

CITY OF WEBSTER GROVES
June 20, 2023

The City Council met this date in a regular session, in-person in the Council Chambers, and via Zoom, at 7:36 p.m.

Present at Roll Call: Mayor Laura Arnold
Councilmember Pam Bliss
Councilmember David Franklin
Councilmember Emerson Smith
Councilmember Karen D. Alexander
Councilmember Emily Hixson Shepherd

Absent at Roll Call: Councilmember Sarah Richardson

A quorum was present.

Also present: Dr. Marie Peoples, City Manager
Neil Bruntrager, City Attorney
Katie Nakazono, City Clerk

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

The Mayor and Council honored Judge James Whitney for his years of service, and took a brief recess for his reception.

ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE TO NEW MUNICIPAL JUDGE

Judge James Whitney administered the oath to new Municipal Judge James Leritz.

PRESENTATION

Library Director Madison Morris presented the Annual Library Budget Report – Fiscal Year 2024. (See Exhibit A)

REMARKS FROM THE COMMUNITY AND VISITORS

Dave Buck, 124 S. Elm Ave. (See Exhibit B)

Janet Noble, 333 N. Gore Ave., addressed concerns regarding the allowance of people to work out of their homes because a neighbor had been painting nearby and the fumes were interfering with her ability to work outside. She wanted to know the parameters of the ordinance or law that allows for this work.

NEW BUSINESS – MAYOR, COUNCILMEMBERS, CITY ATTORNEY, CITY MANAGER

No new business.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

BILL #9227- THIRD READING

On motion of Councilmember Hixson Shepherd, seconded by Councilmember Franklin, **BILL #9227 ENTITLED: AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO WG RESTAURANT INVESTORS, LLC TO ALLOW A RESTAURANT, NO DRIVE-THRU USE ON AN APPROXIMATELY 0.42-ACRE TRACT OF LAND IN AN EXISTING STRUCTURE AT 101 W. LOCKWOOD AVENUE IN THE “D” COMMERCIAL DISTRICT AND MATTERS RELATED THERETO, AND REPEALING ORDINANCE #9206**, having been introduced and read twice on June 6, 2023, was taken up its title read a third time and placed upon its passage to become Ordinance #9227.

Mayor Arnold called for the vote on Bill #9227.

MEMBERS VOTING:

AYES: BLISS, FRANKLIN, SMITH, ALEXANDER, HIXSON SHEPHERD, ARNOLD

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: RICHARDSON

Mayor Arnold stated that Bill #9227 was approved.

BILL #9228 – THIRD READING

On motion of Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Bliss, **BILL #9228 ENTITLED: AN ORDINANCE DEFINING THE PAY GRADES OF THE CLASSIFIED AND UNCLASSIFIED SERVICE OF THE CITY OF WEBSTER GROVES FIXING THE COMPENSATION FOR EMPLOYEES IN SAID CLASSIFICATIONS, AND REPEALING ORDINANCE #9220**, having been introduced and read twice on June 6, 2023, was taken up its title read a third time and placed upon its passage to become Ordinance #9228.

Mayor Arnold called for the vote on Bill #9228.

MEMBERS VOTING:

AYES: FRANKLIN, SMITH, ALEXANDER, HIXSON SHEPHERD, ARNOLD, BLISS

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: RICHARDSON

Mayor Arnold stated that Bill #9228 was approved.

NEW BUSINESS

BILL #9229 – FIRST AND SECOND READING

Councilmember Franklin introduced **BILL #9229 ENTITLED: AN ORDINANCE PERMITTING THE SUBDIVISION OF CERTAIN PROPERTY AT 818 HOLLAND AVENUE, AND 826 HOLLAND AVENUE**, and at the Councilmember’s request, the Bill was read twice, first and second times by title only, and placed on the agenda for future consideration of the Council. *[Councilmember Alexander stated that she would be recusing herself from any discussion/voting on Bill #9229 because it involves her property.]*

BILL #9230 – FIRST AND SECOND READING

Councilmember Bliss introduced **BILL #9230 ENTITLED: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 60, THE TRAFFIC CODE, BY REPEALING ARTICLE IV, SECTION 60.160, SPEED REGULATION GENERALLY, AND AMENDING ARTICLE XVI SECTION 60.940, SCHEDULE A “MAXIMUM SPEED FOR DESIGNATED STREETS,”** and at the

June 20, 2023

Councilmember's request, the Bill was read twice, first and second times by title only, and placed on the agenda for future consideration of the Council.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS TO FISCAL YEAR 2024 PROPOSED BUDGET

No additional amendments.

