

Smith Center City Council Meeting Minutes
January 27, 2020-6:00 pm

The City Council met in adjourned session with Council President Adam Rentschler presiding. Council members present: Don Wick, Shawn Phelps, Tracy Kingsbury, and Chris Cole. Others present: Jose Jimenez, Teresa Jimenez, Andrea Jimenez, Brady Peterson, Hope Padilla, Tabitha Owen, Brad Howland, Jamie Marshall, and Jill Conaway.

Motion by Wick, seconded by Kingsbury, to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

Guest

Jose Jimenez presented information, architectural plans and pictures proposing changes on the RV Park property he owns on North Main Street. Three designs repurposing storage containers into one and two bedroom rental homes were reviewed by the council. The exterior will be modified to a modern industrial look and/or siding. The property is zoned as Manufactured Housing Park District. Jimenez's vision is to construct rentals as well as a couple of Airbnb homes, construct a covered shelter area, as well as a small playground area. Positive discussion on the project was held, with the consensus of the council to move forward. A meeting will be set up with the Planning Commission as well as re-writing a section of the ordinance.

Chamber of Commerce

Brady Peterson, Chamber of Commerce Chair, shared the 2020 Chamber budget and upcoming activities. Discussion was held on some of the positive changes over the last year, including the utilization of table tents. The council asked how membership amounts are figured, and the benefits businesses receive as a member. Personal memberships are also available. A motion was made by Wick, seconded by Cole, to allot the Chamber of Commerce \$9,000 for the 2020 fiscal year. Motion carried.

General Public Transportation

Due to the growth of the Transit Program and the high demand of the service throughout the County and outlying area, the option of adding a third vehicle to the program was previously approved. Information on a 2010 Dodge Caravan currently in the KDOT Public Transit Program through Reno County Department of Aging was shared with the council. After discussion on the vehicle and program, a motion was made by Wick, seconded by Kingsbury, to approve the purchase and transfer of the vehicle for our Community Connection program. Motion carried.

Economic Development

On recommendation from the Advisory Board, a motion was made by Wick, seconded by Phelps, to re-write the Embellishments/Blooms Business Development and Expansion Revolving Loan to Danni Boucher/Blooms for \$9,453.15 with one year interest free contingent on a quitclaim deed; and a check written and sent to Melanie Zabel for \$500 (included in the loan amount). Motion carried.

Downtown Looking Up-The guidelines for this program were changed to cover the costs of an awning approved by the Board and Council unless the business requests to add lettering or advertising to the awning, in which the business would then be responsible for the cost of the awning and addition(s).

In order to continue to work on various programs and grants to meet housing needs, a motion was made by Kingsbury and seconded by Wick to approve a required study through Hays Docking Institute for \$2,800. Motion carried.

Executive Session

Motion by Cole, seconded by Wick, to enter into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss personnel, employee performance. Motion carried. In session at 7:35 p.m. - Out of session at 7:50 p.m.

Motion by Wick, seconded by Cole, to re-enter into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss personnel, employee performance. Motion carried. In session at 7:52 p.m. – Out of session at 8:02 p.m.

Motion by Cole, seconded by Wick to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Attest:

Jill Conaway, City Clerk