

Smith Center City Council Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2021

I. Call to Order

Mayor Bryce Wiehl called to order the meeting of the city council at 6pm on April 12, 2021.

II. Attendance

Council members: Don Wick, Adam Rentschler, Shawn Phelps, Tracy Kingsbury, and Chris Cole. Others: Kim Phelps, Terri Jones, Joleen Brewer, David and Linda Edell, Stan Herredsberg, Nick Rhodes, Janie Lanus, Jaime Isom, Allen VanDriel, Brady Peterson, Chief Jamie Marshall, Officer Sheldon Kenworthy, Officer Ken Jones, Rick Hileman, and Tabitha Owen.

III. Consent Agenda

Motion by Rentschler, seconded by Kingsbury to approve the previous meeting minutes and payment of vouchers. Motion carried.

IV. Guest

- a) Stan Herredsberg addressed the council on a denied Cleanup and Revitalization Grant application that he submitted to the Economic Development Advisory Board in December, for demolition of a house he owns next to his residence. Herredsberg asked for reconsideration. Pictures of the outside and inside of the structure were reviewed. Herredsberg explained his concerns on the structure and why he believes it qualifies under the grant. His intentions are to clear the property of the structure; maintain the property as he does his residence and the property he owns across the street; and eventually put up a garage. Nick Rhodes stated that the Economic Development Advisory Board denied the grant based on the need for housing in the community and the belief that the structure could be rehabilitated. Herredsberg reiterated the issues of the interior of the structure as well as exterior. Following discussion, Herredsberg will attend the Economic Development Advisory Board meeting scheduled for April 15th to address the application.

V. Previous/Ongoing Business

- a) Administrative Position-Discussion commenced on the administrative position. This position will work with the Clerk and Treasurer fulfilling duties as noted in the job description; as well as serve as a main contact for economic development in the absence of an economic development director, and a liaison with the director when that position is filled in order to maintain good communication with the administration offices and the city council. A motion was made by Wick, seconded by Kingsbury, to offer the position to Aurielle Hughes at pay grade 5. Motion carried.
- b) Seasonal Positions-Hileman shared applicants for summer employment with the council. In response to an inquiry by Wick, Jones and Conaway explained that the list shared is current however applications are still being accepted. A motion was made by Rentschler, seconded by Wick, to offer employment to the applicants listed for the swimming pool, golf course, and city crew. Motion carried.

- c) Srader Access System-The clarifications were made on the quote reviewed at the last meeting from CES for an updated access system. Motion by Wick, seconded by Rentschler, to approve the quote from CES for \$9,651.15. Motion carried.

VI. New Business

- a) General Public Transportation-A motion was made by Rentschler, seconded by Cole, to hire Ronald Attwood as a part-time transit driver. Motion carried.
- b) CDBG Payment Request-Motion by Kingsbury, seconded by Wick, to approve the drawdown payment request as presented. Motion carried.

VII. Department Reports/Committee & Board Reports

- a) Police Department-Chief Marshall reported that he had contacted the individual discussed at the last meeting on the ordinance violation in regard to using the truck route and parking of a tractor trailer.
- b) Airport Board-Jones received positive communication from KDOT on the inquiry from the last meeting on a flyover during the Old Settlers Day celebration of Smith Center's 150th year. The airport board completed the Air Tour Proposal to partner with KDOT Aviation and KCAE to directly participate in the Fly Kansas Air Tour. The board also put together a suggested itinerary that includes greeting the pilots with coffee and rolls; transportation into Smith Center from the airport; participating in the parade with at least one airplane; lunch; video highlighting General Aviation in Kansas; and an offer to the public to view aircraft on the ramp. Jones stated that a local pilot has previously participated in the Air Tour. The council was pleased at the possibility of adding the Tour and additions to the celebration. Kingsbury also provided paperwork he received from a recent meeting that could be completed for the possibility of a Black Hawk helicopter to participate that day as well.
- c) Hileman-Reported on the progress the city crew has made on the upgrades at Wagner Park and the Old Mill. Due to the extreme price increases, some of the initially planned upgrades may be delayed.
Sargent Drilling completed well and pump tests on March 12th. The results of each well were shared. The estimate of \$10,070 presented for each well can be discounted by \$500 per well if two wells are completed at the same time. In reviewing the report and documentation, a motion was made by Kingsbury, seconded by Wick, to approve contracting with Sargent Drilling for well rehabilitation utilizing the discount by scheduling all four wells, two at each visit. Motion carried.
- d) Economic Development-Nick Rhodes reported that the board will meet on Thursday. The board will discuss the director position and he thanked the council for their feedback and input. Discussion was held on director position, communications needed on programs, applications, and items in process when the position is vacated, and continuity.
- e) Conaway-Shared information from Lamp Rynearson on options on a re-opening ribbon cutting at the swimming pool. A proposed date will be coordinated between Lamp Rynearson,

Carrother's Construction, the swimming pool committee and governing body through department head Wick, Jones, and Conaway.

Phelps inquired on the service line insurance. Conaway responded that residents contact the company directly.

- f) Owen-Phelps asked about research on zoning ordinance violations. Owen responded that in the meeting it was addressed that an appeal could be made to the Zoning Board or an application for exemption could be submitted. Wiehl stated that an appeal or exemption application has not been submitted.

VIII. Governing Body Reports

- a) Phelps-Golf/Recreation Commission

Announced the Home on the Range golf scramble scheduled for participants on April 24th and 25th at 10am. The Golf Course Advisory Board is scheduled to meet at 6pm Tuesday at the golf course clubhouse. The Recreation Commission meeting minutes were submitted but sent protected therefore couldn't be opened.

Wick inquired on the possibility of offering golf course members the ability to pay dues through auto debit. Jones discussed the need for working capital early in the year, and will look into the option.

- b) Cole-Police/Fire

Reported on a great turnout for the Pancake Feed held the previous Saturday. Cole expressed gratitude to the community for supporting the fire department.

- c) Wick-Pool/Parks

Shared his concerns on the grass seeding at the pool, preferring buffalo grass as the timing for fescue grass is too late if that is the contractor's choice. Hileman had checked with the construction company on grass seeding, reporting they will be putting in a contractor's blend covered with netting for a quick grow; and the city will work the area after the season similar to the area done at Wagner Park.

- d) Wiehl

Reminded the council and attendees of the 150-year celebration Old Settlers Day.

IX. Adjournment

Motion by Wick, seconded by Phelps, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:52pm.