Prior to adopting Resolution #2023-23 (FY-2024 Budget), Mayor Arnold read a statement submitted by Councilmember Richardson:

“Fellow Councilmembers, Mayor Arnold, Dr. Peoples, city staff, and community members, I am sorry I am unable to be in our meeting this evening but wished to make my opinion on the proposed city budget for 2024 known. I am enthusiastically voting in favor of this budget. I have appreciated the time, energy, and care poured into this budget by Dr. Peoples, Mr. Peterson, and all department directors. I also appreciate the time given to answering the many questions asked by this council, as well as the thoughtful suggestions of my colleagues. I am eager to see the fruits of this labor in the form of new initiatives and technological and structural improvements. Thank you to everyone for their hard work!”

RESOLUTION #2023-23

Councilmember Smith made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Hixson Shepherd, to approve **RESOLUTION #2023-23 ENTITLED: ADOPTION OF THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024.**

Mayor Arnold called for the vote on Resolution #2023-23.

MEMBERS VOTING:

AYES: SMITH, ALEXANDER, HIXSON-SHEPHERD, ARNOLD, BLISS, FRANKLIN

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: RICHARDSON

Mayor Arnold stated that Resolution #2023-23 was approved.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilmember Hixson Shepherd, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to approve the Consent Agenda.

Prior to the vote on the Consent Agenda, Council had a discussion regarding the window purchase for City Hall related to Resolution #2023-25.

Mayor Arnold called for the vote on the Consent Agenda.

MEMBERS VOTING:

AYES: ALEXANDER, HIXSON SHEPHERD, ARNOLD, BLISS, FRANKLIN, SMITH

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: RICHARDSON

Mayor Arnold stated that the Consent Agenda was approved.

The following Consent Agenda was approved:

- **Approval of Minutes** – June 6, 2023
- **Liquor License Renewals** – Renewal of the 2023-2024 Liquor Licenses
- **Resolution #2023-24** – Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Contract for the 2023 Chip Seal Program, and Amending the FY-2023 Budget

June 20, 2023

- **Resolution #2023-25** – Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Contract for Replacement Windows at City Hall
- **Resolution #2023-26** – Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Contract to Purchase New Playground Equipment for Memorial Park
- **Resolution #2023-27** – Authorizing the City Manager to Purchase New Cardio Equipment for the Recreation Complex
- **Resolution #2023-28** – Authorizing the City Manager to Execute the Renewal Subscription for Microsoft Office365
- **Resolution #2023-29** – Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Purchase Agreement for Laptop Computers and Associated Equipment

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

No appointments.

EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION

Councilmember Bliss made a motion, which was seconded by Mayor Arnold, to go into Executive Closed Session per Attorney-Client Privileged Communications [MO Statute 610.021 (1)].

Mayor Arnold called for the vote.

MEMBERS VOTING:

AYES: HIXSON SHEPHERD, ARNOLD, BLISS, FRANKLIN, SMITH, ALEXANDER

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: RICHARDSON

Mayor Arnold stated that they would go into Executive (Closed) Session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 P.M. on motion of the Mayor, duly seconded.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 5th day of July 2023.



