

# MINUTES

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
CITY OF BRANSON, MISSOURI  
November 10, 2020

## INTRODUCTORY

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Branson, Missouri, met in regular session in the Council Chambers of the City Hall on November 10, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Akers called the meeting to order with the "Pledge of Allegiance," the Preamble of the Missouri Constitution and Ted Martin gave the invocation.

## ROLL CALL

City Clerk Lisa Westfall called roll: Mayor Akers presiding, Julia King, Jamie Whiteis, Bob Simmons, Bill Skains, Larry Milton and Jeff Seay.

## AWARDS / RECOGNITIONS

### Employee of the Month

Alderman Whiteis presented Fawn Rowe of the Public Works & Engineering Department as the November Employee of the Month in recognition for displaying City of Branson Values.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Akers made a statement regarding decorum and asked that anyone wishing to speak this evening stay within the five minute guideline.

Doug Clark, 121 A Saint Andrews Street, Branson, Missouri, mentioned seeing the vaccination plans for California and Missouri which are pertinent, very involved and a lot of thought has gone in to them regarding how vaccinations are going to be done and who they'll be given to. He recalled asking the Board at the last meeting if any of the Aldermen had seen or examined the documents for Missouri and he stressed the importance of doing so because a new administration coming to power has a different concept of how it will treat COVID-19. He explained it's going to lock everyone down again which is already being done in different states and the World Health Organization (WHO) is involved in the same policy in England, New Zealand and Australia. He explained these countries have detention centers set up for people who don't cooperate; people can get arrested and it's becoming very draconian in those three areas specifically. Mr. Clark said there's a vaccine from Pfizer involved in this, which is a ribonucleic acid (RNA) type of vaccine that has to be kept at a 92 degrees below zero while stored. He pointed out the problem with this is it's a big logistical transfer that has to ensure everyone involved does their jobs. There have been instances with other vaccines that need to be kept at certain temperatures which have caused some real damage to kids and individuals, sometimes death. Mr. Clark explained it's a possibility with this vaccine since it's being rushed through. The process is being sped up and there are a lot of negative things that can happen; it hasn't been tested on animals and there's an attempt to get an emergency authorization use for it in order to bypass all of that and avoid liability of any damages caused to anyone it's used on. Mr. Clark commented

healthcare workers are going to be the first ones to experience this and the last time something like this was attempted was in 2001 and 2002 around the time of the attack on the World Trade Center Twin Towers. People were worried about biological warfare, anthrax and smallpox and were trying to prepare for smallpox. It was determined the only place with access to the smallpox virus was France where it had been frozen for 30 years and that's what was used. The people in the medical community listening to all the particulars had decided they didn't want to have any part of it which almost caused a mutiny in the healthcare system at the time. He remembered talking to people working for Cox and the other company in Springfield and many people had refused it, so it was withdrawn and was never required for the medical community to go through with it. Currently, of the people hearing about this vaccine, 60% of nurses are not willing to accept the RNA or messenger RNA (MRNA) vaccines for safety reasons and only 40% of doctors and 30% of the public is going to take it. He feels there's a quandary with the federal government letting the military distribute, manage inventory, control and trace everything pertaining to the vaccine and he cautioned everyone about this becoming an authoritarian situation in which people are forced to take the vaccine. He knows people who currently work in the local healthcare industry, employed as doctors and nurse practitioners, who say they're not going to take the vaccine. So what's going to happen is there's going to be a diminishing return on the number of people there are to take care of the COVID-19 situation itself which is just one aspect of what bothers him. Additionally, government has a track record of not being very invested in the liability of protecting people from vaccine damage which all started in 1986 with the liability exemption. He encouraged anyone interested to take the time to look this stuff up and not just take everything they hear from a government agency, health department, or anyone else on face value. He believes everyone needs to check things out for themselves to see who's telling the truth, because listening to the political climate people can hardly tell who's telling the truth. He expressed concerns over people trusting a medical community that doesn't have the same kind of oversight as politicians.

## CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Akers asked if there were any citizens who had any items they wished to have removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion. Hearing none, Mayor Akers asked if any member of the Board had any items they wished to have removed from the Consent Agenda. Alderman Milton requested Item Numbers 5 and 14 be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Agenda. Mayor Akers asked City Clerk Lisa Westfall to read the items on the Consent Agenda as amended. City Clerk Lisa Westfall read the following Consent Agenda items by title.

