

City Council Minutes  
May 10, 2021

The meeting was called to order in the Council meeting room at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Hegwood. Present were Lance DeLissa, 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 Janice Wiens

There was no public comment.

Janice Wiens presented the Council with a dividend check from EMC Insurance in the amount of \$19,278.57 and thanked the Council for the opportunity to service the City of Meade.

Michelle Ross presented revised estimated costs for the Chamber of Commerce proposal for downtown holiday lighting as well as an example of how lighted stars would look. She has \$1000.00 in grant money and \$3500.00 in Chamber funds to contribute to the project. Council discussed ideas and options with Ross. Motion by DeLissa, seconded by Lucas to contribute a maximum of \$3500.00 from the general fund for Christmas decorations. Motion carried with all in favor. Ross and Cordes will work out the details.

Ross also mentioned she received a grant to assist with the purchase and planting of flowers for the downtown pots and will be asking for volunteers of all ages to assist with this project.

Motion by DeLissa, second by Holguin to approve building permits #21010. Motion carried with all in favor.

Cordes informed council that Bobby Lauppe met with the Board of Zoning Appeals regarding Building Permit #21004 and it was approved noting that the fence must be 15" off the right of way and there is to be nothing growing on the fence at any time.

Motion by Lucas, seconded by DeLissa to approve the Appropriations Ordinance in the amount of \$376,956.45. Motion carried with all in favor.

Minutes of the April 26, 2021 meeting were approved as written.

Council reviewed a rate comparison of 20 surrounding cities that Attorney Kuhns prepared. Meade's rates are the lowest of all cities in the comparison. Council discussed the rates at length. Cordes informed the council that \$52,000.00/year is paid out on the Sewer Lagoons and the last payment will be in September of 2023. DeLissa commented that as soon as the bond is paid the city will likely need to dredge the lagoons. Discussion followed regarding the options and possible costs of this in 2024. Cordes stated the Kansas Rural Water Association will come this summer to gauge the lagoons and estimate when dredging might need to be done. Council discussed the cost and frequency of water well and lift station maintenance and repairs. Cordes reminded the council of the proposal to increase the electric minimum charges \$3.00/month for three years to pay for the stoplight repairs. Due to this Council discussed waiting with additional sewer charges until after the stoplight cost was paid but increasing the water charges to provide additional funds for the increased costs of the water line projects. Cordes requested council approval to add another block of 6-inch line to the current water line project on Highway 23. This is a projected increased cost of around \$40,000.00. Everything is line itemed and Cordes should be able to calculate the cost and contact Penner regarding the additional work. Council approved the request.

Motion by Kroth, second by DeLissa to raise utility rates for in city limit meter fee to \$12.00/month for up to 2000 gallons and increase to \$3.25/1000 gallons after the first 2000 gallons usage. Out of city limits meter fee raised to \$20.00/month for up to 2000 gallons and \$3.50/1000 gallons after 2000 gallons. The recreation commission meter fee would be \$12.00/month and \$2.25/1000 after 2000 gallons. The electric meter charge will be increased \$3.00/meter for 3 years. After 3 years this fee will be removed from the electric charge and the sewer base fee will be increased from \$8.00 to \$10.00/month.

Cordes presented a report of the taxes owed on the dilapidated property list. Cordes stated that some properties the city has condemned and removed still owe delinquent taxes and so the city has not collected the demolition cost. Council discussed the various properties with Cordes and directed him to compose letters to the property owners regarding their intentions and submit it to Attorney Kuhns for review.

Council reviewed the list of appointments for 2021:

**Appointments 2021**

<b>City Clerk-</b>	Janet Gleason
<b>City Attorney-</b>	Clay Kuhns
<b>Municipal Judge-</b>	Keith Whitney
<b>Public Officer-</b>	Dean Cordes
<b>Health Officer-</b>	
<b>City Treasurer-</b>	Kelli Knott
<b>Police Chief-</b>	Michael Inlow
<b>Fire Chief –</b>	Jeff Lathan
<b>Animal Control –</b>	Jeff Mather

**Official Newspaper-** Meade County News

**Official Bank Depositors**

Fowler State Bank  
Meade State Bank  
Plains State Bank

**Planning Committee - 4-year term**

	Ending in year
Kim Geddes	2022
George Lucas	2024
JoAnn Tacha	2021
Craig Stratton	2022
Marc Berghaus	2023
Sandy Borger	2021
Roger Musgrove	2024

**Board of Zoning Appeals - 4-year term**

	Ending in year
Bobby Allison	2022
Mitch Little	2022
Open position	
Dale Rosenberry	2024
Roger Musgrove	2024

**Recreation Commission - 4-year term**

	Ending in year
Casie Mcatee (City)	2023
Michael Inlow (City)	2021

**Housing Authority - 4-year term**

	Ending in year
Darrin Golliher	2024
Vicki Fisher	2022
Dean Cordes	2024
Terry Cordes	2022
Becky Berryman	2024

**Library Board - 4-year term**

	Ending in year
Jatiece Vieux	2021
Sena Hough	2022
Gyneth Nelson	2025
Noami Mercado	2021
Doug Scribner	2022
Carol Hewitt	2024
James Mather	2025

Motion by Kroth, second by Lucas to approve the 2021 appointments. Motion carried.

City wide clean-up has been delayed due to the weather.

Motion by Holguin, second by Kroth to pay up to \$360.00 for Senior Banners and have the city hang them. Motion carried.

Gleason presented the April Treasurer report and overtime report.

DeLissa contacted Sheriff Ritter regarding the radio upgrade for the county. The current county system is outdated but still functioning so the county will likely implement the upgrade by department over a period due to the cost. Council felt the radio system for the city crews would probably not require any upgrades, but the fire department might be required to upgrade when the county fire department moves to the new system. Council briefly discussed the need to get more information regarding the upgrade and what, if any, upgrades would be needed for the city police department. Council also discussed the need to contact the county regarding the \$30,000.00/year the city pays for dispatch fees to the county and if the county upgrade would change this amount.

Council took no action on the following quotes attached to the monthly police report as Chief Inlow was not present at the meeting for discussion of the requests.

Interpol records management system: \$5,676.00 installation, \$180.00/monthly fee, and \$785.00 annual maintenance for a total initial request of \$6,641.00.

Motorola Radio Upgrade: \$48,113.06

Technology for all: required server upgrades: \$3999.99

Total request for funds: \$58,754.05

The Interpol system would be an additional \$2,945.00 in annual fees (\$2,160/year in monthly subscription fees (\$180.00) and \$785.00 annual maintenance)

Motion by DeLissa, second by Kroth to enter executive session for five minutes for confidential data relating to financial affairs of a second party. After executive session, no action was taken.

Motion by DeLissa, second by Lucas to enter executive session for five minutes for personnel matters of non-elected personnel to meet back in this same room in 5 minutes. Motion carried with all in favor. After executive session, no action was taken.

Motion by Kroth, seconded by Lucas to adjourn. Motion carried with all in favor.

ATTEST:

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J.D. Hegwood, Mayor

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Janet Gleason, Clerk