



CITY OF GERALD

WORKSHOP & SPECIAL MEETING BOARD MINUTES

January 30, 2025 at 5:30 PM



CALL TO ORDER

The City Board of Aldermen convened on January 30, 2025, at 5:31 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 II Alderman Corey Novotney, Board Pres.
Ward I Alderman Rudy Via
Ward I Alderman Kyle Guerrant
Ward II Alderman Cary Parker

Also, present: Jim Helton – Police Chief

Nick Grube – City Administrator
Shelley Smythe – City Clerk
Kevin Richardson-City Attorney
Dave DeFrenne-Public Works Director

Absent:

Terris Cates – City Engineer
Phil Pilgram – City Inspector

AGENDA APPROVAL

Alderman Via motioned to accept the workshop and special meeting agenda. Alderman Guerrant seconded the motion. All Aldermen voted “aye”. Motion carried.

WORKSHOP 5:30-6:30

1. 2025 Goals for the City of Gerald

- **Scans**-Working on getting all deeds, easements, minutes and all documents scanned for easier access.
- **2024 Budget Amendment** – City Clerk and City Administrator are working on this and will have it ready for the February Regular Meeting.
- **SXS Permit Day-February 22, 2025** – City Clerk and Deputy City Clerk agreed to come in from 9AM – 12 Noon on February 22, 2025, to sell UTV, ATV, Scooter, and Golf Cart Permits.
- **Paint & Maintenance-City Hall** – City Clerk has plans to use the City Hall Maintenance budget to purchase paint and paint City Hall to give it a little refresh. Plans to paint the meeting room, lobby, and bathrooms.
- **Public Safety Tax** – Try and get passed so we can have an additional officer, with a possibility of 50 more residents coming into town. Would like to have 2 officers on duty during school hours.
- **2025 Streets** – Would like to be able to finish up what did not get done in 2024.



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- **Well 2/Well 3 Roof & Electric** – Public Works Director has 3 people to get bids from for the roof for both wells, they are flat roofs at this time and would like it slanted. On well 3 would like to have the electric to where we can get it underground to the pole.
- **Aeration** – Expects Clark's will be out possibly around March.
- **Meters** – Public Works has been working hard getting the new meters in. Stated they have about 40 of them put in as of date. Public Works Director DeFrenne is hoping to have all that we have by June 2025.
- **Lawn Mower** – Public Works Director would like to sell our Diesel lawn mower, to Rosebud. Rosebud's Public Works director has had approval from their board to purchase it for \$2,000. Has a bid for a 72" lawn mower and would like to purchase this one. Will ask for a motion in the Special Meeting.
- **Park Facelift/Signs/Playground Equipment**
 - Would like to pave the parking lots within the City Park
 - Would like to purchase some new playground equipment and possibly pay a contractor to build the playground
 - Possibly chip-n-seal the back road in 2026
 - Going to fix the gazebo with the rotten wood and repaint it
 - Put in new swing set
 - Update/Repair the bridge over the lake
 - Pickleball-going to transform the tennis courts into a pickleball and tennis courts
 - Has a new sign to put up at the entrance

2. Mayor Thoughts

- **Code Enforcement** – Would like to see 2 Police Programs be implemented. Would also like to see more code enforcement and asked if we need to review some ordinances.
- **Public Works** – Asked for time frames of when previous goals would be accomplished. Asked about sidewalks. Would like to see more things accomplished and advertised so citizens can see the work being done.
- **Public Safety Tax** – Chief Helton stated that he and City Administrator Grube will go door to door and advertise the tax.

3. Aldermen Thoughts

- **Alderman Guerrant-**
 - **Parks** – Did research on the playground, and has had cost between the 2 baseball fields, Nick and he walked, it build a retaining wall, would be about \$45,000 to get this all built. Talked about the paving of the road, about \$230,00 to fix the roads, and fix the parking lots. Would has volunteers and himself that would put the equipment together and get the
 - Two poles that are down, \$890 apiece, these are rotten and need to be replaced and would like to have them replaced.



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- **Alderman Novotney-**
 - **Parks** – Discussed beautification of the park, likes the ideas that Public Works has and Alderman Guerrant for the playground
 - **Main Street** – Discussed adding some curb appeal on Mainstreet
 - **Rock Island Trail** – Would like to see this continue, not sure who we need to talk to make sure this continues to county line and beyond
- **Alderman Parker-**
 - **Parks & Trail** – Would like to see this continue and grow. Wants to talk with Franklin County and State Parks about continuing the trail to County Line.
 - **Population/Quality of Living** – Stated the City is stagnant; we need more rental homes. Asked if there was anything we could do to make it easier for developers to build more houses.
 - **Animals** – Asked if Chief could gather some information on animal shelters or animal catchers for strays and loose animals in town. The chief said he is working on a deal with Tri-County Vet in Owensville.
 - **Gambling Machines** – Stated he has done research about what bills are working on being pass.
 - **Storm/Weather Shelters** – Would like to work with Franklin County, the local churches, and the GDA to work out a possible storm shelter for severe weather.
 - **Grants** – Would like to see more grants applied for. Asked if there was anything he could do to help.
 - **Water/Sewer Streets Department** – Stated the public works is doing great and is proud of the work being done.
 - **Public Safety** – Discussed the tax. Stated he would like to see more code enforcement and liked the idea of 2 programs being implemented.
- **Alderman Via-**
 - The VFW needs to be deemed a dangerous structure. Asked Building Inspector Pilgram if there is anything he could work on to get it in the process of being deemed a dangerous structure.
 - The property on Bernhardt where the house burned down is running a business, and he would like to see this be taken care of with the vehicles that are on it.
 - Would like to see the city be cleaned up.

Linda Trest stated that an arbor at Legion Park made from composite will be placed soon. Would like to maybe have a frog pond at the City Park. Thinking of having the kids paint rocks for around the entrance sign at the City Park instead of flowers which require maintenance.



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SPECIAL MEETING 6:30

Alderman Via made a motion for the City Clerk to put the End of Year Financials in the Gasconade Republican Alderman Parker seconded motion. All Aldermen voted "aye". Motion carried.

Alderman Parker made a motion for the City Clerk Transfer \$14,000 from Sewer Operating to Sewer Equipment Reserve and Alderman Guerrant seconded motion. All Aldermen voted "aye". Motion carried.

Alderman Parker made a motion for Public Works to purchase a new lawn mower not to exceed \$11,500.00 and sell the diesel lawn mower to Rosebud Public Works. Alderman Via seconded the motion. All aldermen voted "aye". Motion carried.

Alderman Via made a motion for the purchase of the playground equipment that Alderman Guerrant suggested. Alderman Guerrant seconded motion. All Aldermen voted "aye". Motion carried.

NEXT REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING

Regular Meeting scheduled for February 13, 2025, at 6:30 PM

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. Meeting adjourned at 6:52 PM.

ATTEST:

Mayor, Angela Koepke

City Clerk, Shelley Smythe

Date