

City of Moline Acres

2449 Chambers Road

Moline Acres, MO 63136-5596

(314) 868-2433

Mayor Michele DeShay	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>
Aldersperson Shonte Young	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>
Aldersperson Victoria Reddic	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>
Aldersperson Jennifer Erby	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>
Aldersperson Larry Thomas	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>
City Attorney, Donnell Smith		
City Clerk, Nina Walker		
Chief David Dorn		

A RESIDENT TOWN HALL MEETING WAS HELD ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2009 SCHEDULED TO OPEN AT 7:00 P.M. IN MOLINE ACRES CITY HALL (LOWER LEVEL).

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Michele DeShay.

ROLL CALL:

Meeting opened at 7:03 pm. All the above listed were present as indicated including the Public Works Director Dennis DeShay.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS:

Alderswoman Erby made a motion to amend the agenda to include discussion about the Citizens Police Academy. Alderswoman Young seconded motion.

Votes on Question: Alderswoman Shonte' Young – yes; Alderswoman Victoria Reddic – yes; Alderswoman Jennifer Erby – yes, Alderman Larry Thomas - yes.
Motion Passed Unanimously with 4-yes and 0-no.

Alderswoman Erby made a motion to amend the agenda to include discussion about the 2010 Census. Alderswoman Reddic seconded motion.

Votes on Question: Alderswoman Shonte' Young – yes; Alderswoman Victoria Reddic – yes; Alderswoman Jennifer Erby – yes, Alderman Larry Thomas - yes.
Motion Passed Unanimously with 4-yes and 0-no.

DISCUSS BUSINESS LICENSE FEE INCREASE:

Mayor DeShay opened by letting the residents know that the city officials had been open with the businesses and residents throughout the entire process before and after making the decision to raise the business license fee. She explained the process of having two (2) public hearings prior to the Proposition being placed on the ballot and that the board met with the businesses two (2) times after the Proposition passed as well; however, they did not want to come to a compromise. She explained that in order for the City of Moline Acres to prosper as other communities difficult decisions had to be made and changes had to come about. The Board chose to share the responsibility with the residents and the business owners and with the residents' approval, by voting, it was accomplish both times. Once by passing the capital improvement tax and the second by passing the business license fee increase. She thanked the residents for their trust in her and asked that they continue to trust and support her in making decisions that would be the best for their community.

OPEN FORUM:

Marcia Shannon – 9818 Lawnview – asked how much taxes were being paid. What was the tax for? Are the fees based on monies generated in the businesses?

Tina Minor – 9800 Castle – felt that the Proposition should not be repealed; however, it should be more than 1/10 of 1% but less than 1%.

Darlene Bell – 2255 Hollis – she did some research with the surrounding municipalities to compare our rates to others and she felt the increase was extreme.

Brandon Jackson – 2314 Gardner – asked how was the notices given and could there be some type of compromise.

Wayne Stein – 2311 Gardner – asked was the city discouraging new businesses from coming into the city? He does not have a problem with paying a 1% tax increase to give to the city.

Robert Blythe – Lewis & Clark Towers – he did not appreciate the 900% increase

Gina Jones 2372 Collett – as a resident she wants to be part of the solution. She felt none of the businesses were going to move. She asked when was the last time there had been an increase on the business license fee. She did not appreciate the business owners attacking the elected officials.

Ms. Willie Crenshaw – 9804 Cambria – she did not understand why the residents were fussing when the residents were the people who passed the proposition.

Al White – 2337 Berwyn – as a resident and business owner in Moline Acres he did his own research and did not think the 1% was excessive considering the City of Moline Acres does not have a lot of the other taxes that other city have for example the City of Moline Acres gross receipt tax rate is the lowest in comparison to the surrounding municipalities, there is no real estate tax, no park & storm water tax, no community improvement tax nor some of the other taxes that other cities impose on the public. The city's sales taxes are at the low end as well.

Malcom Thompson – 9548 Lewis & Clark – as a resident and business owner he felt that it was disrespectful to the elected officials for the business owners to be so rude during the meeting. He has seen change within the city hall and the city. Streets were being kept clean during the ice storm and improvements were visible. He expressed to the businesses that the police department patrol and protect their businesses and employees. The police department watch them coming in and going out daily. Their businesses have picked up because of the security. He felt that if the city was making an effort to change the residents should be willing to help.

DISCUSS YARD WASTE CONTRACT:

Mayor DeShay announced that the trash contract to due to expire in April 2009. The city is in the process of soliciting bids and it will be discussed during the March and April regular board meetings to get the residents input.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS:

DISCUSSION ON THE CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY:

Chief Dorn announced the Citizens Police Academy will be held March 12, 2009 at St. John Police Department. It is a 12 week program which will teach residents the duties of a police officer, discussion on gangs and drugs, use of firearms and a number of other issues that involves the community. Applications are due by March 9, 2009 and those interested could contact him.

DISCUSSION ON THE 2010 CENSUS:

Mayor DeShay announced that representatives from the census bureau will be knocking door to door in the year 2010 to do a census of Moline Acres. She expressed the importance of the residents' cooperation because it will affect the city's funding.

ADJOURNMENT:

Alderwoman Young made a motion to adjourn at 8:10 pm. Alderman Thomas seconded motion. Motion Passed Unanimously with 4-yes and 0-no.