

Smith Center City Council Meeting Minutes October 26, 2020-6:00 pm

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

Others present: David and Linda Edell, Hope Padilla, Terri Jones, Kim Phelps, Tabitha Owen, Alicia Strother, Rick Hileman, Jamie Marshall, Brad Howland, and Jill Conaway.

Motion by Rentschler, seconded by Wick, to approve the October 12, 2020 minutes. Motion carried. Motion by Rentschler, seconded by Phelps, to approve the October 22, 2020 minutes. Motion carried.

Health Insurance Renewal

Agent Alicia Strother, Strother Insurance Services, presented information to the governing body on the insurance renewal, including various quotes obtained. Strother did a policy overview and answered questions from the council. Following discussion, a motion was made by Rentschler, seconded by Cole, to approve the United Healthcare/Freedom Claims renewal effective December 1, 2020 as presented. Motion carried.

Salary Schedule

Mayor Wiehl presented the current salary schedule and asked the council to review and bring suggested changes to the December 14th meeting. Discussion included a structure change, step change, and adding economic development in the schedule in order to have all employees included.

Economic Development

Estimates to replace the flooring in the economic development/chamber of commerce office rented from Center Theatre were shared. Prior to approving an estimate for replacement, theatre board member Kim Phelps will be writing and submitting a grant.

Supervisor Reports

Chief Marshall reported on a recent interview for the open police officer position. Following discussion, a motion was made by Cole, seconded by Phelps, to offer Kenneth Jones, Jr. the position at pay grade 7. Motion carried. Following some questions on stop sign placements, Marshall explained some of the requirements that are followed that explain why some signs are located farther from the corner/curb than others.

Rick Hileman reported on the well houses. Maxwell Welding has had the materials on order to complete the roof on the last well house, but is having trouble getting the supplies in due to recent hurricane damage along the coast.

Council Reports

Phelps stated that as an elected official, he should be able to know the names of individuals making anonymous donations to the city, to assure donations are exclusively for municipal purposes in order to claim the tax deduction. Wiehl referred the question to Attorney Owen who responded that she wasn't sure what Phelps was referring to but she would look into it. Brad Howland explained that with the economic development's downtown beautification program, donations are accepted that in turn can be gifted to qualifying projects.

Wick reported on the swimming pool construction.

Cole inquired on the council's thoughts on the street sweeper recently replaced. It was the consensus of the council to have the clerk schedule the sweeper for an online sale.

Rentschler reported on the agreement with Venture Corp. to remedy the manhole issue at the intersection of 1st Street and Main Street. Venture Corp. will fix the manhole at the original contract price of \$1,500 plus \$262.50 for mobilization. Rentschler also stated that the 1st street concrete job is currently on hold due to weather.

Mayor Wiehl thanked the city crew for their work on the wellhouse project as well as the old water line to the Srader.

A motion was made by Wick, seconded by Rentschler, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:53pm.