Approval of Board of Aldermen Minutes:

- a) October 22, 2020 Study Session
- b) October 27, 2020 Regular Meeting

Acknowledge Receipt of Minutes:

- a) Planning Commission Regular Meeting of October 6, 2020

### **BILL NO. 5900**

**Ord. No. 2020-0145**

**Adopting a Budget, a Capital Program, a Pay/Merit Plan and a Reserve Policy for the City of Branson, Missouri, for the Fiscal Year January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.**

Final Reading of Bill No. 5900, an ordinance adopting a Budget, a Capital Program, a Pay/Merit Plan and a Reserve Policy for the City of Branson, Missouri, for the Fiscal Year January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021, was read by title by City Clerk Lisa Westfall. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: None. Motion carried. Ordinance No. 2020-0145 was duly enacted.

**BILL NO. 5901**  
**Ord. No. 2020-0146**

**Amending the adopted 2020 Budget for the City of Branson, to adjust monies for various funds.**

Final Reading of Bill No. 5901, an ordinance amending the adopted 2020 Budget for the City of Branson, to adjust monies for various funds was read by title by City Clerk Lisa Westfall. Mayor Akers asked for a motion approving Bill No. 5901. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: None. Motion carried. Ordinance No. 2020-0146 was duly enacted.

**BILL NO. 5904**  
**Ord. No. 2020-0148**

**Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with Branson/Lakes Area Tourism Community Enhancement District to license the ExploreBranson domain name.**

Final Reading of Bill No. 5904, an ordinance approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with Branson/Lakes Area Tourism Community Enhancement District to license the ExploreBranson domain name and authorizing the Mayor to execute the contract was read by title by City Clerk Lisa Westfall. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: None. Motion carried. Ordinance No. 2020-0148 was duly enacted.

**BILL NO. 5905**  
**Ord. No. 2020-0149**

**Approving a contract renewal with Dazzee Integrations pertaining to Information Technology Managed Network and Security Services.**

Final Reading of Bill No. 5905, an ordinance approving a contract renewal with Dazzee Integrations pertaining to Information Technology Managed Network and Security Services and authorizing the Mayor to execute the contract was read by title by City Clerk Lisa Westfall. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: None. Motion carried. Ordinance No. 2020-0149 was duly enacted.

**BILL NO. 5906**  
**Ord. No. 2020-0150**

**Appointing Thomas Motley as Municipal Court Judge.**

Final Reading of Bill No. 5906, an ordinance appointing Thomas Motley as Municipal Court Judge and authorizing the Mayor to execute the contract was read by title by City Clerk Lisa Westfall. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: None. Motion carried. Ordinance No. 2020-0150 was duly enacted.

**BILL NO. 5907**  
**Ord. No. 2020-0151**

**Appointing members to fill certain vacancies on the City of Branson Tax Increment Financing Commission.**

Final Reading of Bill No. 5907, an ordinance appointing members to fill certain vacancies on the City of Branson Tax Increment Financing Commission was read by title by City Clerk Lisa Westfall. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: None. Motion carried. Ordinance No. 2020-0151 was duly enacted.

**BILL NO. 5908**  
**Ord. No. 2020-0152**

**Approving the renewal of the contract with PepsiCo for vending services and merchandise resale.**

Final Reading of Bill No. 5908, an ordinance approving the renewal of the contract with PepsiCo for vending services and merchandise resale and authorizing the Mayor to execute the contract was read by title by City Clerk Lisa Westfall. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: None. Motion carried. Ordinance No. 2020-0152 was duly enacted.

**BILL NO. 5909**  
**Ord. No. 2020-0153**                    **Accepting the proposal of Site One Landscape Supply pertaining to the purchase of agriculture supplies.**

Final Reading of Bill No. 5909, an ordinance accepting the proposal of Site One Landscape Supply pertaining to the purchase of agriculture supplies and authorizing the Mayor to execute the contract was read by title by City Clerk Lisa Westfall. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: None. Motion carried. Ordinance No. 2020-0153 was duly enacted.

**BILL NO. 5910**  
**Ord. No. 2020-0154**                    **Amending Chapter 6 of the Branson Municipal Code pertaining to alcohol by weight of malt liquor.**

Final Reading of Bill No. 5910, an ordinance amending Chapter 6 of the Branson Municipal Code pertaining to alcohol by weight of malt liquor was read by title by City Clerk Lisa Westfall. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: None. Motion carried. Ordinance No. 2020-0154 was duly enacted.