City Clerk



Mayor

**WEBSTER GROVES PUBLIC LIBRARY
2023-2024 OPERATING BUDGET
EXPENDITURES**

BUDGET ITEM	2023-2024 PROPOSED	2022-2023 BUDGETED	2022-2023 EST. FINAL EXP.
PAYROLL - SALARIED	491,111.73	483,312.95	517,647.03
PAYROLL - HOURLY	127,200.00	120,000.00	103,067.79
TOTAL PAYROLL	618,311.73	603,312.95	620,714.82
FICA/MEDICARE	47,300.85	46,536.00	47,754.90
HEALTH INSURANCE	88,200.00	84,000.00	88,284.30
PENSION	28,840.00	28,000.00	27,730.97
GRP LIFE/DISABILITY INS	2,575.00	2,500.00	3,124.81
UNEMPLOYMENT INS.		-	-
WORKER'S COMPENSATION	3,000.00	3,000.00	2,124.00
TOTAL HUMAN RESOURCES	788,227.58	767,348.95	787,609.80
BOOKS - ADULT	58,500.00	85,000.00	94,598.32
BOOKS- JUVENILE & YA	17,600.00	16,000.00	12,099.53
REFERENCE MATERIALS	12,000.00	12,000.00	11,216.35
SERIALS	9,600.00	12,000.00	6,174.54
AUDIO - ADULT	4,000.00	28,000.00	36,891.63
AUDIO - JUVENILE & YA	1,000.00	1,000.00	496.01
VIDEO - ADULT	6,000.00	6,000.00	5,433.41
VIDEO - JUVENILE & YA	1,000.00	1,000.00	819.10
VIDEO GAMES	1,000.00		
E-BOOKS/E-AUDIO	65,400.00		
BINDERY	100	100.00	-
TOTAL MATERIALS	176,200.00	161,100.00	167,728.89
INTERLIBRARY LOAN	7,705.00	6,700.00	7,191.26
PHOTOCOPIER	5,000.00	5,000.00	4,893.85
TOTAL SPECIAL SERVICES	12,705.00	11,700.00	12,085.11

CONTINUED
WEBSTER GROVES PUBLIC LIBRARY
2023-2024 BUDGET
EXPENDITURES - PAGE 2

BUDGET ITEM	2023-2024 PROPOSED	2022-2023 BUDGETED	2022-2023 EST. FINAL EXP.
GAS	5,175.00	4,500.00	4,750.00
ELECTRICITY	25,750.00	25,000.00	24,897.93
WATER	4,326.00	4,200.00	4,136.97
SEWER	3,193.00	3,100.00	1,992.96
TELEPHONE	9,476.00	9,200.00	8,567.94
TOTAL UTILITIES	47,920.00	46,000.00	44,345.80
BUILDING SUPPLIES	2,575.00	2,500.00	2,479.16
CLERICAL SUPPLIES	14,500.00	14,500.00	10,444.33
POSTAGE	6,600.00	4,400.00	7,212.79
BUILDING & GROUNDS	66,000.00	55,000.00	62,395.72
TOTAL OPERATIONS	89,675.00	76,400.00	82,532.00
AUTOMATION	57,200.00	52,000.00	46,452.29
SECURITY	1,470.00	1,400.00	1,126.80
EQUIPMENT	15,000.00	2,000.00	2,231.97
TOTAL TECHNOLOGY	73,670.00	55,400.00	49,811.06
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	32,500.00	48,000.00	55,177.54
INSURANCE	18,900.00	18,000.00	17,997.22
CONFERENCE/MEETINGS	1,000.00	1,000.00	716.00
DUES	1,000.00	1,000.00	857.29
CONTINGENCIES	2,500.00	-	-
SPECIAL EVENTS-ADULT	3,500.00	2,000.00	2,350.00
SPECIAL EVENTS-JUVENILE/YA	12,000.00	12,000.00	7,757.75
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	71,400.00	82,000.00	84,855.80
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 1,259,797.58	1,199,948.95	1,228,968.46

**WEBSTER GROVES PUBLIC LIBRARY
2022-2023 BUDGET
REVENUES**

INCOME SOURCE	2023-2024 PROPOSED	2022-2023 BUDGETED	2022-2023 EST. FINAL EXP.
OPERATIONS			
TAXES	1,665,849.00	1,101,506.00	1,681,943.68
COUNTER RECEIPTS	7,978.00	20,000.00	14,575.57
STATE AID (Includes A & E Grant)	24,289.00	23,000.00	32,744.34
COPIES	3,719.00	4,000.00	4,495.75
PASSPORTS	32,680.00	30,000.00	41,363.75
BOND ISSUE/DEBT SERVICE			
TAXES (PP & RE)	-450,000.00	<u>450,000.00</u>	450,000.00
STATE AID	-24,289.00		
TOTAL FOR OPERATIONS	1,260,226.00	1,178,506.00	1,228,968.46
TOTAL REVENUES	1,734,515.00	1,628,506.00	1,775,123.09

