

MINUTES OF AN OPEN BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE MONARCH FIRE PROTECTION
DISTRICT OF ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI,
HELD ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2018

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Chesterfield, Missouri

September 20, 2018

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the Board of Directors of the Monarch Fire Protection District of Saint Louis County, Chesterfield, Missouri, met at the Administration Building, of said District, 13725 Olive Boulevard, in the City of Chesterfield, County of Saint Louis, on Thursday, September 20, 2018, at 7:00 P.M. in an Open Board Meeting, during which time, the Meeting recessed for a Budget Workshop, and returned to the Open Meeting immediately following.

At the above time and place the following Officers and Directors were in attendance.

Rick Gans - President/Chairman and Director
Jean Millner - Secretary and Director
Robin Harris - Treasurer and Director

Also present: Chief Cary Spiegel
Opr. Chief Marsonette
Atty. Matt Hoffman

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 7:20 P.M.

3 DIRECTOR GANS: The recess is over.
4 Now, we're going to have a Budget
5 Workshop.

6 We had a very brief recess and --

7 DIRECTOR HARRIS: A recess from Open
8 to do the Workshop, then come back from the
9 recess to do that.

10 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. Okay.

11 So we already had our recess, so now
12 we're in the Budget Workshop.

13 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Okay.

14 All right. So, this is less formal.

15 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Do you want this
16 recorded, Rick?

17 DIRECTOR GANS: Yeah. No reason
18 not to.

19 All right. So, Michelle, if you'll
20 lead us through the various versions of --
21 including a new one I got tonight.

22 MS. DEPEW: Okay. (Inaudible)

23 DIRECTOR GANS: Of -- of the budget
24 process. Please.

25 MS. LONG: I can't hear her.

1 DIRECTOR GANS: She had to turn her
2 mic off. She was too loud.

3 MS. DEPEW: I'm trying to --

4 MS. LONG: I still can't hear her.

5 (Multiple people cross talking.)

6 DIRECTOR GANS: Chuck's working on
7 it.

8 (Cross talking.)

9 DIRECTOR HARRIS: May I --

10 DIRECTOR GANS: How come all this
11 stuff works from the tech guy?

12 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Isn't he --

13 DIRECTOR GANS: He is here.

14 And he said (one work not clear)
15 won't even do that.

16 DIRECTOR HARRIS: (inaudible)

17 (Cross talking.)

18 DIRECTOR GANS: I think (not clear)
19 a battery.

20 (Cross talking.)

21 MS. DEPEW: All right. (Inaudible)

22 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Is it different from
23 what you do normally?

24 MS. DEPEW: No.

25 Look at all the copies I made.

1 I'm --

2 DIRECTOR GANS: Are we ready?

3 MS. DEPEW: I think we're ready.

4 Red page one. I have highlighted in

5 green the areas of change from our previous

6 discussions.

7 DIRECTOR GANS: Hold on one sec.

8 I can't hear.

9 Go ahead. Try it again.

10 MS. DEPEW: On red page one, I have

11 highlighted the changes in green.

12 DIRECTOR GANS: So, I will tell

13 you, I took what I got this week, --

14 MS. DEPEW: Yes?

15 DIRECTOR GANS: -- from Cary and

16 had the highlights and you're -- so you've

17 enhanced those highlights.

18 You -- have you made changes, since

19 this version dated the 20th?

20 MS. DEPEW: I have not. But, I

21 believe you received an email from Chief Spiegel,

22 today and --

23 DIRECTOR GANS: No.

24 MS. DEPEW: -- (not clear.)

25 DIRECTOR GANS: Not -- not today.

1 CHIEF SPIEGEL: There's a copy --
2 there's a written copy at your place regarding
3 LED lighting at Headquarters.

4 DIRECTOR MILLNER: This one.

5 DIRECTOR GANS: So it has a change
6 in it.

7 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Yes, sir.

8 DIRECTOR GANS: So this budget has
9 a change in it.

10 CHIEF SPIEGEL: The capital list.

11 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

12 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Has was requested.

13 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. I just
14 want to keep up with -- you all are trying to
15 trick me, I know, -- to keep with the versions
16 here.

17 (General chuckles.)