**BILL NO. 5911**  
**Ord. No. 2020-0155**                    **Amending Chapter 94 of the Branson Municipal Code pertaining to microbreweries.**

Final Reading of Bill No. 5911, an ordinance amending Chapter 94 of the Branson Municipal Code pertaining to microbreweries was read by title by City Clerk Lisa Westfall. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: None. Motion carried. Ordinance No. 2020-0155 was duly enacted.

**BILL NO. 5914**  
**Ord. No. 2020-0157**                    **Accepting the proposal of Empire Energy, LLC pertaining to motor vehicle fuel.**

Final Reading of Bill No. 5914, an ordinance accepting the proposal of Empire Energy, LLC pertaining to motor vehicle fuel and authorizing the Mayor to execute the contract was read by title by City Clerk Lisa Westfall. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: None. Motion carried. Ordinance No. 2020-0157 was duly enacted.

Mayor Akers opened the floor for a motion to approve all items on the Consent Agenda as amended. Alderman Milton so moved, seconded by Alderman King. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: None. Motion carried.

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

**BILL NO. 5902**  
**Ord. No. 2020-0147**                    **Calling an Election in the City of Branson, Missouri on the question of authorizing the City to issue bonds and imposing a Tourism Tax.**

Final Reading of Bill No. 5902, an ordinance calling an Election in the City of Branson, Missouri on the question of authorizing the City to issue bonds and imposing a Tourism Tax was read by title by City Clerk Lisa Westfall. Mayor Akers asked for a motion approving Bill No. 5902. Alderman Skains so moved, seconded by Alderman Whiteis. Mayor Akers asked for anyone in the audience wishing to speak regarding this matter. Hearing none, Mayor Akers asked for comments from the Board. Discussion. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: None. Motion carried. Ordinance No. 2020-0147 was duly enacted.

**BILL NO. 5912**  
**Ord. No. 2020-0156**

**Amending Chapter 94 of the Branson Municipal Code pertaining to special events.**

Final Reading of Bill No. 5912, an ordinance amending Chapter 94 of the Branson Municipal Code pertaining to special events was read by title by City Clerk Lisa Westfall. Mayor Akers asked for a motion approving Bill No. 5912. Alderman Whiteis so moved, seconded by Alderman Skains. Mayor Akers asked for anyone in the audience wishing to speak regarding this matter. Hearing none, Mayor Akers asked for comments from the Board. Discussion. Alderman Milton moved to amend Bill No. 5912, Line 126 Appendix A - Fee Schedule, Line 127 to revert back to its original language. Motion died for the lack of a second. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains and Seay. Nays: Milton. Motion carried.

**Presentation on Third Quarter 2020 Financial Report.**

A presentation on Third Quarter 2020 Financial Report was provided by Finance Director Jamie Rouch. Mayor Akers asked for anyone in the audience wishing to speak regarding this matter. Hearing none, Mayor Akers asked for comments from the Board. Discussion.

**BILL NO. 5915**

**Approving the amendment to the Lease Agreement with Recreational Investment & Management Corp. pertaining to a reduction in base rent for Fiscal Year 2020.**

First Reading of Bill No. 5915, an ordinance approving the amendment to the Lease Agreement with Recreational Investment & Management Corp. pertaining to a reduction in base rent for Fiscal Year 2020 and authorizing the Mayor to execute the contract was read by title by City Clerk Lisa Westfall and a staff report was provided by Finance Director Jamie Rouch. Mayor Akers asked for a motion approving Bill No. 5915. Alderman King so moved, seconded by Alderman Milton. Mayor Akers asked for anyone in the audience wishing to speak regarding this matter. Hearing none, Mayor Akers asked for comments from the Board. No discussion. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**BILL NO. 5916**

**Approving the renewal of the contract with Missouri American Water for water termination services.**

First Reading of Bill No. 5916, an ordinance approving the renewal of the contract with Missouri American Water for water termination services and authorizing the Mayor to execute the contract was read by title by City Clerk Lisa Westfall and a staff report was provided by Utilities Director Mike Ray. Mayor Akers asked for a motion approving Bill No. 5916. Alderman Skains so moved, seconded by Alderman Simmons. Mayor Akers asked for anyone in the audience wishing to speak regarding this matter. Hearing none, Mayor Akers asked for comments from the Board. Discussion. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**BILL NO. 5917**

