

City Council Minutes  
October 9, 2023

The meeting was called to order in the Council meeting room at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Hegwood. Present were Mitch Brenner, Lance DeLissa, Roberto Holguin, Brian Kroth, and George Lucas. Also present were City Administrator Dean Cordes and City Clerk Janet Gleason. Attorney Kuhns was absent.

Visitors were Tom Kuhns, Bobbie Allison, Neil Isaac, Jamie Boese, Mike Gillen

Neil Isaac noted he had been unable to find a commercial property or lot in which to rent, buy or construct a business property. He presented plans for a commercial building to the Council and requested a zoning change from residential to commercial for several lots along East West Plains Street. Cordes explained the process for a request to Neil. Consensus of council to begin the process for rezoning upon completion of a formal request and payment of the \$500.00 fee.

There was no other public comment.

Boese informed the council that both applicants for the MIH homes had been notified and the contracts had been submitted to KHRC to review and approval. A preconstruction meeting with the potential buyers and committee members is scheduled for tomorrow night at 6:45pm in the council meeting room.

Minutes of the September 25, 2023, meeting were approved as written.

There were no building permits.

Motion by Brenner seconded by Lucas to approve the Appropriations Ordinance in the amount of \$579,400.91. Motion carried with all in favor.

Motion by Brenner, seconded by Holguin to approve the amended Ordinance 925. Motion carried with all in favor.

**ORDINANCE NO. 925**

**AN ORDINANCE REGULATING CHICKENS WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF MEADE, KANSAS, AND AMENDING CHAPTER 2, OF ARTICLE 6 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF MEADE, KANSAS.**

Cordes reported that the tax owed on the property located at 509 N Fowler was \$3,505.34. Taxes have not been paid since 2014. Council tabled the discussion and directed Cordes to verify that the property would be listed on the next tax sale.

Consensus of Council to use one of the old pickups for animal control and to contact the school district about purchasing the other one.

Cordes reviewed the engineering report from the inspection of 109 S. Meade Center and added that the engineer had noted that some wall damage was due to the roof leaking. Consensus of the Council for Cordes to send notice to the owner the repairs listed, including roof repairs, needed to be completed by August of 2024.

Motion by DeLissa, seconded by Kroth, to authorize the loans on the properties at 211 Lemmon Circle, Lot 7 of the Bainter Addition and 219 Lemmon Circle, Lot 8, of the Bainter Addition. Mayor Hegwood is authorized to sign loan documents. Motion carried with all in favor.

Motion by Kroth, seconded by Lucas to grant James Wondra a 5% increase for 8 years of service from \$24.95/hour to \$26.20/hour. Motion carried with all in favor.

Cordes informed the council that 3/8' chat is again available, and council approved the purchase.

Council reviewed the Treasurer and Police Department reports.

Gleason distributed a letter and invitation to the annual meeting from Great Plains Development to the Council.

Motion by DeLissa, seconded by Kroth to appoint Mitch Brenner as a voting delegate to KCAMP and Brian Kroth to act as alternate. Motion carried with all in favor.

Gleason informed the council that she and Cordes had submitted a grant application to the Community Foundation of Southwest Kansas requesting funds to assisted with the construction of pickle ball courts.

Consensus of Council to give employees the choice of a ham or turkey for Christmas and to use the same list of positions as in the past.

Council discussed the increasing number of “last minute” utility extension requests and the time necessary to track them as well as the additional time for the electric department for additional disconnects and reconnects during the month if those receiving extensions do not pay as agreed. Council directed Gleason to return to the policy (Section 17-1.15 of the Code) that all requests must be made to the city council at the meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month to avoid disconnect the next day.

Motion by Lucas, seconded by Kroth to double the current cell-phone allowance for the city administrator and supervisors.

Council discussed the option of a per diem reimbursement for travel expenses. Consensus of council was leaving the policy for employees to be reimbursed from receipts rather than a per diem.

Council approved Gleason’s request to attend a regional clerk meeting in Hays on October 27.

Cordes informed the council he had signed an agreement with Ideatek for the lift station cell phone alarms.

Cordes will contact Jolie again regarding the CHUBB claim and will also contact Siemens regarding if CHUBB has ever contacted them regarding a claim.

Council requested Cordes continue to advertise for an animal control officer.

Kroth asked about the status of the the old Presbyterian Church. Cordes has sent a letter to the new owner regarding the intended use of the property and informing them that the city had some concerns regarding the condition of the property. It they do not respond in two weeks he will follow up with a nuisance letter.

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

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JD Hegwood, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Janet Gleason, City Clerk