

Smith Center City Council Meeting Minutes
November 23, 2020-6:00 pm
(Held at the SC Firehouse)

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

Others present: Kim Phelps, Hope Padilla, Brad Howland, David and Linda Edell, Jamie Marshall, and Jill Conaway.

Motion by Wick, seconded by Cole, to approve the November 9, 2020 minutes. Motion carried.

CDBG

A motion was made by Wick, seconded by Phelps, to approve CDBG drawdown #5 and payments as presented, motion carried.

CMB

Motion by Phelps, seconded by Wick, to approve CMB license renewals to Pester Marketing, Pizza Hut and DG Retail for 2021. Motion carried.

Economic Development

Information was shared on a \$2,500 grant that would pay for Galen Lambert to achieve certification to better assist in the services he offers as a volunteer for SCORE. Detailed discussion commenced explaining the additions in service the certification would provide; the cost to Lambert to provide the services as a volunteer; the vast area of Kansas Lambert covers that the certification would benefit from (not just the Smith Center area), and the estimated number of applicants to programs that utilize the services. Due to the support given by the advisory board, a motion was made by Wick, seconded by Cole, to approve a \$2,500 grant for Lambert to achieve certification through SCORE. Motion carried.

Howland addressed the council on the essential worker classification of all the city staff. Due to the services and actions, the government employees are considered essential workers, including the economic development department of the city.

Status of loan payments; the financial impact on businesses in Smith Center; and concerns on the lack of restaurant/diner serving breakfasts noticed especially during this time with hunters and construction workers in the community working on road projects, the airport, swimming pool and local properties, and others.

Supervisor and Council Reports

Conaway reported that County Road Supervisor Mitch Fritz received notification that the resurfacing project for P Road from US-36 north 1 mile, was approved.

Wick reported on the status of the swimming pool project.

Kingsbury shared with the council the replacement order of a locator, a vital tool used frequently by the city crew.

Cole inquired on the completion of the wellhouses and the status of the street sweeper listing.

Rentschler reported on the completion of the highway 281/Main St. project-including the manhole at the intersection of 1st Street, and the airport project.

Executive Session

Motion by Wick, seconded by Kingsbury, to enter into executive session for 10 minutes, employee performance of non-elected personnel. Motion carried. In session at 6:43pm-out of session at 6:53pm. Motion by Wick, seconded by Cole, to extend executive session 5 minutes. In session at 6:53pm-out of session at 6:58pm. Motion by Kingsbury, seconded by Wick, to extend executive session 5 minutes. Motion carried. In session at 6:58pm-out of session at 7:03pm.

Detailed discussion was held on emergency callouts, employee compensatory time, vacation, and sick leave. It was the consensus of the council that beginning immediately employees responding to emergencies and/or at any other time an employee is working outside of the normal work day, the employee is to clock in (hand-writing time in will not be acceptable). Reports on accrued and used time will be reviewed by the council each month. Councilman Phelps left the meeting. Discussion was held on schedules, the effects of COVID-19, weekend on-call coverage/schedule, and compensatory time.

A motion was made by Wick, seconded by Cole, to adjourn. Motion carried.