18 DIRECTOR HARRIS: That's not this
19 one. This is the last, so I -- I pulled it out,
20 so I could compare --

21 DIRECTOR GANS: All right.

22 DIRECTOR HARRIS: -- the changes.

23 DIRECTOR GANS: Meanwhile, I went
24 through the one that came from Cary by email and
25 wrote comments on it. And now it's out of date.

1 I had it at the last meeting, too.
2 The last workshop.

3 You're trying to trick me, but
4 you're not going to be able to.

5 (General chuckles.)

6 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. So, go
7 ahead, Michelle.

8 MS. DEPEW: I don't have the emails
9 from Cary beside me, but I believe (not clear)
10 LED addition to these bottom numbers per the
11 capital request.

12 The changes in capital were the up
13 -- the entries to the suburban from 62 to 68.

14 Let me go through each and every
15 change here.

16 DIRECTOR GANS: You know, --

17 MS. DEPEW: How do -- how do you
18 want to go through them?

19 DIRECTOR GANS: I -- I --

20 MS. DEPEW: Thank you.

21 DIRECTOR GANS: So, I -- you sent,
22 let me tell you, --

23 MS. DEPEW: Yes.

24 DIRECTOR GANS: -- I'll compliment
25 you.

1 You -- you sent, or Cary sent me
2 what you probably produced, --

3 MS. DEPEW: Correct.

4 DIRECTOR GANS: -- and it had the
5 answers to the questions.

6 MS. DEPEW: Okay.

7 DIRECTOR GANS: Except for the
8 couple of questions I had.

9 So, I don't need her to go through
10 it, but you guys can have her go through the
11 changes.

12 MS. DEPEW: If you -- right.

13 Why don't you briefly (not clear) in
14 another -- and another (not clear) has the
15 overall and complete record changes.

16 The capital original listing and the
17 changes are highlighted in green.

18 And then pages four and five are
19 actually written explanations for the increases
20 and decreases and why.

21 So, hopefully, it sort of covered
22 every area change, either entries or decrease and
23 you can see it and all -- all the aspects
24 necessary.

25 So from there, do you have any

1 questions?

2 DIRECTOR GANS: So, I do.

3 MS. DEPEW: Okay. Let's try that.

4 DIRECTOR GANS: But, not many.

5 MS. DEPEW: Okay.

6 DIRECTOR GANS: So, the safety
7 trailer went up because we're going to cover it
8 in shrink wrap?

9 CHIEF SPIEGEL: That would be the
10 graphics, the graphic package on it.

11 MS. DEPEW: On red page three it
12 went from 160 to 175. Correct?

13 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Hm-hm.

14 DIRECTOR GANS: And then four, it
15 says what it is, on red page four, --

16 MS. DEPEW: Correct.

17 DIRECTOR GANS: -- it says it's
18 increase for shrink wrap and other details.

19 And I know, the last one, we had
20 trouble -- maintenance problems with it.

21 You know, it -- it was
22 deteriorating, but I didn't think we were going
23 to wrap it in "Surrar" Wrap now, to keep it from
24 deteriorating, so I didn't understand.

25 CHIEF SPIEGEL: A poor choice of

1 words. It's graphics for it.

2 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. I thought
3 maybe that was --

4 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Thought we were
5 working on --

6 CHIEF SPIEGEL: It was too long, so
7 we moved to shrink it.

8 (General chuckles.)

9 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. So this is
10 the graphic.

11 Otherwise, it'd just be plain?

12 (No oral response.)

13 DIRECTOR GANS: It wouldn't be
14 our's?

15 (No oral response.)

16 DIRECTOR GANS: What color is it
17 going to be?

18 (General chuckles.)

19 DIRECTOR GANS: What color is this
20 "surfing" trailer going to be?

21 Fm: It comes out of the factory
22 plain white.

23 DIRECTOR GANS: Plain white?

24 Fm: Plain white.

25 DIRECTOR GANS: Did you hear that?

1 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Plain white.

2 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. And it will
3 have our graphics on it, so it'll be identifiable
4 as Monarch.

5 Fm: It will.

6 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

7 DIRECTOR HARRIS: In large graphics.

8 Fm: There's a neighboring
9 jurisdiction that has a very well decorated
10 trailer and ours is going to be different, but
11 equal in quality.

12 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. And so
13 you're aware of the change, the 15,000, --
14 fm: Yes.

