

City Council Minutes  
November 9, 2020

The meeting was called to order in the Council meeting room at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor JD 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. Attorney Clay Kuhns was not present. Visitors were Bobbi Allison, Tom Kuhns, Mike Gillen, and Ed Pippit.

There was no public comment.

Ron Hall, Department of Transportation was unable to attend the meeting due to COVID-19 travel restrictions.

Motion by Lucas, seconded by Kroth to approve the Appropriations Ordinance in the amount of \$401377.39.

Minutes of the October 26, 2020 meeting were approved as written.

There were no building permits.

Cordes presented the changes in the bid sheets for the cooling tower and will open for bids on December 14. The end date for the construction to be completed will be May 31, 2021.

Hydro Resources put cameras through Water Well #1 today. It may need a new motor and they also want to lower the pump in the well 40 feet deeper because of the drop in the water table. Replacement of the motor was not part of the original bid.

DeLissa asked how the runway project was going. Cordes stated that they started last week, and it was going well. They work from Monday morning through Friday noon and then the runway is opened for the weekend during daylight hours. They have 40 working days to complete the project.

Gonzales asked if the gate was fixed at the truck parking lot. Cordes replied that it had been repaired.

Cordes reported that the Cedar Street project is complete, and the boring worked well. The six-block project was completed for a cost of \$288,000.00. Gonzales asked how things are in the rest of the city and Cordes said they are continuing to add valves so that shut offs due to breaks will minimize the number of customers affected. They have identified five blocks to replace for the next phase. There is not currently enough money in the water improvement fund to cover this project and the repairs on Well #1. Well #1 repairs are probably going to cost about \$25,000.00. Gonzales asked if they could do 3 blocks instead of 5 blocks. Cordes said that was possible but there are startup fees for the contractor so doing 2 projects instead of 1 would increase the cost.

Cordes reported that on the weekend of October 30 there was a sewer spill on Ed Pippit's property. The call box was not working. A repairman will be coming from Wichita to repair it. KDHE was notified, a spill report was completed. KDHE recommended using lime for clean-up and that was done today. Smith and Loveless does not have a technician available until December so Dean contacted Ed Hickman and they will be here this week to look at the lift station. When the manhole fills it will spill out into the dry creek bed. The issue was with the controls, not with the pump.

Pippit asked if this had ever happened before and Cordes stated yes. Cordes stated he would like to have a better back up, but he does not know what that would be. DeLissa asked why the pumps did not come on and Cordes stated there were power wires on the controllers that got hot. The wires go to the controllers of both pumps. BKM electric looked at it but could not identify what had happened. Kroth asked if the area is checked and Cordes stated that the guys check it every day but that Friday the staff was off. They have been checking it daily and, on the weekends, since it happened, and it seems to be working fine now. If one pump does not run the other should have come on, but with no power to the pump it did not come on. Cordes is concerned that there could be a time that the pumps would malfunction and there would be a delay in getting parts to fix them. If that happened the only option would be to allow the overflow. DeLissa asked Cordes to explore the cost of a replacement pump for the lift station. Cordes is going to explore if there are any other options.

Cordes reported to the council that on the day of the snowstorm the stoplight malfunctioned. Phillips Southern of Wichita was able to do some rewiring to get it working again.

Cordes has contacted Frank Penner for solutions to the meter located in the basement at Back Room Printing.

Council approved for Mather and Schmidt to attend a power plant workshop on November 18 and 19.

Cordes presented bids for an overhead door at the powerplant. Southwest Glass and Door - \$2,480.00. Overhead Door Company- \$3,389.00. Motion by DeLissa, second by Kroth to accept the bid from Southwest Glass and Door for \$2,480.00. Motion carried.

Council discussed the purchase of a tractor and Cordes will bring more information to the next meeting.

DeLissa motioned, second by Kroth to give employees a ham or a turkey for Christmas based on the departments listed last year.

Council reviewed the October Treasurer report.

Gleason presented Council with a SPARKS funding update. The conferencing system is in but not set up yet. Randi has been contacted with approval for the Jayhawk Software system.

Motion by DeLissa, second by Kroth, to give the choice of a ham or turkey to the same departments as last year. Motion carried with all in favor.

DeLissa asked about the fueling station at the airport. Cordes noted that the belt on the pump was replaced and it is working. The beacon is not working but it is part of the lighting project.

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 there was a motion by Gonzalez, seconded by Lucas to hire Becky Merkle as part-time temporary Billing Clerk until the position is filled at a rate of \$20.00/hour with no benefits. Motion carried with all in favor.

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