councilmember Ericson moved to direct staff and the City Attorney to change the term limit to twelve years for both Mayor and City Council. Motion seconded by Councilmember Kaylor and **failed** with the following vote:

Ericson – No	Kaylor – Aye
Edmondson – No	Tholen – No
Culpepper – No	Mayor Lievsay – No

MOTION TO DIRECT STAFF

Councilmember Edmondson moved to direct staff and City Attorney to add

1. Article III - City Council and IV - Mayor:
   c. Extend the timeline for Mayor to fill vacancy on Council

draft ballot language for the April 8, 2025 municipal election. Motion seconded by Councilmember Tholen and carried unanimously.

MOTION TO DIRECT STAFF

Councilmember Ericson moved to direct staff and City Attorney to add

1. Article III - City Council and IV - Mayor:
   d. Mayor added to roll call voting rotation

to draft ballot language for the April 8, 2025 municipal election. Motion seconded by Councilmember Kaylor and **failed** with the following vote:

Edmondson – No	Tholen – No
Culpepper – No	Ericson – Aye
Kaylor – Aye	Mayor Lievsay – No

MOTION TO DIRECT STAFF

Councilmember Ericson moved to direct staff and City Attorney to add

1. Article III - City Council and IV - Mayor:
   e. Second reading of Ordinances at separate meeting

to draft ballot language for the April 8, 2025 municipal election. Motion **failed** due to lack of second.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmembers Culpepper and Kaylor complimented staff for their work in clearing snow from the recent blizzard.

Councilmember Edmondson thanked the Police Department staff for their work during the inclement weather and Administration for keeping staff safe by closing on January 6.

MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Blue Springs has received the most snow in a single day in 60 years and has a snow removal plan in place.

Ron Fowler was unable to attend the Council meeting due to the postponement and his service as a newly elected State Representative.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:18 p.m., there was no further business to come before the Council, Councilmember Kaylor moved the meeting be adjourned. Motion seconded by Councilmember Ericson and carried unanimously.

ATTEST

Erin Ford, City Clerk

CITY OF BLUE SPRINGS

Chris Lievsay, Mayor