

City Council Minutes  
February 8, 2021

The meeting was called to order in the Council meeting room at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Hegwood. Present were Lance DeLissa, Armando Gonzalez, Roberto Holguin, Brian Kroth and George Lucas. Also present were City Administrator Dean Cordes and City Clerk Janet Gleason. Visitors were Bobbie Allison, Tom Kuhns, Michele Ross and Mike Gillen

There was no public comment.

Michele Ross, on behalf of the Meade Chamber of Commerce, presented the council with proposals and estimated costs to expand the city holiday light display in the downtown area. Kroth asked if there were grants and Michele stated that she has received a small grant from the Community Foundation and is looking into some other possibilities. Gonzalez asked about the cost of labor and any modifications, those were not included in the proposed costs. DeLissa asked Gillen about power sources and power limits. Council also discussed pros and cons of LED bulbs. Kroth suggested starting with figuring out what the current power load and capacity is before making any decisions.

In reviewing the appropriations DeLissa commented that purchases should be made locally when possible since it is the local taxpayers who provide revenue to the city. When comparing purchase costs and bids, it would be important to add any additional costs in employee time and travel expense related to the purchase. Kroth and Hegwood both expressed agreement with DeLissa. Motion by Lucas, seconded by Gonzalez to approve the Appropriations Ordinance in the amount of \$404,246.61. Motion carried with all in favor.

Minutes of the January 25, 2021 meeting were approved as written.

In Old Business Kroth asked about Well # 1. Cordes is waiting on the frequency drive from Nabb Electric.

DeLissa asked about the stoplight. Cordes has talked to EBH Engineering and is still looking for other suppliers. He is also going to check with the League business registry. Kroth suggested contacting Frank Penner about the possibility of boring under the highway. DeLissa requested all bids include push buttons at the crosswalks.

The trailer mounted air compressor is 33 years old and not working. The estimate for repairs was \$16,000.00. Cordes presented bids for a replacement. Bids were as follows: Central Power Systems: Doosan P185--\$20,220.00. Equipment Share: Atlas Copco--\$20,828.00. VLP: Doosan P185--\$20,579.00. Cordes also had bids for used compressors but council agreed that it would be better to purchase new. Motion by DeLissa, seconded by Kroth to purchase the new Doosan P185 at a cost of \$20,220.00 Motion carried with all in favor. DeLissa asked where the compressor would be used and Cordes said mostly in the street and water departments. It was decided to take \$10,000.00 from the water improvement fund, \$5000.00 from the street and alley fund and the remainder from the equipment fund.

Cordes presented the 2020 water report showing the total gallons of water pumped for each of the past 30 years and the water fund balances. The water fund is a budgeted fund used for routine and regular expenses. The water improvement fund is budgeted for major projects and improvements. The balance in the water fund has been sufficient but the balance in the improvement is decreasing due to the well repairs and distribution improvements. The improvement fund will be nearly depleted with the next scheduled 5 block project. The last water rate increase was in 2014. DeLissa felt the water improvement fund should be able to cover the projects that need to be done. The water fund will be depleted if funds continue to be moved to the improvement fund without a rate increase. Council asked where the needs were and Cordes felt anything cast iron should be replaced. Kroth would like Cordes to identify and prioritize where the next phase should be and begin a long-range plan for improvements. The objective in improving the system now is to avoid a massive failure that would require federal assistance. Federal assistance would require a significant increase in the minimum rates and council would like to prevent that. Cordes asked council to decide how much additional revenue they want to begin moving into the water improvement fund.

Gleason presented letters from Meade After Prom and Crooked Creek Classic. Motion by Gonzalez, seconded by DeLissa to give \$100 to Crooked Creek Classic. Motion carried with all in favor. Motion by DeLissa, seconded by Holguin to give Meade After prom \$200 in chamber bucks. Motion carried with all in favor.

Gleason presented council with the information that has been given to the employees regarding false unemployment claims.

Gleason distributed copies of Senate Bill 87 and a summary from Attorney Kuhns. Senate Bill 87 would amend the rule for state sales tax distribution. At the present time a percentage, based on population, of state sales tax collected is distributed to the municipalities within a county. Passage of this bill would distribute all the funds from state sales tax collected to the counties. In 2020 Meade City share was \$135,128.57.

Cordes has been working with EBH engineering to apply for a Connecting Links grant.

Motion by Kroth, second by Lucas to enter executive session for personnel matters of non-elected personnel to meet back in this same room in 20 minutes. Motion carried with all in favor. After executive session, no action was taken.

Motion by DeLissa, second by Gonzalez to enter executive session for personnel matters of non-elected personnel to meet back in this same room in 10 minutes. Motion carried with all in favor. After executive session, no action was taken.

Motion by Gonzalez, seconded by Holguin to adjourn. Motion carried with all in favor.

ATTEST:

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J.D. Hegwood, Mayor

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Janet Gleason, Clerk