

Smith Center City Council Meeting Minutes
August 10, 2020-6:00 pm

The City Council met in regular session with Mayor Wiehl presiding. Council members present: Chris Cole, Adam Rentschler, Tracy Kingsbury, and Shawn Phelps. Absent: Don Wick.

Others present: Tabitha Owen, Jaci Charbonneau, Hope Padilla, Terri Jones, Jamie Marshall, Denis Miller, David and Linda Edell, Kim Phelps, John George, Brad Howland, Libby McDonald, and Jill Conaway.

Motion by Phelps, seconded by Kingsbury, to approve the July 27, 2020 minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Cole, seconded by Kingsbury, to approve payment of the monthly expenses. Motion carried.

Customer Service Line Warranty Program

Following discussion and review of information on the Customer Service Line Warranty Program, it was decided to review and reword the insurance company's letter to residents to assure the information is clear; as well as noting a type of pipe material that would not be covered under one of the plans available. A motion was made by Phelps, seconded by Kingsbury, to authorize the City to enter into an agreement to communicate the National League of Cities Service Line at no cost to the City, using no City tax dollars, as a voluntary program for all residents, with no requirement for any resident to participate. Motion carried.

CCLIP US-281 Temporary Bonds

Motion by Rentschler, seconded by Cole, to adopt Resolution 2020-6 authorizing and directing the issuance, sale and delivery of general obligation temporary notes, series 2020, of the City of Smith Center, Kansas; making certain covenants and agreements to provide for the payment and security thereof; authorizing certain other documents and actions connected therewith; and authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to sign said resolution and associated documentation. Motion carried.

CCLIP-PR K-204

Motion by Rentschler, seconded by Kingsbury, to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the Project Programming Request form for KDOT to proceed with the project. Motion carried.

2021 Budget Hearing-6:15pm

Denis Miller, Mapes & Miller, presented an overview of the proposed 2021 budget. As a municipal budget can be difficult to understand and can be misunderstood as an actual cash receipt and expenditure plan, Miller explained that a municipal budget is not a forecast of what the City expects to spend, but is the maximum amount that is allowed to be spent (legal authority versus actual cash). Many variables affect these projections and are put in place to comply with the tax lid to protect the City in future years. A motion was made by Cole, seconded by Rentschler to approve the 2021 budget as published. Motion carried.

Executive Session

Motion by Rentschler, seconded by Kingsbury, to enter into executive session for 10 minutes, for legal advice on personnel conduct. Motion carried. In session at 6:30pm-out of session at 6:40pm. Motion by Rentschler, seconded by Kingsbury, to extend executive session for 10 minutes. Motion carried. In session at 6:41pm-out of session at 6:51pm. Motion by Kingsbury, seconded by Cole, to extend executive session for 5 minutes. Motion carried. In session at 6:51pm-out of session at 6:56pm.

Council

A motion was made by Kingsbury, seconded by Rentschler, to reprimand Councilman Phelps for harassing and texting employees as the council does not condone such actions. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Phelps to reprimand Mayor Wiehl for the presumption of executive session content shared with other individuals. The motion died for lack of a second.

Rentschler stated, with other council acceptance, a reminder to everyone involved in executive sessions that content of the sessions should not be discussed outside of the closed session.

Resignation

A motion was made by Cole, seconded by Kingsbury, to accept the resignation of Linda Morgan from the Planning Commission and Zoning Board, effective July 30, 2020. Motion carried. The council expressed gratitude for Morgan's years of service.

Reports

Chief Marshall reported on completed patrol car repairs and maintenance.

Intern Jaci Charbonneau presented and asked for approval on a project she completed. The project is a city booklet to be handed out to new residents and shared in the community, showing information on various aspects of the city. The council commended Charbonneau on the project and approved the booklet. A section will be added with contact information for County offices.

Terri Jones reported a projected start date of August 17th for the Airport Project and shared information from the pre-construction meeting.

Phelps reported on a flooded VFD at the golf course and the proposed changes in putting a new one in. Discussion was held on the nuisance ordinances.

Kingsbury, Cole, and Rentschler discussed the multiple infrastructure projects taking place and a possible replacement street sweeper. Kingsbury asked that some of the gutters be swept up, mainly the area around the railroad tracks intersecting Main Street where there is debris from the recent work completed by the railroad.

Mayor Wiehl addressed the council on two personal complaints filed at the city office. For transparency, Wiehl stated that he recently sold his home and has established residency on West Third Street which is currently under renovation; as well as materials on order at the lumberyard to place a fence at his commercial address to enclose two antique vehicles.

A motion was made by Phelps, seconded by Rentschler, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:38pm.

Attest:

Jill Conaway, City Clerk