

Sweet Springs aldermen hear Zimmer plan
Friday, February 22, 2013
by Kelsey Alumbaugh/ Special to The Concordian

Troy Nash, representative of Zimmer Real Estate Group, and Bill Riggins and Stan Moore, both with the Marshall-Saline Development Corporation, were present to present the Zimmer economic development plan to the Sweet Springs Board of Aldermen at its meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 12.

Nash highlighted key points in the plan in his speech, noting globalization, education and immigration as important concepts of which to take note. Nash also touched on Sweet Springs' proximity to Interstate 70.

"One of the things that you all have going for you, that Marshall and Slater don't, is that you have Missouri's main street right at your front door," Nash said to the board. "There are communities that would love, absolutely love, to have what you have right there."

Nash and Riggins agreed they wanted the plan to be usable, not just an idea, but something the county could put into action.

"Not all economic development is created equal, and not every deal is a good deal," Nash said. "And that's something that we advocate in the plan by working through this newly revised committee structure that will allow us to collectively as a county to evaluate which proposals are best for us."

There will be a presentation of the plan on Wednesday, Feb. 20, at the Martin Community Center in Marshall.

"We have quite a presentation," Nash said. "We're going to attempt to bring the plan to life so that people can really understand what we are facing collectively."

A resignation from Shannon Merrill, who was part of the public works department, was accepted. An ad will be placed in the Sweet Springs paper with information in regards to filling the position.

The budget hearing is scheduled for 5:45 p.m. Tuesday, March 12, at City Hall.

Albert Hartman, president of the park board, was in attendance to speak with the board about funding for the park. Hartman also noted the board is in need of three more park board members and those interested do not need to live within city limits.

Shelly Schlichting and Nathan Lea will be part of the Transient Guest Tax committee.

Dee Friel has scheduled the meeting for all Sweet Springs club presidents or representatives for Monday, March 11, at City Hall.

Minutes of the January meeting, the financial report, police report and public works report were accepted.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 12, following the budget hearing.