

City Council Minutes

Meeting date:

Monday, October 26, 2020

The meeting was called to order in the Council meeting room at 7:00 p.m. by Council President Lance DeLissa in the absence of Mayor Hegwood. Present were Armando Gonzalez, Roberto Holguin, Brian Kroth and George Lucas. Also present were City Administrator Dean Cordes and City Clerk Janet Gleason. Visitors were Bobbi Allison, Tom Kuhns, Sarah Debnam, and Tom and Jennifer Godfrey.

Sarah Debnam informed council that the chain was broken at the truck parking lot. Council thanked her for bringing it to their attention and Cordes will take care of getting it repaired.

Tom and Jennifer Godfrey requested approval of a Beer License for the restaurant, TJ's Grill, LLC, that they plan to open. Motion by Kroth, seconded by Holguin to approve the Beer License for TJ's Grill, LLC. Kroth-yes, Holguin-yes, Lucas-yes, Gonzalez-yes. Gleason also had a Beer License renewal request from LOVE'S. Motion by Holguin, second by Kroth to approve the Beer License for LOVE'S. Holguin-yes, Kroth-yes, Lucas-yes, Gonzalez-yes.

Council reviewed the police report. Inlow was not present due to a training out of town. Kuhn's has revised Ordinance 907 and asked council to review them. Kuhn's has also revised a proposed ordinance regarding cell phone use in school zones. Kuhns will approach the Superintendent of USD 226 regarding the High School parking lot.

Motion by Gonzalez, seconded by Lucas to grant Officer Wondra a 3-year raise from \$20.41/hr. to \$22.04/hr. effective October 30, 2020. Motion carried with all in favor.

Council reviewed the September and quarterly Treasurer report.

Motion by Lucas, seconded by Gonzalez to approve the Appropriations Ordinance in the amount of \$325,302.35.

Minutes of the September 28, 2020 meeting were approved as written.

Motion by Gonzalez, seconded by Lucas to approve Building Permit #20023. Motion carried with all in favor. Motion by Gonzalez, seconded by Lucas to approve Building Permit #20024. Motion carried with all in favor.

Motion by Gonzalez, seconded by Lucas to approve Building Permit #20025. Motion carried with all in favor.

Cordes presented information to the Council regarding Well #1. Cordes requested clarification and advice from the Council for the bid specifications. Cordes will revise the bid request as directed. Council gave Cordes authorization to request bids and to decide regarding those bids.

Cordes told council that Ron Hall, Department of Transportation, will be on the agenda of the November 9 meeting.

DeLissa suggested adding a brighter light at the intersection of Highway 23 and East West Plains. Illuminating the "dip" sign and adding more light might help slow the traffic.

Council discussed and made suggestions to the draft of the bid sheet for the reconstruction of the cooling tower. Cordes will make the revisions and present a revised draft at the November 9 meeting.

Ideatek will be beginning work on bringing fiberoptic internet to Meade soon.

Cordes informed Council that Jim Woodruff retired. He was presented a plaque thanking him for his 37 years of service at a community reception last Thursday. Motion by Gonzalez, seconded by Lucas to gift Woodruff with a \$200 Visa gift card in thanks for his years of service.

Motion by Kroth, seconded by Gonzalez to promote Mike Gillen to Electric/Water Supervisor and increase his wage from \$24.95/hr. to \$26.73/hr. Motion carried with all in favor. Motion by Gonzalez, seconded by Holguin to grant James Wondra a 5-year increase from \$21.34 to \$22.41 effective October 15, 2020. Motion carried with all in favor. Motion by Gonzalez, seconded by Lucas to grant Anthony Schmidt a 15-month increase from \$16.02 to \$16.98 retroactive to October 15. Motion carried with all in favor.

Gleason presented Council with a SPARKS funding update. All approved items have been submitted and there is a remaining fund balance of \$9216.72. Council discussed the proposed items. Attorney Kuhns reminded the council that any items that were budgeted for could not be claimed as a COVID related expense. There were questions regarding whether the Technology For All quote for the Police Department was budgeted. Council members did not recall Chief Inlow presenting the quote as part of the Police Department budget. Council approved for the purchase of a Conferencing system, the replacement of council and office chairs with those that can be easily disinfected, and an upgrade to the Police Department court reporting software that would enable remote work.

Council reviewed and discussed the health insurance coverage renewal proposals from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas. The increase for 2021 on the current plan is 12.41%. Motion by Gonzales, seconded by Lucas to accept the grandfathered option of Comprehensive Major Medical and dental insurance and to continue paying 100% of the premiums for employees.

Motion by Kroth, second by Gonzalez to enter executive session for personnel matters of non-elected personnel to meet back in this same room in 15 minutes. Motion carried with all in favor. After executive session, no action was taken.

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

ATTEST:

J.D. Hegwood, Mayor

Janet Gleason, Clerk