

Trenton City Council Approves Beer Sales At Fair

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News

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The Trenton City Council, by two separate votes of four in favor and two opposed, has approved a request from the North Central Missouri Fair board to allow beer to be sold in the grandstand area during this year's fair.



With members of the fair board in attendance, fair board president Rick Hull explained the request was made to create more money for the fair. Hull indicated, it's believed the beer sales could generate an additional 15 to 20 percent in revenue----and indicated it possibly could lead to bigger events in the future. He stated a desire to keep the fair alive.

Hull spoke about having the beer sales this year as a trial to see if they generate more money for the fair. He indicated if they do not generate more funds, another request is not expected to be made for beer sales.

Hull said he's willing to have the liquor license in his name. He noted there'll be additional security at the grandstand area, including at both entrances. He does not foresee any issues, and said they will not be tolerated. The beer is to be served in plastic cups.

Specific times were not given in the request for the Beer sales at the grandstand area, but those sales are to be during the grandstand entertainment each night of the fair.

To allow for the beer sales, the city council voted to suspend an open container ordinance. Since that ordinance does not allow for a suspension of more than three days, the council took two votes, one to cover three dates, and the other vote to cover two dates. Voting in favor both times were councilmen Mark Moore, Jacob Black, Mark Robinson, and Chuck Elliott. Voting no both times were councilmen Kenneth Ewing and Jim Bush. Two councilmen were absent, Travis Elbert and Larry Huffstutter.

Prior to the first vote, Councilman Kenneth Ewing voiced his opposition to allowing the beer sales. Councilman Chuck Elliott said it's not to promote drinking, rather it's to support the fair board and allow for more money to be generated.

Earlier in the discussion, Trenton Mayor Nick Mchargue suggested having a section of the grandstands where people cannot drink beer, nor smoke.

On another topic, all six members of the council in attendance approved a bid from Garsite I-I-C to provide an airport fuel recovery system at a cost of nearly 68-hundred dollars. After Mayor Nick Mchargue vetoed the council action, all six councilmen at the meeting voted to override the veto.

The bid was the lowest of two received. It's expected to pay for itself in one year. The system is to meet requirements of the federal aviation administration and the life flight medical helicopter service---which requires daily testing of the fuel used for the medical helicopter.

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Mayor Mchargue, in vetoing the council action, said more research should be done. He also cited the cost.

All six members of the council at the meeting voted in favor of an agreement with the Missouri intergovernmental risk management association to provide insurance coverage for the city of Trenton and its municipal utilities. The 12-month membership cost is slightly over 120-thousand dollars for t-m-u and Nearly 109-thousand dollars for the city of Trenton. The insurance coverage is for workmans compensation, property, and liability.

Enforcement of existing two-hour parking limits on A portion of main street in downtown Trenton has drawn some criticism. Additional input is to be obtained from businesses before the topic is discussed by the city council's administrative committee.

Roger Johnson, whose wife operates Roses Cut-N-Kurl, cited an example of how a customer at the business could spend more than two hours there. He suggested a parking limit of three to three and one half hours in the area of the beauty shop.

Councilman Mark Robinson requested the city council talk about the parking topic after receiving some complaints.

The Trenton City Council meeting began with Police Chief Tommy Wright introducing North Central Missouri College criminal justice student Kristina Baker who's an intern this summer at the police station.

Wright then talked about the police department's efforts to deal with nuisances. He said good headway is being made towards making Trenton a better place to live. However, patience from the public is requested. He noted a request for the public to provide input about nuisances has resulted in A lot of input. Police Chief Wright indicated the police department has had a good working relationship with Trenton code enforcement officer Donnie Vandevender.

Later in the meeting, Police Chief Wright discussed efforts to determine how to reduce the number of times tractor trailer units make wrong turns and end up in neighborhoods where they have difficulties maneuvering. The Missouri Department Of Transportation is to be involved In those efforts. Facebook also has been used to gain suggestions from the public. The Police Chief also discussed the Newly formed organization he's leading GC 2000 which is to promote good behavior by youths.

Among other topics, councilman Jacob black praised those responding to a fire on East 9th street in Trenton June 18th in which bales of hay on a trailer caught fire. Black also praised the availability of equipment used to fight the blaze. Fire Chief Rick Morris said a fire truck worked flawlessly. He said the ability to use foam made a difference.

Among remarks by street supervisor Larry Griffin, Overlay work is expected to occur later this week on eastview drive. It's to be followed by overlays on Town and Country and Eighth Street, which have been milled to remove asphalt. Eastview gets its overlay first by virtue of a drawing. A portion of Avalon is not to be overlaid until a waterline project is done in the 10th and Avalon area.

Code enforcement officer Donnie Vandevender said a building permit has been obtained for the Family Dollar Store to be located at Trenton. It was announced in early April that family dollar would be located in a portion of the building formerly housing the Easter's true value store.

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Trenton community development director Ralph boots discussed various projects he's been involved with. T-m-u director chad Davis and parks superintendent Jason shuler also were among those giving reports.

Councilman Jim Bush indicated the parking lot of his theater on Oklahoma avenue can be used by persons viewing the public fireworks display the night of July 4th.

The Trenton building and nuisance board met prior to the Trenton City Council meeting and discussed numerous properties needing attention. The owners of three of those properties will be asked to attend the next building and nuisance board meeting. They're located at 506 west 13th court, 10-01 Custer, and 914 east 17th street.

Police Chief Tommy Wright talked about police department efforts to deal with nuisance complaints. He also mentioned three locations where the city likely will be needed to mow the properties.

Councilman Bush expressed concern a united states flag flown at a residence on Kitty street had an indian decal on it. Bush says that violates federal flag code. City administrator Kerry Sampson said the matter would be looked at.