

City of Smith Center
Council Meeting Minutes
July 23rd, 2015
7:00 pm

The City Council met in adjourned session with Bryce Wiehl presiding. Council members present: Dave Mace, Chris Cole and Adam Rentschler. Others present: Robert Pruden, Tabitha Owen, Terri Jones, Rick Hileman, Garoleen Wilson and Jill Conaway.

Motion by Rentschler, seconded by Cole to approve the July 9th, 2015 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Rod Blickenstaff and Jamie Marshall arrived at 7:05pm.

Robert Pruden shared concerns with traffic not yielding at the intersection of 1st Street and Washington Street. Various options were discussed to remedy the situation. Parked vehicles at this location also cause visibility problems. Marshall will check on the possibility of lowering the speed limit and will frequent this location, and other intersections with the same concerns, issuing citations as needed.

Rod Blickenstaff was in attendance regarding a nuisance abatement request on his property. Blickenstaff is in the process of erecting a fence to abate the nuisance.

Garoleen Wilson presented the minutes from the last Economic Development Advisory Board meeting. Curtis Peterson is in the process of purchasing and opening an RV service center. Wilson asked for the council's permission to have a Brownfields study done on the Peterson Industries, Inc. location. Motion by Mace, seconded by Rentschler to support Wilson's request of a Brownfields study, with permission from the owners of Peterson Industries, Inc. Motion carried.

With the support of the council, the vacant residence at Heritage Townhomes will be repainted. Wilson reported that her contact person from LaCrosse Furniture is currently out of the office, she will be back in contact once he returns. Economic Development will be donating \$300 for the Old Settler's Day medallion hunt. Wilson stated she has had some possible new business prospects contact her. Kathy Driggs will be opening an antique store on Main Street soon. In regards to the Economic Development Revolving Loan Program, the owner of Beaver Creek Taxidermy will be asked to attend the next Economic Development Advisory Board meeting.

Applications for the public transportation van driver position were reviewed. Motion by Rentschler, seconded by Cole to offer employment to Donna Myers as a part-time public transportation driver. Motion carried.

Bids were reviewed for the purchase of a new mower. Motion by Rentschler, seconded by Mace to accept the bid from LandMark Implement for \$3,697.22. Motion carried. (Cole abstained, Mayor vote: aye). Motion carried.

Motion by Mace, seconded by Rentschler to publish the budget in the Smith County Pioneer. Motion carried. The budget hearing is scheduled for August 13th, 2015 at 7:15pm.

An insurance proposal request was submitted to the council. The council supported obtaining a quote for review.

Conaway reported on the KDOT meeting held July 22nd on the Geometric Improvement application.

Wilson shared information of the Home On The Range highway sign presentation scheduled in August, inviting the mayor and council members to be present.

Superintendent Reports:

Marshall: Applications are being accepted for the open position of Police Officer.

Hileman: The council directed Hileman to obtain information and costs on replacement options for the pickup he currently drives. Possible condemnations were discussed, with four properties on the current list. Rentschler asked Hileman to remedy a right-of-way problem on Roger Barta Way.

Jones: Options for installing a credit card machine were shared with the council. As Jones is able to thoroughly review the information, she will bring it back to the council. The Recreation Commission paperwork on the purchase of a utility tractor last fiscal year will need to be redone. Cole is looking into this.

Mace: Mace asked the status of planning activities at the Airport for Old Settler's Day. Rentschler brought the council up-to-date on the status.

Cole: Cole asked to have it stated in the minutes that the council is not looking to, or building a swimming pool. A traffic study recently received from KDOT supports the removal of the flashing light at the intersection of highways 36/281.

Conaway: The new website for Smith Center is being built. In the process, photographs are being submitted by the public for possible use on the website.

Motion by Cole, seconded by Mace to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.