**Approving the renewal of the contract with Missouri American Water Company for the purchase of water usage data.**

First Reading of Bill No. 5917, an ordinance approving the renewal of the contract with Missouri American Water Company for the purchase of water usage data and authorizing the Mayor to execute the contract was read by title by City Clerk Lisa Westfall and a staff report was provided by Utilities Director Mike Ray. Mayor Akers asked for a motion approving Bill No. 5917. Alderman King so moved, seconded by Alderman Milton. Mayor Akers asked for anyone in the audience wishing to speak regarding this matter. Hearing none, Mayor Akers asked for comments from the Board. No discussion. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**BILL NO. 5918**

**Approving the renewal of the contract with Utility Service Company, Inc. for ongoing maintenance and scheduled renovations of the City's Water Towers.**

First Reading of Bill No. 5918, an ordinance approving the renewal of the contract with Utility Service Company, Inc. for ongoing maintenance and scheduled renovations of the City's Water Towers and authorizing the Mayor to execute the contract was read by title by City Clerk Lisa Westfall and a staff report was provided by Utilities Director Mike Ray. Mayor Akers asked for a motion approving Bill No. 5918. Alderman King so moved, seconded by Alderman Whiteis. Mayor Akers asked for anyone in the audience wishing to speak regarding this matter. Hearing none, Mayor Akers asked for comments from the Board. No discussion. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**BILL NO. 5919**

**Approving a Time Extension Amendment for an Intergovernmental Agreement between Taney County and the City of Branson regarding funding of the City's Planned 2020 Sewer System Improvement Projects.**

First Reading of Bill No. 5919, an ordinance approving a Time Extension Amendment for an Intergovernmental Agreement between Taney County and the City of Branson regarding funding of the City's Planned 2020 Sewer System Improvement Projects and authorizing the Mayor to execute the amendment was read by title by City Clerk Lisa Westfall and a staff report was provided by Utilities Director Mike Ray. Mayor Akers asked for a motion approving Bill No. 5919. Alderman King so moved, seconded by Alderman Milton. Mayor Akers asked for anyone in the audience wishing to speak regarding this matter. Hearing none, Mayor Akers asked for comments from the Board. Discussion. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**BILL NO. 5920**

**Approving the Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement between Taney County and the City of Branson pertaining to use of the Taney County Firearms Range.**

First Reading of Bill No. 5920, an ordinance approving the Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement between Taney County and the City of Branson pertaining to use of the Taney County Firearms Range and authorizing the Mayor to execute the contract was read by title by City Clerk Lisa Westfall and a staff report was provided by Police Chief Jeff Matthews. Mayor Akers asked for a motion approving Bill No. 5920. Alderman Milton so moved, seconded by Alderman Skains. Mayor Akers asked for anyone in the audience wishing to speak regarding this matter. Hearing none, Mayor Akers asked for comments from the Board. Discussion. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**BILL NO. 5921**

**Approving the renewal of the contract with Radiophone Engineering, Inc. to provide communication services and repairs.**

First Reading of Bill No. 5921, an ordinance approving the renewal of the contract with Radiophone Engineering, Inc. to provide communication services and repairs and authorizing the Mayor to execute the contract was read by title by City Clerk Lisa Westfall and a staff report was provided by Police Chief Jeff Matthews. Mayor Akers asked for a motion approving Bill No. 5921. Alderman King so moved, seconded by Alderman Whiteis. Mayor Akers asked for anyone in the audience wishing to speak regarding this matter. Hearing none, Mayor Akers asked for comments from the Board. No discussion. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**BILL NO. 5922**

**Approving the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Team (ADAPT), Branson Public Schools and Branson Police Department pertaining to alcohol compliance checks at businesses.**

First Reading of Bill No. 5922, an ordinance approving the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Team (ADAPT), Branson Public Schools and Branson Police Department pertaining to alcohol compliance checks at businesses and authorizing the Mayor to execute the agreement was read by title by City Clerk Lisa Westfall and a staff report was provided by Police Chief Jeff Matthews. Mayor Akers asked for a motion approving Bill No. 5922. Alderman Whiteis so moved, seconded by Alderman King. Mayor Akers asked for anyone in the audience wishing to speak regarding this matter. Hearing none, Mayor Akers asked for comments from the Board. Discussion. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**BILL NO. 5923**

**Approving the Reimbursement Agreement between the City of Branson and the Taney County Airport.**

First Reading of Bill No. 5923, an ordinance approving the Reimbursement Agreement between the City of Branson and the Taney County Airport and authorizing the Mayor to execute the contract was read by title by City Clerk Lisa Westfall and a staff report was provided by Finance Director Jamie Rouch. Mayor Akers asked for a motion approving Bill No. 5923. Alderman Skains so moved, seconded by Alderman Simmons. Mayor Akers asked for anyone in the audience wishing to speak regarding this matter. Hearing none, Mayor Akers asked for comments from the Board. Discussion. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**BILL NO. 5924**

