

Smith Center City Council Meeting Minutes

June 26, 2023

I. Call to Order

Mayor Bryce Wiehl opened the meeting at 6pm on Monday, June 26, 2023, at the Srader Building. Without a quorum present, the meeting commenced once a third council member was in attendance.

II. Attendance

Council members: Brady Peterson, Chris Cole, and Tracy Kingsbury (6:01pm).

Others: Dana Peterson, Aurielle Hughes, Jamie Marshall, Kim Phelps, Andrea Cross, Kim Maudlin, Nick Rhodes, and Jill Conaway.

III. Consent Agenda

Motion by Peterson, seconded by Cole, to approve the previous meeting minutes, vouchers, and receipts. Motion carried.

IV. Guest

- a) Andrea Cross-Options Domestic & Sexual Violence Services
Cross shared information and statistics of the services provided by Options. The organization is celebrating their 40th anniversary this coming year. A motion was made by Cole, seconded by Kingsbury, to donate \$1,000 to Options. Motion carried.

V. New Business

- a) Hearing Notice-A public hearing is scheduled for July 10th at 6pm for consideration of an application to be submitted to KDC for Small Cities Community Development Block Grant funds-CVR category.

VI. Department Reports/Committee & Board Reports

- a) Economic Development-Peterson shared information from the advisory board's special meeting. Motion by Peterson, seconded by Kingsbury, to approve a Residential Revitalization Grant to Scott and Jolene Brewer for up to \$3,000 for the property at 213 N. Grant. Motion carried.
Motion by Cole, seconded by Peterson, to approve \$5,000 in SCWRIP incentive funds to Excel Service Center for a technician position. Motion carried.
Motion by Kingsbury, seconded by Cole, to appoint Dana S. Peterson and Dana J. Peterson to the Housing Team. Motion carried.
Detailed discussion commenced on the damages and costs to rehabilitate an apartment at Heritage Townhomes. A motion was made by Peterson, seconded by Cole, to approve up to \$6,000 of economic development funds towards the apartment rehab if needed.

- b) Police Department-Chief Marshall updated the council on an application. Marshall reported that the radars have been ordered with delivery expected in approximately 60 days.
- c) Clerk-Conaway reported that Ashley Smith and Kurt Breshears will be updating the mural on Court Street as the mural has faded and has some damage. The Statue of Liberty will be enlarged for better visibility as well.
Pocket Park-Conaway and Maudlin are researching and compiling ideas to utilize the green space east of the mural on Court Street as a pocket park to include seating, fencing, sculpture, shade, and landscaping. Conaway and Maudlin will be meeting with the horticulturist from the K-State Extension Post Rock District on Tuesday.
Conaway shared that she would like to establish a Senior Center in Smith Center and combine the city administration offices, general public transportation and garage, and the Senior Center all in one building. Currently, the water plant land is the only city owned location to build the garage to house the 4 transit vehicles, which is not an ideal location for this use. Conaway shared that pulling together a Senior Center, the city offices, and general public transportation would allow daily interaction with community members that utilize the Senior Center, including public transportation to organize day trips. Conaway shared that the most ideal options would be to locate a building in the business district downtown or commercial business district; or a lot to build a metal building to accommodate all three.
Conaway and former intern Charbonneau put together a directional signage project that has been on hold as estimates were not received. Conaway explained that she would like to move forward with this project, widening the scope for contractors.
Conaway asked the council to think about establishing a sidewalk program for residential and/or commercial property owners to replace sidewalks. The program could renew annually with a set budget. Applications could be received with program awards issued on a first-come, first-served basis, as a partial reimbursement.

VII. Governing Body Reports

- a) Kingsbury-Water/Sewer
Shared a possible start date for the waterline replacement at Gaylord.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion by Cole, seconded by Kingsbury, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:42pm.