Nakazono, Katie

From: Dave Buck <dave@buckstl.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2023 8:22 AM
To: Laura W. Arnold; Pam Bliss; Alexander, Karen; Richardson, Sarah; Emily Hixson Shepherd; David Franklin; Emerson Smith; Peoples, Marie; Peterson, Eric; njbatty@aol.com; Nakazono, Katie; Starkey, Jenny; Davis, Scott; Rehg, Todd; Curtis, Dale; Perks, Greg; Ellis, Brett; Bainter, Gary
Cc: 'stroble'; Julian Schuster; Vincent C. Flewellen, Chief Diversity Officer; Jo Doll; John Simpson; Shane Williamson; Farrell Carfield; Kathleen Hurley; Elyssa Sullivan; Wynn Miller; Glenn Detrick; Jaime Mowers; Kevin Murphy; Randy Drilingas; Melissa Wilkinson; websterjournal@gmail.com; Arnold Stricker; John Gabriel; siebe.kara@wgmail.org; banjo bergfeld; Bishop-Elect Deon K. Johnson ; Valori Sherer; The Rev. Sujanna Raj; Churches Together for Justice - Google Group
Subject: Dave Buck "Remarks from the Community & Visitors" at the WG City Council Regular Meeting, June 20, 202

Caution: This is an External Message - Please be cautious when opening links or attachments

(The complete meeting video of this meeting is now up on YouTube as the official, public record of this meeting. My remarks were made off-the-cuff as I did not read a prepared written statement, so please forgive me if my email below does not match perfectly with what I said last night. Plus, given overnight incubation, I have also added a few new embellishments to help make my points).

In summary, my main points were regarding the City's DEI efforts, beginning with two personal stories:

1. I grew up in Kansas, a historically red state. My parents were both die-hard Republicans and life-long Episcopalians, or Christians. In 1975, I was a senior in college and my sister, Katie, who is 5 years younger than me, was a junior in high school in Wichita, KS, when she came out as a gay lesbian woman. Katie was called abnormal, unnatural, sick, a degenerate, and a sin against God. But Katie stood her ground and was a Profile in Courage. Needless to say, she changed my world view and changed me for the better forever.
2. My wife, Barb, who Marie knows and who Laura knows as a dear friend really well for the last 20 years, is for me the best example of some one who lives a DEI life without wearing it on her sleeve. I do not know anyone who embraces honesty, kindness, acceptance, respect, empathy and inclusion

more than Barb. Barb does not have goals perse. She has these core VALUES and she lives these values every single day in her work, family and daily life. I could share many stories that will blow you away about how she has been true to and lived these values. In short, every day, Barb uses her considerable powers for the forces of good and, in doing so, she has made a huge, lasting difference in people's lives and created enduring friendships in the process.

3. To me, this is all I need to see in an overall DEI statement from the City, ie., a list of those core values that the City promises to live by and lead from every day, in every situation. Versus the traditional concept of "Management by Objectives", it's called "Leadership by Values."
4. Back when my sister came out in 1975, homosexuality was the moral issue of the day. Today, transgender is the moral issue of today, as evidenced by the rash of anti-transgender bills in Jefferson City and in many states across the country. I am privileged and fortunate to have as my friend a transgender male who grew up in Webster Groves and, just like my sister, Katie, came out as a transgender male in high school. Sonja is now Banjo, and he is a nicest, sweetest and kindest kid you would ever want to meet. He just completed his sophomore year at Loyola University in New Orleans and he is a gifted music prodigy. Just like my sister, Katie, Banjo is a Profile in Courage.

His gender identity just doesn't matter. What matters is that he is a fellow human being and should be treated with the same respect, honesty, kindness, acceptance, empathy and inclusion, and nothing less.

5. Laura, earlier you asked the Council what more could or should you be doing in the DEI area. Well, here is my response: that the City Council take and make a united stand and come out with a new and focused declaration in support of our transgender community and, likewise, take and make a united stand against all anti-transgender bills in Jeff City and beyond. In short, for Council to be a Profile in Courage themselves and take a stand of courageous leadership in the name of humanity for all.

Thank YOU!

PEACE.