

WASHINGTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Regular Meeting – City Hall
February 6, 2023

1. Call to order by Council Member Theresa Herrs.

2. Roll Call.

Present: Ryan Kern, Mayor
Jerry Fuhrken, Council Member
Theresa Herrs, Council Member
Terry Morse, Council Member
Carolyn Pinnick, Council Member
Absent: Roxanne Schottel, Council Member
Staff Present: Carl Chalfant, City Administrator
Denise Powell, City Clerk
Caroline Scoville, Fulltime EMT
Others: Cynthia Scheer, Washington County News
Andrea Alldredge, Playground Committee
Taylor Miller, Playground Committee

3. Citizens Comments.

No public comments.

4. Minutes.

Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held January 3, 2023, by Morse and seconded by Herrs.

Vote: Ayes: Jerry Fuhrken
Theresa Herrs
Terry Morse
Caroline Pinnick

Mayor Ryan Kern arrived at 6:31 p.m.

5. Appropriations Ordinance 2023-02.

Motion to approve appropriations ordinance 2023-02 by Herrs and seconded by Morse.

Vote: Ayes: Jerry Fuhrken
Theresa Herrs
Terry Morse
Caroline Pinnick

6. Playground Committee.

Andrea Alldredge, Taylor Miller and Caroline Scoville, playground committee members, visited with the Council in regards to updating the playground in the City's park. Heather Gepner and Erica Lehman have resigned from the committee. The committee asked what the Council's expectation were, the City's bid process, about the Larry Davison Estate money, and how the playground funds would be handled.

The City hired design consultants Leathers & Associates to do an assessment of Munchkinland in 2021. Based on the overall age of the playground and the current condition, Leather's estimated repairs to cost \$55,000 extending the life by 10 years. A new custom designed community build replacement, utilizing composite material which could last up to 50 years, was estimated to cost around \$360,000 for a playground with similar square footage as the existing playground. The Committee will be doing a Zoom meeting with Leathers & Associates, the company who helped with Munchkinland. At this time, no decision has been made on the type of playground as the committee is exploring options.

The playground committee will meet with the Lions Club to see if they are interested in a joint project.

7. Mower Bids.

Motion to accept the bid of \$6,400 from Bruna Implement for a 2023 Grasshopper 127V mower with trade-in of 2012 Grasshopper 226V in the amount of \$6,400 with two-year warranty by Pinnick and seconded by Morse.

Vote: Ayes: Jerry Fuhrken
Theresa Herrs
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

8. CIPP Bids.

Motion to accept the bid of Mayer Specialties for Cured-In-Place Pipe for approximately 5,889 linear feet of 8” sewer pipe at a cost of \$24.88 per foot and mobilization of \$350.00 for an estimated total of \$146,868.32 Herrs and seconded by Morse.

Vote: Ayes: Jerry Fuhrken
Theresa Herrs
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

The 2023 budget includes \$50,000 for sewer lining and \$80,882.85 from the remaining ARPA funds which is approximately \$16,000 over budget. City Administrator Carl Chalfant asked the Council to approve the bid stating the City would not line sewers next year to allow the budget to recuperate.

Motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the CIPP contract contingent upon review by City Attorney by Herrs and seconded by Fuhrken.

Vote: Ayes: Jerry Fuhrken
Theresa Herrs
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

9. Sidewalk, Curb, Gutter, Housing Cleanup Programs.

Consensus of the Council was to table the Sidewalk, Curb & Gutter and Housing Cleanup programs for 2023.

Council discussed tearing down Old City Hall. The consensus of the Council was to set a deadline of May 1st for any interested parties to come forward with a proposed plan for old City Hall. If no interest, the Council will proceed with demolition.

10. Emergency Water Supply Plan.

Motion to adopt the updated Emergency Water Supply Plan as presented by Herrs and seconded by Pinnick.

Vote: Ayes: Jerry Fuhrken
Theresa Herrs
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

11. Employee Resignation.

Motion to accept the resignation of William Moore, EMT, effective February 19, 2023, by Pinnick seconded by Morse.

Vote: Ayes: Jerry Fuhrken
Theresa Herrs
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

12. Land & Water Conservation Statement.

Motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the 2023 Annual Operation & Maintenance Assurance Statement for Project No. 20-00380 Washington Golf Course by Herrs and seconded by Pinnick.

Vote: Ayes: Jerry Fuhrken
Theresa Herrs
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

13. Truck Purchase.

Motion to ratify the purchase of a 2015 Ford F150 XL Extended Cab pickup at a cost of \$21,000 from Federal Surplus to be paid out of the Equipment Reserve Fund by Pinnick and seconded by Fuhrken.

Vote: Ayes: Jerry Fuhrken
Theresa Herrs
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

14. Kansas Rural Water Association Meeting.

Motion to allow Chris Milam to attend the KRWA Conference March 28-30, 2023, in Wichita by Pinnick and seconded by Morse.