**Accepting the proposal of Unifirst Corporation pertaining to the rental of uniforms and shop towels for the City.**

First Reading of Bill No. 5924, an ordinance accepting the proposal of Unifirst Corporation pertaining to the rental of uniforms and shop towels for the City and authorizing the Mayor to execute the contract was read by title by City Clerk Lisa Westfall and a staff report was provided by Public Works Director and City Engineer Keith Francis. Mayor Akers asked for a motion approving Bill No. 5924. Alderman Milton so moved, seconded by Alderman Skains. Mayor Akers asked for anyone in the audience wishing to speak regarding this matter. Hearing none, Mayor Akers asked for comments from the Board. Discussion. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**BILL NO. 5925**

**Amending the adopted 2020 Budget for the City of Branson to adjust monies for the Tourism Fund for the Branson, Missouri Regional Airport TDD.**

First Reading of Bill No. 5925, an ordinance amending the adopted 2020 Budget for the City of Branson to adjust monies for the Tourism Fund for the Branson, Missouri Regional Airport TDD was read by title by City Clerk Lisa Westfall and a staff report was provided by Finance Director Jamie Rouch. Mayor Akers asked for a motion approving Bill No. 5925. Alderman Skains so moved, seconded by Alderman Whiteis. Mayor Akers asked for anyone in the audience wishing to speak regarding this matter. Hearing none, Mayor Akers asked for comments from the Board. Discussion. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: None. Motion carried.

## **DISBURSEMENTS**

Mayor Akers stated the next item is the review of disbursements [(October 3, 2020 through October 30, 2020) See Master File for copies of disbursements] Mayor Akers asked if there were any questions regarding the disbursements. No discussion. Mayor Akers asked for a motion to acknowledge the receipt of disbursements from October 3, 2020 through October 30, 2020. Alderman King so moved, seconded by Alderman Skains. Mayor Akers asked for any comments. No discussion. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: none. Motion carried.

## **MAYOR/ALDERMEN/ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS**

Alderman Milton wished the United States Marine Corps a happy birthday.

Alderman Seay said he's hoping for sunshine tomorrow.

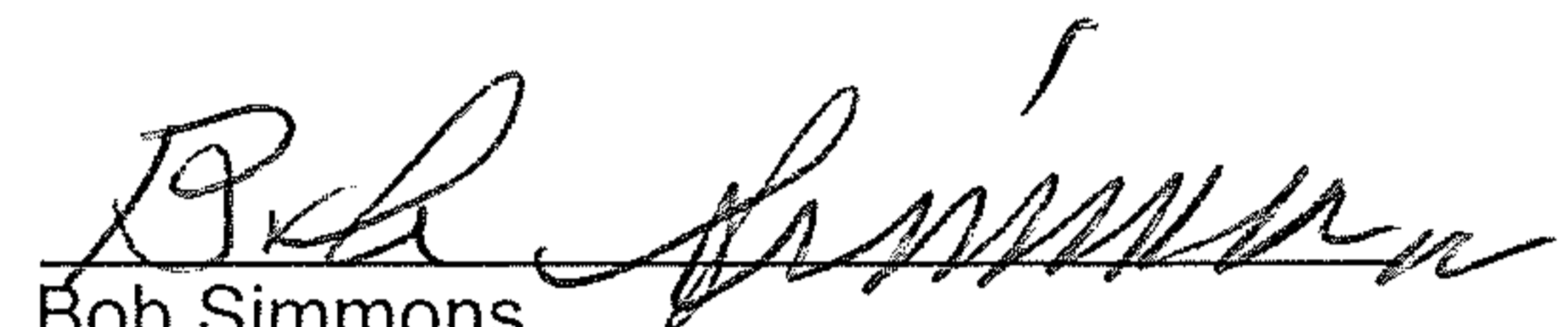
City Administrator Stan Dobbins reminded everyone City Hall will be closed tomorrow in observance of Veterans Day. He announced the Veterans Day Parade is also tomorrow and the Grand Marshall of the parade is Assistant City Administrator John Manning. He mentioned Friday there will be a group visiting from Leesville, Louisiana, consisting of its Mayor, City Administrator, Aldermen and people from its chamber of commerce. He informed the Board they will be here at 10:00 a.m. on Friday to take a tour of the City's facilities and he welcomed any Board members interested to stop by. City Administrator Stan Dobbins reminded the Board legislative priorities will be discussed at the upcoming Study Session and Representative Seitz and Senator Moon elect will be meeting with them regarding this item.

