

**City of Smith Center
Council Meeting Minutes
December 29, 2015
7:00 pm**

The City Council met in adjourned session with Bryce Wiehl presiding. Council members present: Dave Mace, Chris Cole and Lynn Zierlein; Adam Rentschler arrived at 7:38pm. Absent: Jason Baetz. Others present: Terri Jones, Tabitha Owen, Dale Pickel, Jamie Marshall, Chris Miner and Jill Conaway.

Motion by Zierlein, seconded by Mace to approve the minutes from the December 10, 2015 meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Zierlein, seconded by Cole to approve the Airport Engineering Agreement with Lochner Engineering for the runway marking project. Motion carried.

Economic Development

The Economic Development Advisory Board minutes were reviewed, with four items brought to the council for approval. These items were reviewed and discussed by the council.

Motion by Zierlein, seconded by Cole to approve a \$15,000 Business Development Loan to John Jeffery to open a fitness training business. Motion carried.

Motion by Mace, seconded by Zierlein to approve a \$5,000 Jump Start Grant to John Jeffery. Motion carried.

Motion by Zierlein, seconded by Cole to approve a \$27,500 Business Development Loan to Brittany and Phillip Pennington to open a Waddell & Reed business. Motion carried.

Motion by Mace, seconded by Cole to approve a \$3,000 match Storefront Grant to Brittany and Phillip Pennington to replace a door and two windows. Motion carried.

In further review of the Advisory Board minutes, the council discussed the proposals brought to the December 10th council meeting by the Advisory Board on the building located at 114 South Main Street. If the council approves the purchase, it is the council's understanding this building will be used as a business incubator, not as an office for Economic Development. Tabitha Owen addressed the question of property tax. As a business incubator, it may be possible to apply to the State of Kansas for an exemption of property tax. Qualifying guidelines were reviewed for recipients of the various Economic Development Grants (Storefront, Clean Up & Revitalization, Jump Start) available to businesses and residents.

Concerns were shared on the condition of the building at 110 South Main Street. Pictures of the interior along with a report from Rick Hileman were previously shared with the council. The clerk was directed to send a notice to the property owner.

Adam Rentschler arrived at 7:38pm.

Supervisor Reports

Marshall discussed intersections lacking proper signage. The council agreed to have the following signs ordered and installed:

School Zone sign at the intersection of New York Street and Grant Street

Speed Limit sign at the intersection of Court Street and Grant Street

No U Turn sign at the intersection of New York Street and Main Street

No U Turn sign at the intersection of Kansas Street and Main Street

Owen asked Marshall about Drake's provisional certificate. Marshall reported that Drake does have his provisional certificate, valid for one year, and has been sworn in. Drake will attend training in April, if not sooner. Marshall extended his gratitude to the city crew for their assistance with some animal calls received recently.

Pickel reported some issues with well #7. Testing will be done the day following the meeting to determine if repairs are needed or a replacement pump. The pump was installed in 2002. The water department crew assisted Gaylord with a water issue.

Zierlein asked Pickel to check with Bill Phillips on the timers set for the nativity lights at the park.

Motion by Rentschler, seconded by Zierlein to go into executive session at 7:55pm for twenty (20) minutes – non-elect personnel. Motion carried. Into executive session at 7:55pm. Out of executive session at 8:15pm.

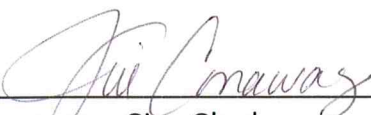
Motion by Zierlein, seconded by Rentschler to give employee raises based on the pay scale worksheet (full-time and part-time); Tabitha Owen - \$25/month raise. Motion carried.

Motion by Zierlein, seconded by Rentschler to continue the current percentage rate of payment for employees on health insurance. Motion carried.

Motion by Rentschler, seconded by Cole to go into executive session for ten (10) minutes at 8:20pm – non-elect personnel. Motion carried. Into executive session at 8:20pm. Out of executive session at 8:30pm.

Motion by Rentschler, seconded by Cole to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:31pm.

Attest:



Jill Conaway, City Clerk