

March 21st 2025

Special Meeting for Policy handbook updates, and emergency condemnations of 202 E 4th and 203 E 9th houses that were destroyed by fire.

Mayor Pat Walden called the meeting to order

Roll Call: TJ Duncan, Darwin Weaver, and Lindy Rhodes were present. Debra Rice was absent.

The Council and Mayor go over the handbook, from where they left off previously.

They discussed Holidays and personal days. TJ had a list of Holidays that the State gets. Amy said the days the City has now is what most towns and the county have, except the county and some towns added in Juneteenth and Mulberry did not.

TJ motioned to eliminate Columbus Day and Martin Luther King Jr Day, but add in they will get half a day on December 23rd and half a day on the Wednesday

before Thanksgiving, and drop personal days from 6 down to 4, Lindy 2nd, motion carried.

They want to keep in the book that personal days must be taken in 4 to 8 hour increments. Cherokee stated that if she only needed to take 1 hour for a Doctor's appointment that they want her to be gone for at least 4 hours instead of just 1. Lindy says yes, plan on using the time to do something else.

Darvin says that the 85%/15% on the health insurance may need to change at some point. Pat stated other towns have more money than Mulberry. You may get a job at McDonald's that pays \$18 or \$19 an hour but they don't give Holidays. Mulberry can't afford to pay that. Pat says leave the health care alone for right now.

The council wants every department to make out a job description to keep on file once it is approved.

Page 18 is about residency. They will change it from within 10 miles, to say it will be up to the discretion of the governing body for each job candidate.

They discussed city vehicles. TJ says he got a call from someone asking why the Mulberry police vehicle was going down 69 highway with lights and sirens. TJ says County told him they won't call out Mulberry out of the city because it is a liability. Joey goes on his own. Pat says they told Joey if it was at the end of his shift and he took someone to jail, that he could just take the patrol vehicle home. Darwin says when the cop lived in Mulberry they took it home. What's the difference? TJ stated that Joey lives all the way in Girard. They built a garage for the patrol vehicles to be parked in. Lindy thinks it looks bad. Lindy asks what about the City plant truck? Amy stated that Ernie was told he could take it home years ago. Lindy says they shouldn't let one and not the other. Lindy thinks the City Dodge should stay at the plant. Darwin says Joey has been

taking the patrol vehicle home a lot. TJ says it shouldn't be at his house for days. Pat says unless there is a good excuse, the patrol vehicle should be in the garage here every night. Ernie taking the city truck home is different. He lives right here, and has to get called out for utility emergencies.

The council agrees to update the meal allowance to \$20 for breakfast, \$30 for lunch, and \$40 for dinner. The will update the lodging expense to be \$250 per night.

Darvin motions to adopt Resolution 2025-04 emergency condemnation of burned structure at 203 E 9th and Resolution 2025-05 emergency condemnation of burned structure at 202 E 4th, TJ 2nd, motion carried.

Lindy motioned to adjourn, Darvin 2nd, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:52 AM

Cherokee Pelican
4-8-25
Pat Walden