



CITY OF GERALD

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 09, 2025 at 6:30 PM



CALL TO ORDER

The City Board of Aldermen convened on January 09, 2025, at 6:30 PM at the Gerald City Hall, 106 East Fitzgerald Avenue, Gerald, Missouri. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Angela Koepke.

Upon roll call, Board members present:

Mayor Angela Koepke
Ward I Alderman Rudy Via
Ward II Alderman Corey Novotney, Board President
Ward I Alderman Kyle Guerrant
Ward II Alderman Cary Parker

Also, present:

Jim Helton – Police Chief
Nick Grube – City Administrator
Davey DeFrenne-Public Works Director
Shelley Smythe – City Clerk
Phil Pilgram – City Inspector

Absent:

Terris Cates – City Engineer
Kevin Richardson – City Attorney

AGENDA APPROVAL

Alderman Parker motioned to accept the current agenda. Alderman Guerrant seconded the motion. All Aldermen voted “aye”. Motion carried.

MINUTES

The minutes for December 12, 2024, Regular & Executive were reviewed. Alderman Parker motioned to accept the minutes as is. Alderman Novotney seconded the motion. All Aldermen voted “aye”. Motion carried.

BILLS

The January bills were reviewed, Alderman Via motioned to accept the bills provided. Alderman Novotney seconded the motion. All Aldermen voted “aye”. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE/CLOSED MEETING

Alderman Parker motioned to enter closed session pursuant to Pursuant to 610.021 (01) RSMo Public Governmental body and any confidential or privileged communications between a public governmental body and its representatives and its attorneys & Pursuant to 610.021 (02) RSMo Leasing, purchase or sale of real estate by a public governmental body Alderman Guerrant seconded the motion. Roll call vote was done in the order of Alderman Guerrant “aye”, and Alderman Novotney “aye” and Alderman Parker “aye” Alderman Via “aye”. Motion carried.

Entered Executive/Closed session at 6:33 PM.
Returned to Regular/Open session at 6:52 PM.



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Alderman Parker made a motion to reenter regular open session. Alderman Guerrant seconded the motion. All members voted "aye". Motion carried.

The Board discussed the City Public Works maintaining the vegetation & ditches along Depot Drive of the GDA Property. Alderman Novotney made a motion to agree that the City of Gerald Public Works will maintain the vegetation & ditches along Depot Drive at the GDA Property. Alderman Via seconded the motion. All aldermen voted "aye". Alderman Parker abstained.

The Board discussed a typo in the contract and stated it needs to be corrected. Alderman Novotney made a motion to approve the contract with the typo correction. Alderman Guerrant seconded the motion. All aldermen voted "aye". Alderman Parker abstained.

SCHEDULED VISITOR

Otis Schulte with Gerald Development Association - Presented the Rock Island Visitors Center. The GDA is working on collecting funding. They believe it will be about \$250,000. They are hoping for a fall 2025 opening date. Stated he does have a list of contractors that are willing to donate time or materials. Asked for the building permit fees to be waived and asked for water and sewer utilities supplied by the city at no cost to the GDA. Also proposed to build a replica of the original band stand gazebo near the corner of Main Street and Highway 50.

Aldermen and Building Inspector agreed to waive the fees for the building permit. Aldermen and City Administrator agreed to waive water and sewer bills. Aldermen requested City Clerk and City Administrator to investigate the cost or possibility of ensuring the building since it is not on City property.

Kathy Foy discussed information about Highway 50 and the Rock Island Trail. Gave some history of the two and more information can be found at rockislandvisitorcenter.com

PUBLIC COMMENT

Brad Landwehr – Discussed snow removal. Stated the Public Works did a great job and recommended a software program for the plow trucks so that the citizens can check and see if their street was salted and/or plowed. Asked that the City would look into it.

PLANNING & ZONING

Linda Trest, Planning & Zoning Representative – ABSENT

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Phil Pilgram, City Inspector – The GDA will need a permit for construction, will waive the fee when the time comes.

Terris Cates, City Engineer – ABSENT

Nick Grube, City Administrator – Staked the right a way for the park and have the land issue. Is working on finding a solution and talking with neighboring landowners.

Davey DeFrenne, Public Works Director – No discussion or updates.



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Chief Helton – Discussed quotes for A & W Communications. Alderman Via made a motion for Chief Helton to Order Portable Radio Package in the amount of \$683.60 & Single Cell Lite Prisoner Transport System for Chief’s duty truck in the amount of \$2,021.42 with a total not to exceed \$3000.00. Alderman Guerrant seconded motion. All Aldermen voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Kevin Richardson, City Attorney – ABSENT

Shelley Smythe, City Clerk – No discussion or updates.

NEW BUSINESS

Setting up a Special Meeting/ Workshop – January 30, 2025, to discuss 2025 Goals and 2024 End of Year Financials

ALDERMAN REPORTS

Ward I Alderman Guerrant – Thanks to the City Workers for the snow plowing, and the GDA for the presentation.

Ward II Alderman Novotney- Thanks to the City Workers for the snow plowing, and the GDA for the presentation.

Ward II Alderman Parker – *Working* with the Franklin County Emergency to be ahead of the storm.

Ward I Alderman Via – Thanks to the City Workers for the snow plowing, and the GDA for the presentation. Also stated he got the Windssock up at the landing zone.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Angela Koepke – Talked about the zoom meeting with Franklin County, does like to see that Gerald is starting to be a part of the Franklin County.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

Special Meeting & Workshop Thursday, January 30, 2025, at 5:30 PM at Gerald City Hall
Regular Meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 6:30 PM at Gerald City Hall

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, Alderman Via made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting. Alderman Guerrant seconded the motion. All Aldermen voted “aye”. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

ATTEST:

Mayor, Angela Koepke

City Clerk, Shelley Smythe

Date