Mayor Akers expressed appreciation for the recognition of City Staff in various state organizations and that they're pursuing further education and are doing well. He feels it's an honor for them to be recognized by their peers in their jobs. He commented Christmas lights are all turned on and the Veterans Day Parade is tomorrow which is 88 years of recognition for the veterans of this community. He reminded everyone Thanksgiving is coming up, the Adoration Parade is December 6<sup>th</sup> and the tourism tax is on the ballot for the April election. He explained the tourism tax generates the funds needed for Branson to be able to perform as a City of 12,000 people, inviting 9 million visitors a year. He commented on the group from Louisiana coming Friday and said he hopes the City lives up to their standards and he invited any Aldermen available Friday morning to please come.

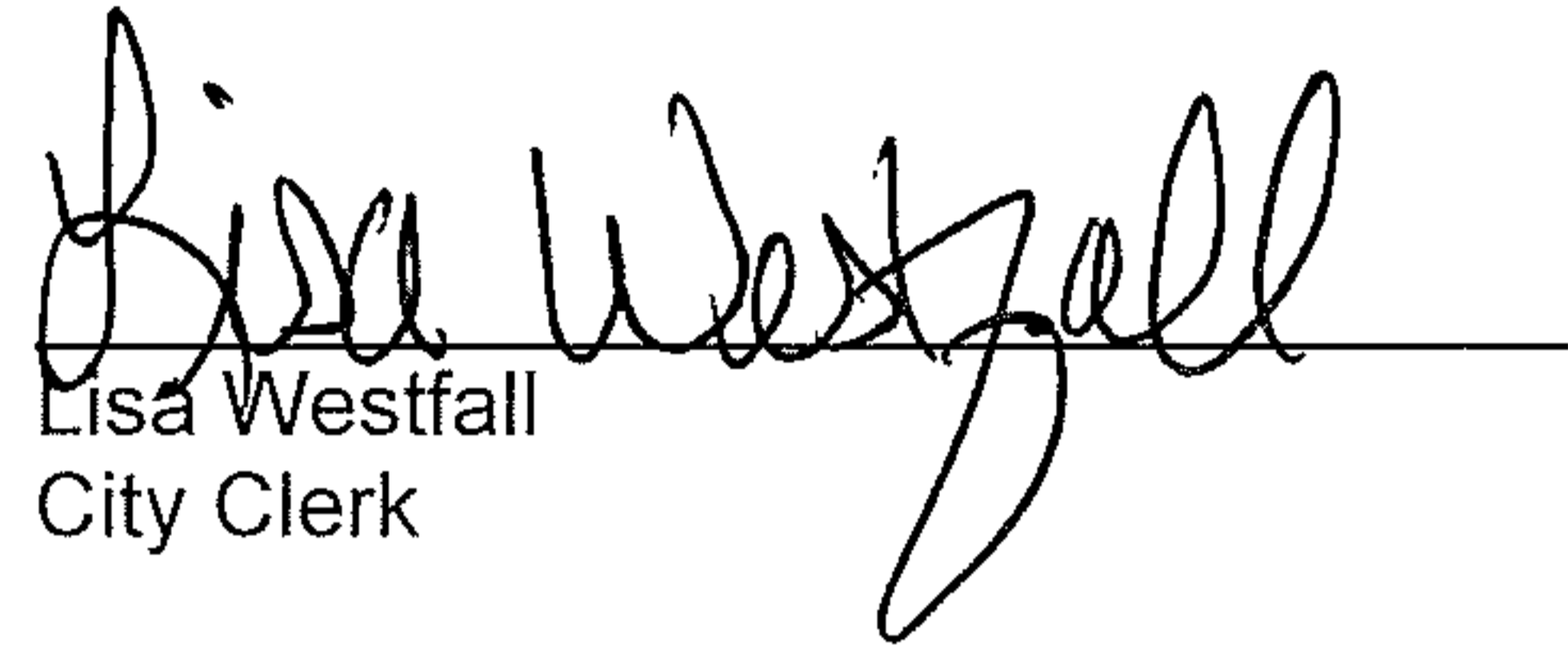


# ADJOURN

Mayor Akers asked for a motion to adjourn. Alderman Skains so moved, seconded by Alderman Milton. Voting aye: King, Whiteis, Simmons, Skains, Milton and Seay. Nays: none. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.



Bob Simmons  
Acting President



Lisa Westfall  
City Clerk