



CITY OF GERALD

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 20, 2025 at 6:30 PM



CALL TO ORDER

The City Board of Aldermen convened on March 20, 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 II Alderman Corey Novotney, Board President

Ward I Alderman Rudy Via

Ward II Alderman Cary Parker

Also, present:

Jim Helton – Police Chief

Nick Grube – City Administrator

Shelley Smythe – City Clerk

Terris Cates – City Engineer

Royce Ingram – Bartlett & West

Kevin Richardson – City Attorney

Absent:

Ward I Alderman Kyle Guerrant

Phil Pilgram – City Inspector

AGENDA APPROVAL

Alderman Via motioned to accept the current agenda. Alderman Novotney seconded the motion. All Aldermen voted "aye". Motion carried.

MINUTES

The minutes for February 13, 2025, 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 March bills were reviewed, Alderman Novotney motioned to accept the bills provided. Alderman Parker seconded the motion. All Aldermen voted "aye". Motion carried.

PLANNING & ZONING

Linda Trest, Planning & Zoning Representative – Historic Ordinance. Discussed the Certified Local Government. Would like to have the Historic Overlay removed from the Ordinance. Lost a member of Planning and Zoning, Terry Larson will not be able to stay on due to medical condition.

Alderman Parker made a motion to have Matt Bastunas to be on the planning. Alderman Via seconded the motion. All aldermen voted "aye". Motion Carried. The City Clerk will get in contact with Mr. Bastunas.



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DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Phil Pilgram, City Inspector – ABSENT. Deputy City Clerk stated we have issued 4 building permits in 2025 so far for additions, remodels, commercial structure improvements and other.

Terris Cates, City Engineer – City Park have everything ready. Just waiting to get the Waidmann property, due to them being passed, will need to have the daughter put in the deed.

Per the City Attorney, he will need to review all documents regarding sale or exchange of property for wording edits or errors as well as legal phrasing and descriptions.

Nick Grube, City Administrator – Dave DeFrenne has resigned from being a full-time employee but is staying as a part time employee to help with putting in new meters. Chris Conrad was hired full-time, and Dennis Eilers was hired part-time as laborers for the Public Works Department.

Burn-Out Competition – James Benton wants to hold a car cruise and burn out competition as a fundraiser. He would like to do a Burn Out Competition on steel plates on the helipad. He asks about insurance and for assistance from the City with making the event as safe as possible.

Alderman Parker made a motion to allow there to be a burn out competition for a fundraiser. Alderman Novotney seconded the motion. All aldermen voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Chief Helton – No discussion or updates.

Kevin Richardson, City Attorney – No discussion or updates.

Shelley Smythe, City Clerk – No discussion or updates.

NEW BUSINESS

Code Violation – Letter has been drafted to address code violations. This letter will come from the board to property owners and renter. The City Attorney has stated coming from the prosecuting attorney may have better results. He will review the draft and will get back to us.

Alderman Parker made a motion for the City Attorney to contact the Prosecuting Attorney in regard to having the letter sent from them. Alderman Novotney seconded motion, all alderman voted “aye” motion carried.

Bike Trail Signs – The Bloomers discussed getting signs regarding a bike trail loop through town. Alderman Novotney stated that he feels that it is a nice idea.

Alderman Via made a motion to approve the Bloomers to create a bike look for the trail and get signs. Alderman Novotney seconded the motion. Alderman Novotney voted “aye”, Alderman Parker voted “abstain”, and Alderman Via voted “aye”. Motion carried.

CLG (Certified Local Government) – Tabled until we can set up a workshop with a contact Alderman Parker has to have some discussion.



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Property Deeds – City Administrator Grube informed the board of few properties he was looking into for the City. He discussed the GDA Property and said everything is ready to sign. He discussed a 60' by 60' lot that includes part of Industrial Dr owned by Daniel & Kay Maxwell. Stated he contacted them, and they are willing to sign over the property to the City. Discussed the Link Property that adjoins the City Park. Discussed the Waidmann Property that adjoins the City Park. Stated that Jayne Brinker is the trustee of Waidmann Property as both owners have passed. Waiting on paperwork stating that Brinker is on the deed.

Well House Roof – Alderman Novotney made a motion to accept the Bid from Sean Griffin in the amount of \$20,250. Alderman Parker seconded motion, all alderman voted "aye". Motion carried.

Lift Station Pump – Alderman Parker made a motion to accept the Bid from Municipal Equipment Company in the amount of \$7320.75 plus freight. Alderman Novotney seconded motion, all alderman voted "aye". Motion carried.

ORDINANCE

Bill No. 2025-01 Ordinance 952 – An Ordinance of the City of Gerald Amending the City Budget for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2024, Adopted by Ordinance No. 952, by Amending Certain Revenue and Expenditures

Two readings were completed.

Alderman Via motioned to accept Bill No. 2025-01, Ordinance 952. Alderman Novotney seconded the motion. Roll call vote was done in the order of Alderman Novotney "aye", Alderman Parker "aye", and Alderman Via "aye". Motion carried.

ALDERMAN REPORTS

Ward I Alderman Guerrant – ABSENT

Ward II Alderman Novotney – Met with Linda in regard to the Historic District, they discussed the lighting on Main Street. Alderman Novotney would like to meet with the City Administrator to discuss what the City can do to help with this. Alderman Novotney asked about the playground. The City Administrator stated that he has talked to Sean Griffin, and he stated he would be willing to assemble the equipment for \$1,000/day.

Alderman Novotney made a motion to allow Sean Griffin to assemble the new playground equipment at the rate of \$1,000/day. Alderman Parker seconded the motion. All aldermen voted "aye". Motion carried.

Ward II Alderman Parker – Discussed the Public Safety Tax in efforts to clear some misinformation and inform voters why this was proposed and what it means.

Ward I Alderman Via – Would like to have Alderman Parker's contact for the CLG to come to the April meeting or we can schedule a workshop.

MAYOR'S REPORT



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Mayor Angela Koepke - Asked about the trailer on Hillside Drive. Asked where we are in the process of getting the trailer removed.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

Regular Meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 6:30 PM at Gerald City Hall

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, Alderman Parker made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting. Alderman Via seconded the motion. All Aldermen voted "aye". Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:28 PM.

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shelley Smythe".

City Clerk, Shelley Smythe

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Angela Koepke".

Mayor, Angela Koepke

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "April 10, 2025".

Date