

Meade City Council Minutes  
January 13, 2020

The council meeting was called to order in the council meeting room at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Richard Knott. Council members present were Lance DeLissa, Armando Gonzalez, Brian Kroth, George Lucas and Beto Holguin. Also, present were City Administrator Dean Cordes, City Clerk Janet Gleason and Mayor elect J.D. Hegwood. Visitors were Ed Dye, Tom Kuhns and Ed Pippitt.

The first order of business was for former Mayor Knott to swear in the new Mayor, J.D. Hegwood. New councilmembers George Lucas and Roberto (Beto) Holguin were then also sworn in.

Ed Pippitt commented that he appreciates the special use vehicle permits. He also commented that he appreciates the city website being up to date and publishing the minutes and ordinances.

Motion by Lucas, second by Gonzalez to approve appropriations ordinance of \$257,344.54. Motion carried all in favor.

December 9<sup>th</sup> minutes approved as written.

There were no building permits.

Cordes indicated the stoplight is going to need repairs soon, he will update the prior bids and bring them to the next meeting. Kroth asked about the status of the work on the city building and airport. Cordes has talked to Knott about the delays. Kroth suggested in all new bids there should be a reasonable time frame for completion and a penalty for projects that are completed by the deadline.

Cordes said there have been some issues with the stoplight. The bids he had gotten were \$80,000.00 but did not include concrete work. Council discussed various options and Cordes will review the bids and contact the companies regarding the options available.

Cordes received notice from KMEA that Sunflower and MKEC are merging transmission assets. The city of Meade purchases power through KMEA. The transmissions costs are through Sunflower Electric and Mid-Kansas Electric. This could bring an estimated rate increase to the city in as much as \$60,000.00/year. The increase will go into effect in January. If the Federal Energy Regulatory Committee approves a smaller increase the difference will be refunded. Cordes felt that since the electric project is almost finished and the debt on the substation and transmission line will be paid in September, he hopes the city can absorb the cost without increasing residential rates.

Motion by Gonzalez, seconded by Kroth to appoint DeLissa as Council President. Motion carried with DeLissa abstaining.

Cordes has re-inspected the condemned house at 509 N. Webb and it has been cleaned up but most of the refuse from the house is in the alley as the resident does not have a vehicle or trailer to remove it. Gonzales will coordinate the community service program workers to get it removed.

Cordes presented the 2019 project list and reviewed the status of the projects on the list. He will present the 2020 projects list at the next council meeting.

Cordes expressed concern to the Council regarding the December treasurer report. He was reviewing the year for 2019 and the general fund balance has dropped by \$82,975.00 from last year. Some costs will be offset since the streets will not be sealed this year, but council needs to be aware of the spending and budgets.

Cordes requested to stay on the board of KMU—it involves several meetings a year. Council approved.

Gleason presented Inlow's request letter for a 24-month, pay increase for Officer Clerk. Motion by DeLissa, seconded by Kroth to increase Officer Clerk wages from \$18.70/hr. to \$20.01/hr. Motion carried with all in favor.

Kuhns presented Ordinance 904 to the Council to bring the city in compliance with Federal law.

Motion by DeLissa, seconded by Kroth, to approve Ordinance No. 904 Motion carried with all in favor.

**ORDINANCE NO. 904**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF MEADE, KANSAS INCREASING THE MINIMUM AGE TO PURCHASE CIGARETTES, ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES, OR TOBACCO PRODUCTS FROM 18 YEARS OF AGE TO 21 YEARS OF AGE.**

DeLissa requested the park department check over the play equipment at the park.

With no further business to come before the council Gonzalez made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Kroth. Motion carried with all in favor.

ATTEST:

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J.D. Hegwood, Mayor

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Janet Gleason, Clerk