

**CITY OF SHREWSBURY
WORK SESSION OF THE
BOARD OF ALDERMEN**

February 23, 2021

An Open Meeting of the Board of Aldermen of the City of Shrewsbury, Missouri was held at 6:00 p.m. on February 23, 2021 in the Aldermanic Chambers of City Hall and via Zoom teleconference for the transaction of such business that came before the Board.

Present:	Mayor	Sam Scherer
	Alderman	Mike Travaglini
	Alderman	Greg Lauter
	Alderman	Keith Peters
	Alderman	John Odenwald
	Alderwoman	Elisa Reeves
	Alderman	Michael Schmelzle

Also Present:	Director of Administration	Jonathan Greever
	Fire Chief	Chris Amenn
	Chief of Police	Lisa Vargas
	Director of Parks & Recreation	Chris Buck
	Director of Public Works	Tony Wagner
	City Attorney	Michael Daming
	Asst. Dir. of Admin./City Clerk	Elliot Brown

Roll Call

Mayor Scherer called the meeting to order, and City Clerk Brown commenced with the roll call. A quorum was present for the transaction of City business.

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Scherer introduced the minutes from February 16, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen and opened the floor for discussion. There being no discussion, **Alderman Travaglini made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted; Alderman Odenwald seconded. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.**

Bill No. 3016 – City Administrator

Mayor Scherer asked the Board for a motion to table Bill 3016 updating Shrewsbury’s municipal code chapter 125 relating to the City Administrator position. **Alderman Travaglini made a motion to table Bill 3016; Alderman Odenwald seconded. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.**

Discussion Topic – City Insurance Plans

Mayor Scherer introduced the City’s current insurance broker, Mr. Michael Tabash of OneDigital Health and Benefits. Mr. Tabash presented to the Board a summary of the services his company provides and the possible ways that they can save the City money on insurance premiums in the future. Mayor Scherer thanked Mr. Tabash for the information and set a deadline of March 2nd to provide a more detailed proposal to City Staff so that the Board of Aldermen could decide whether to join the St. Louis Area Insurance Trust or to continue with OneDigital at their regular meeting scheduled March 9.

Alderman Reeves asked how long Mr. Tabash how long he had been the City's insurance broker. He responded that he and his father before him have been with the City for over 12 years. Alderman Peters stated that he would like to see a direct comparison of the insurance packages offered by SLAIT and OneDigital to inform his decision on the matter. Mayor Scherer added that he would like to see OneDigital provide some assurance that the insurance rate increases year-over-year would not be higher than 5% as SLAIT has done. Mr. Tabash responded that OneDigital does not require a multi-year contract as SLAIT does. Instead, his team works to take advantage of the volatility in the insurance industry to locate the best rate for the City each year.

Alderman Peters stated that he does not think that Bills 3016 and 3017 must necessarily be passed together. Rather, he believes Bill 3016 should be passed even if the Board does not approve Bill 3017 joining SLAIT. Alderman Reeves agreed with this statement.

Bill No. 3017 – SLAIT

Mayor Scherer asked the Board for a motion to table Bill 3017 joining the City of Shrewsbury to the St. Louis Area Insurance Trust. **Alderman Lauter made a motion to table Bill 3017; Alderman Odenwald seconded. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.**

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Hear Citizens

Andrea Berin (South Laclede Station Rd) stated that she had seen the letter sent by the Board regarding the vandalism of a home on Kenrick Manor Dr and believed it did not sufficiently address the concerns of the members of the community that it was a racially motivated attack. Mayor Scherer responded that he and members of the Board wanted to send out a preliminary statement but would supplement their comments at a later date after the police had finalized their investigation. Chief Vargas added some additional information about her department's investigation so far.

Bethany Keller (Murdoch Rd) stated that she was shocked, alarmed and upset by the news of the vandalism on Kenrick Manor Dr. and informed the Board that she had also had a yard sign removed in the past. She asked if this was something the Board and Police were aware of. Mayor Scherer indicated that the Board had not been made aware of this incident previously and encouraged all residents to inform the police department if this happens to them.

Katherine Sherman (Michael Ave.) stated that she was a 27-year resident of Shrewsbury and had also had a sign removed from her front lawn. She requested that any future letter from the Board include language identifying the motivation behind the vandalism on Kenrick Manor Dr.

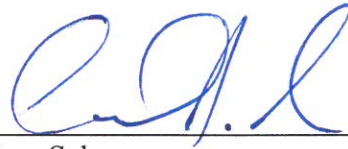
Steve Rataj (Wilshusen Ave.) stated that he appreciated the letter that the Mayor and members of the Board sent out. He would also like to see the Board take a stronger stance against racism in any future statements on the matter.

Mayor Scherer thanked all the residents who addressed the Board and expressed his desire to send out an additional statement after the police had completed their investigation.

Adjournment

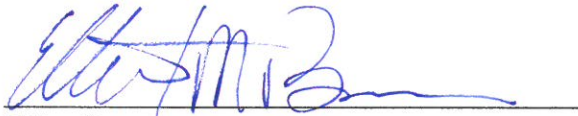
Alderman Travaglini made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Alderman Peters seconded. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 06:57p.m.



Sam Scherer
Mayor

ATTEST:



Elliot Brown
Assistant Director of Administration & City Clerk