15 DIRECTOR GANS: -- for that?
16 Okay.
17 So that was my first question.

18 CHIEF SPIEGEL: This is the picture
19 on it. It's different than (not clear)

20 DIRECTOR GANS: Oh, we have that.
21 I have that.

22 CHIEF SPIEGEL: You do? Okay.

23 DIRECTOR GANS: In my many versions
24 of things.
25 We use -- you provided that.

1 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Yes.

2 DIRECTOR GANS: Thanks.

3 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Hm-hm.

4 DIRECTOR GANS: My next question is
5 on the I.T. project, item -- this is on red page
6 four, item 2, --

7 MS. DEPEW: Yes?

8 DIRECTOR GANS: -- dot, --

9 MS. DEPEW: Yes?

10 DIRECTOR GANS: -- little one, dot
11 --

12 MS. DEPEW: Yes?

13 DIRECTOR GANS: -- dot -- I don't
14 have a clue.

15 Anyway, is that reporting software?
16 (No oral response.)

17 DIRECTOR GANS: Is that reporting
18 software?

19 MS. DEPEW: Is that recording
20 software?

21 DIRECTOR GANS: The software that's
22 described, as District software license.

23 MS. DEPEW: The licensing for the
24 software?

25 DIRECTOR GANS: Right.

1 MS. DEPEW: District software
2 license for \$15,000,00?

3 DIRECTOR GANS: Yes.

4 MS. DEPEW: Is that the one?

5 It includes several types of
6 software. "EFA" software, my accounting
7 software, recording software and several
8 licensing's.

9 Underneath it, for the email user
10 license costs for sixty-eight, --

11 DIRECTOR GANS: Yes.

12 MS. DEPEW: -- is item three.

13 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. That's --

14 MS. DEPEW: That is the new --

15 DIRECTOR GANS: So, I -- that's
16 handled.

17 MS. DEPEW: -- service --

18 DIRECTOR GANS: That's handled.

19 MS. DEPEW: -- process.

20 DIRECTOR GANS: That's handled.

21 MS. DEPEW: That's correct.

22 DIRECTOR GANS: Right.

23 I discussed that with Jim McKay.

24 MS. DEPEW: Okay.

25 DIRECTOR GANS: And that's handled.

1 MS. DEPEW: Okay.

2 DIRECTOR GANS: But, the 15,000 --
3 so you're saying that's accounting and EMS and
4 fire recording?

5 MS. DEPEW: It's a global software.
6 And this one normally runs 15,000 through the
7 capital as a line item, normal customary expense.

8 We now moved it into the operating
9 (One word not clear).

10 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. So,
11 that makes sense.

12 Those are the questions I had from
13 that.

14 Now, we walk in and we've got a new
15 thing. Can we -- can someone explain the memo
16 dated today at 5:08 about lighting?

17 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I got it.

18 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Yes, --

19 DIRECTOR HARRIS: You didn't come
20 in early and get an update.

21 DIRECTOR GANS: When you walked in,
22 you said, "Where is everybody?"

23 And I said, "We already had the
24 meeting."

25 (General chuckles.)

1 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. So, --

2 CHIEF SPIEGEL: We previously were
3 addressing upgrading this building to LED
4 lighting.

5 Currently, it's a two twelve
6 florescent lighting package.

7 DIRECTOR GANS: Yes?

8 CHIEF SPIEGEL: The two twelves are
9 gonna go away, so at some point we'll have to do
10 something.

11 So, the -- the previous conversation
12 the cost was prohibitive to address it this year,
13 was my thought.

14 I recently got information from an
15 electrical contractor that makes it a more
16 appealing consideration.

17 As I've illustrated, the -- the
18 estimate quote for the parking lot is twelve (not
19 clear) and that would include a consideration for
20 an Ameren rebate.

21 And the cost to the interior
22 lighting, sixty thousand eight-eighty-eight with
23 a consideration rebate from Ameren for 8200.

24 So, what I was asking for was a net
25 project of 65,000 to be added to the capital

1 plan.

2 A couple of reasons to address this
3 now, as I mentioned, the two twelves going away,
4 (not clear) it'll be expensive to do that, to
5 transition to two ten would be an essential waste
6 of money and the bulbs are available, but you'd
7 still have to make the transition.

8 Those -- those fixtures are ten year
9 full warrantied.

10 The spec's, I would -- I would
11 expect the specifications to require that that
12 would include labor, because we had some pretty
13 highlights in the engineering.

