**August 7, 2015** *(approved)*

**Public Hearing:** The public hearing was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in council chambers at 100 W. Main St., Ash Grove, Missouri by Mayor Jan Lehmkuhl. This hearing was called to give the citizens of Ash Grove the opportunity to comment on the proposed tax levy of .5531 for 2015. Mayor Lehmkuhl stated the rate would remain the same as last year. No other comments were made. Mayor Lehmkuhl then closed the Public Hearing.

Mayor Jan Lehmkuhl called the Special Session of the Board of Aldermen to order at 7:02 p.m. on August 17, 2015 with the following Board Members present: Jerry Kane, Troy Watts, Sharon Anderson, and Diana Simpson. Others present were City Clerk Deborah Cox, Les Gardner, Barb Gardner, William Clark, Nikkie Compton and Mel Gilbert.

***FAÇADE CHAGES APPROVED:***Lester Gardner presented proposed changes to the façade of 115 E. Main Street and 119 E. Main Street. After discussion, motion was made by Jerry Kane and seconded by Diana Simpson to accept the purposed changes to these Historic buildings. Mr. Gardner also asked permission to close the alley behind 101 and 103 E. Main Street to set a dumpster to clean out 103 E. Main St. He would like to have it closed on a Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Mr. Gardner will contact the property owners and will have barricades placed prior to closing the alley. Motion made to allow for this closing by Sharon Anderson and seconded by Diana Simpson. Vote taken. Unanimously approved.

***LEASE RENEWAL FOR 111 E. MAIN ST:*** Mayor Lehmkuhl presented a real estate lease agreement between the City and Lester Gardner for property at 111 E. Main Street. Motion made by Troy Watts to extend the contract for another year with the same terms. Seconded by Sharon Anderson. Vote taken. Unanimously approved.

***2015 TAX LEVY ORDINANCE:*** Motion made by Troy Watts and seconded by Jerry Kane to place Bill 2015-19, setting the tax levy for 2015 on its first reading. Vote taken. Unanimously approved. City Clerk read the bill. Motion made by Jerry Kane and seconded by Tony Cline to accept the first reading. Vote taken. Unanimously approved. Motion made by Troy Watts and seconded by Jerry Kane to place Bill 2015-19 on its second reading. Vote taken. Unanimous. City Clerk read the ordinance. Motion made by Jerry Kane and seconded by Tony Cline to accept the final reading of Bill 2015-19 setting the tax levy for 2015 to $.5531. Vote taken. Cline, Kane, Wagner, and Watts, aye. Ordinance #1003 passed.

***MOU WITH CITY OF REPUBLIC:*** Motion was made by Jerry Kane to place Bill No 2015-20, authorizing the Mayor to enter into an Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement on behalf of the City of Ash Grove with the City of Republic to provide mutual aid for jail and court services. Seconded by Troy Watts. Vote taken. Unanimously approved. Bill No. 2015-20 was read by the City Clerk. Motion made by Troy Watts and seconded Jerry Kane to accept the first reading of Bill No. 2015-20. Vote taken. Unanimously approved. Motion made by Troy Watts and seconded by Diana Simpson to place Bill No. 2015-20 on its seconded reading. Vote taken. Unanimously approved. Read by City Clerk. Motion made by Troy Watts and seconded by Jerry Kane to accept the final reading. Vote taken. Watts, Kane, Anderson, and Simpson aye. Ordinance #1004 passed.

***LIQUOR LICENSE APPROVED:*** William Clark, owner of “New Store” had submitted an application to sell packaged liquor at 100 E. Boone. After reviewing application, motion was made by Sharon Anderson and seconded by Diana Simpson to approve the request for Mr. Clark to go forward with obtaining his license from the State. Vote taken. Unanimously approved.

***GROUNDS KEEPER POSITION:*** Mayor Lehmkuhl would like to recommend changing the seasonal public works position to a full time position and have it be a grounds keeper position for the City. This would include all mowing and maintenance of all of the equipment with a starting salary of $10.25 per hour. Motion made by Diana Simpson and seconded by Jerry Kane to offer this to William Dunfield and to waive the probation period. Vote taken. Unanimously approved.

Chief Phillips has been working to revise the job description and the hiring process to employ a new Police Officer. Mayor Lehmkuhl explained the trend for physicals has changed to only one physical to make sure they are qualified for the position. The Board agreed that Chief Phillips should go forward with the revisions.

The Board discussed the proposed changes to the Land Use section of the Municipal Code Book. These changes are:

* Agricultures Uses General definitions (changing from 3 acres to 10 acres)
* Livestock definitions
* Agriculture Uses Limited definitions
* Change to Historical District Residential Uses on Ground Floor (buildings that cannot accommodate both residential requirements and required 500 sq ft commercial requirements shall have no ground floor residential uses.)

Motion made by Troy Watts and seconded by Diana Simpson to table these issues for further study. This will be sent back to Planning & Zoning for another recommendation.

Attorney Mel Gilbert gave an update on the MML conference to be help in Ash Grove in October. He also stated the Newly Elected Official Manual, which he helped with) is now available.

No further business. Troy Watts made a motion to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. with Jerry Kane giving the second. Kane, Watts, Anderson and Simpson aye.