14 So, -- so previous LED transitions
15 have included bulb and labor full -- full
16 warranties.

17 The -- it was suggested to me that
18 recent tariff's increases would probably result
19 in a significant increase in the fixtures in
20 future years, up to -- up to 25 percent.

21 And we're looking at the power chart
22 that the pull back is estimated to be at 4.4
23 years.

24 So that's just the pull back for the
25 utility bills.

1 The -- the pull back for replacing
2 bulbs and just the labor intense -- that's taken
3 care of for us and fixtures is -- is time
4 consuming.

5 So that would be something that
6 would be eliminated. It would be warranted by
7 the -- whoever the contractor is that we would
8 choose.

9 I was informed that if it remains in
10 the 2019 budget and we go out for specifications
11 in 2018 projecting for 2019, that Ameren will
12 honor the rebate.

13 If the application would go in 2018,
14 they would honor that.

15 So, as I stated here, if those -- if
16 those circumstances are correct, I'd like to move
17 forward with that project.

18 If they're not, then we'll just re-
19 evaluate, at that point.

20 But, I'd like it to be in the budget
21 to have that option.

22 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. I'm fine
23 with it.

24 DIRECTOR HARRIS: As am I.

25 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Fine.

1 CHIEF SPIEGEL: If you'll address
2 the -- the map, Michelle, the -- the capital
3 would increase to two-five-0-four nine hundred.

4 MS. DEPEW: All right. Yes. And
5 when I read this and I do understand this, you
6 would use the overall expense as a rebate?

7 CHIEF SPIEGEL: That's the net --
8 the net amount.

9 MS. DEPEW: Yeah. Yeah. The actual
10 expense of having the (not clear) expenses by the
11 overall expense of (not clear).

12 Yeah, I'll make those minor
13 adjustments.

14 CHIEF SPIEGEL: I had that
15 conversation -- well, that's -- the contractor I
16 talked to said that we would actually only be
17 charged the net amount if the rebate is -- is --

18 DIRECTOR GANS: And that is --
19 (Cross talking.)

20 MS. DEPEW: Yeah. I know who the
21 contractor was, in the past, we've actually paid
22 the full amount and gotten a rebate here.

23 So, I guess, --

24 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Okay.

25 (Cross talking.)

1 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Having --
2 MS. DEPEW: I just don't want to see
3 --
4 (Cross talking.)
5 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Well, then, you'll
6 have to add that, --
7 MS. DEPEW: (not clear, due to
8 cross-talking) either way. Fine.
9 We've done it two different ways.
10 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Nine thousand six
11 hundred and forty and ninety-five cents.
12 MS. DEPEW: Yes.
13 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. So I'm
14 fine with that change.
15 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Thank you.
16 DIRECTOR GANS: And, anyone else
17 have anything else to discuss on the budget?
18 DIRECTOR MILLNER: I do not.
19 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Nor do I.
20 DIRECTOR GANS: So we'll be ready
21 for the Hearing, the Tax Hearing and actually
22 setting the budget in time for next week.
23 MS. DEPEW: That is correct.
24 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.
25 MS. DEPEW: We'll get the

1 Resolutions drafted and get that information
2 together.

3 DIRECTOR GANS: And that will be on
4 Thursday?

5 MS. DEPEW: That is correct.

6 DIRECTOR GANS: At what time?

7 That'll be quite a budget --

8 (Cross time.)

9 MS. DEPEW: It'll be at five.

10 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Five P.M., a public
11 hearing and Five-Thirty, Open.

12 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. Five-Thirty,
13 Open. Fine.

14 MS. DEPEW: That's what I have.

15 And I'll (not clear).

16 DIRECTOR GANS: Is it an Open or
17 Closed Meeting that day?

18 (Cross talking.)

19 CHIEF SPIEGEL: With a Closed to
20 follow. I'm sure it's an Open.

21 MS. DEPEW: Five-Thirty, Open, (not
22 clear)

23 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

24 MS. DEPEW: (not clear due to cross
25 talking.)

1 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. So,
2 anything else for the Budget Workshop?

3 If not, we're gonna go into recess.

4 (Whereupon, the Board returned to the Open
5 Meeting at 7:30 P.M.)

6 (The Budget Workshop was recorded by the
7 Monarch Fire Protection District and transcribed
8 by Virginia L. Long.)

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