*Deborah A. Cox, City Clerk*

**August 3, 2015**

**Public Discussion:** Inz Fry with Community In Action, presented “Shop Local” program that will promote buying local. Bring your receipts to one of the check in locations and receive one drawing ticket for every $20 spent in Ash Grove or Walnut Grove between now and Christmas with drawings to be held monthly.

Mayor Jan Lehmkuhl called the regular Board meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. on July 6, 2015.

Board Members present: Jan Lehmkuhl, Mayor; Troy Watts, Jerry Kane, Sharon Anderson, and Diana Simpson, Aldermen. Also in attendance: City Clerk, Deborah Cox, Brian Phillips, Marc Schwenn, Brian Swearengin, Derek Lankford, Brenda Ellsworth, Steve Myers, Inz Fry and Ryan Squibb.

Sharon Anderson gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Motion made by Jerry Kane and seconded by Sharon Anderson to approve the consent agenda as presented which includes the minutes from the last meetings. Vote taken. Unanimously approved.

Ryan Squibb, representing the Historic Town Center, presented several requests pertaining to the Back Roads to Main Street Heritage Festival on October 17, 2015:

* Close Main Street from Webster to Gordon’s Feed parking lot at the west end of Main Street.
* Close parking lots between Police Station and City Hall.
* Use City Hall for presenting the Phenix documentary.
* Allow food vendors at the event.

Motion was made by Diana Simpson and seconded by Jerry Kane to grant all requests pertaining to the October 17, 2015 Festival on Main Street. Vote taken. Unanimously approved.

Brenda Ellsworth, Chair of Planning & Zoning, presented recommendations for changes to the Land Uses section of the Ash Grove Municipal Codes. Definition clarification and changes to the Historical District regulation were discussed. These proposals will be on the agenda for review at the August 17 meeting.

Approximately 25 fire hydrants were removed during the USDA water project. Motion was made by Troy Watts and seconded by Diana Simpson to check with the attorney on ways to sell or auction off to the public. Vote taken. Unanimously approved.

***ENGINEERING SERVICES:*** Engineering statement of qualifications from Horner & Shifrin Inc, Integrity Engineering Inc, and Olsson Associates were presented. Public Works submitted their recommendation. After discussion, motion was made by Troy Watts and seconded by Jerry Kane to use Olsson Associates as the City’s Engineering consultant.

Motion made by Troy Watts and seconded by Jerry Kane to pay the bills after they are reviewed and signed. Vote taken. Unanimous.

Mayor Lehmkuhl introduced Brian Phillips to the Board. He recently retired from the Springfield Police Department with 25 years of service. Mayor Lehmkuhl made the recommendation to appoint Mr. Phillips as Interim Chief of Police for the Ash Grove Police Department. Motion made by Jerry Kane and seconded by Troy Watts to approve this recommendation. Vote taken. Unanimously approved.

***EMPLOYMENT OF INTERIM CHIEF OF POLICE ORDINANCE:*** Motion was made by Troy Watts and seconded by Jerry Kane to place Bill No. 2015-18, setting the salary of an Interim Chief of Police, on its first reading. Vote taken. Kane, Watts, Anderson, and Simpson aye. Read by the City Clerk. Motion made by Troy Watts and seconded by Diana Simpson to approve the first reading of Bill No. 2015-18. Vote taken. Kane, Watts, Anderson, and Simpson aye. Motion made to place Bill No. 2015-18 on its final reading by Jerry Kane. Seconded by Troy Watts. Vote taken. Kane, Watts, Anderson, and Simpson aye. Read by the City Clerk. Motion made by Troy Watts and seconded by Jerry Kane to approve the final reading of Bill No. 2015-18. Vote taken. Kane, Watts, Anderson, and Simpson aye. Ordinance #1002 passed.

***“GOLD” NONCREDIT PROGRAM***: Mayor Lehmkuhl presented information on the Greater Ozarks Leadership Development program. The tuition for the GOLD program is $795 and classes will meet once a month from October through June, 2016. She asked if someone from the Board would like to attend this training they should email her with that request. She will also inform the City employees of this opportunity.

The need to update the electrical service within the City Park was discussed. We will be contacting an electrician to evaluate and make a recommendation.

Motion was made by Troy Watts to enter into an agreement with City of Republic to house municipal prisoners. The cost would be $75.00 per day when space and personnel are available. Seconded by Diana Simpson. Vote taken. Unanimously approved.

Mayor Lehmkuhl reminded the Board that the City would be hosting the Greene County Mayor’s Association on October 29, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. in City Hall. The City will then host the Missouri Municipal League (MML) training on that date to start at 6:00 at the Ash Grove United Methodist-Presbyterian Church. Mel Gilbert, City Attorney, is the organizer for this event and he is expecting approximately 125 people from the Southwest region.

Motion made by Troy Watts and seconded by Jerry Kane to go into closed session to discuss personnel issues at 7:58 p.m. Vote taken. Kane, Watts, Anderson and Simpson aye.

Motion made by Jerry Kane and seconded by Troy Watts to go back into regular meeting. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Mayor Jan Lehmkuhl called the meeting back to order at 8:14 p.m. with Jerry Kane, Diana Simpson, Sharon Anderson, and Troy Watts.

Mayor Lehmkuhl announced that no decisions were made in closed session that could be announced in open session.

Having no further business to discuss, Diana Simpson made a motion to adjourn at 8:16 p.m. with Sharon Anderson giving the second. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

*Deborah A. Cox, City Clerk*