Vote: Ayes: Jerry Fuhrken
Theresa Herrs
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

Motion to appoint City Administrator Carl Chalfant as a designated voting delegate and Chris Milam as alternate voting delegate for the 2023 Annual KRWA Meeting of Membership by Pinnick and seconded by Morse.

Vote: Ayes: Jerry Fuhrken
Theresa Herrs
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

15. Transformer Quote.

Motion to approve the purchase for a 300KVA Three Phase Pad Mount Transformer with a three-year warranty from Midwest Transformer at a cost of \$26,260 plus tax to be paid out of the Electric Distribution Fund by Morse seconded by Pinnick.

Vote: Ayes: Jerry Fuhrken
Theresa Herrs
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

16. Power Plant Lease Purchase.

Motion to approve payment of \$379,288.28 to be paid through the UB&T lease by Pinnick and seconded by Herrs.

Vote: Ayes: Jerry Fuhrken
Theresa Herrs
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

17. Transformer Bank Relocation.

Motion to approve the quotes from KMEA Mid-States of \$34,720 plus tax to move the existing transformer bank from the north side of the power plant to the south side of the power plant to be paid out of the electric

production fund and \$8,775 to install a new 277/480-volt wye service from the new power plant substation on the south side of the power plant to the water plant to be paid out of the water fund by Morse seconded by Pinnick.

Vote: Ayes: Jerry Fuhrken
Theresa Herrs
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

18. Water Rate Study.

Staff reviewed water expense and revenue for 2022 along with projected debt service payments to determine if a water rate increase next year will be warranted. Consensus of the Council was to table any rate increase upon review next year.

19. Water Project Pay Request.

Motion to approve Water Project Payment Request in the amount of \$14,984.09 by Herrs and seconded by Fuhrken.

Vote: Ayes: Jerry Fuhrken
Theresa Herrs
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

20. City Administrator Report.

- a) **Donation.** Staff received a \$5,000 donation from TC Energy to the ambulance service. A thank you letter was mailed.
- b) **EMS Inspection.** Kansas Board of EMS conducted its' annual inspection of the ambulance service and no deficiencies were found.
- c) **EMS Year End Report.** Council was given a copy of the 2022 year end EMS report as submitted to the Washington County Commissioners.
- d) **Power Plant Superintendent.** No applications have been received. Council asked staff to publish the ad in the Marysville paper.
- e) **Free Dump Days.** Staff is awaiting final confirmation of dates for Free Dump Days of May 4th - 6th from the County. Once received, it will be advertised.
- f) **Park Lift Station.** Non-human waste had been dumped in the camper waste disposal such as rubber gloves, mop heads, etc. at the park lift station. The issue was discussed with TC Energy and they had a crew from Cat Cans vac pump the station to remove the non-allowed material from the lift station holding pit. TC Energy has offered to replace anything damaged. The lift station is running on one pump at this time, as staff is awaiting a cost estimate to repair the second pump from contractor, Smith & Loveless.

TC Energy has asked to install a bubbler at dam to increase water flow to Mill Creek.

- g) **Drainage Waterway at Lagoons.** Staff is awaiting a cost estimate from Orval Jueneman's on drainage work on the City's waterway that affects an adjoining field owned by Dale Keesecker. As of February 2, 2023, staff has still not heard back from Jueneman's.
- h) **Lead Service Line Replacement.** Due to the new regulations set out by EPA and KDHE, the city must identify the plumbing material downstream of the meters. This includes plumbing material inside each and every home, business, and school that receives water from the City's distribution system that is used for

drinking or human consumption. The City does not have any existing lead service lines following replacement of the City's water main replacement program.

EPA and KDHE are working on possible funding sources to assist customers with plumbing replacement and/or treatment of the water if their plumbing is identified as containing any lead material. If someone replies with an "unknown" on the type of plumbing material EPA will consider it to be LEAD.

Letters will be mailed asking customers to assist in collecting the information needed. If the homeowner is unable to identify the material, they may call the City and set a time for City staff to do an onsite visit to assist. Every attempt will be made to correctly identify their water piping material in the structure.

- i) **Housing Demo.** Staff received a quote for the removal of the structure from Orval Jueneman's for \$3,700.00. City Attorney Elizabeth Hiltgen will draft an ordinance for Council to approve at the March meeting.

21. City Clerk's Report.

- a) **Thank You's.** Thank you's from The Metz's for continuing the Christmas Lighting Contest and Richard Applegarth for his retirement gift were given to the Council.
- b) **Insurance Bids.** Consensus of the Council was to seek bids for the City's insurance.
- c) **Printer/Copier/Fax.** Consensus of the Council was to seek bids for a printer/copier/fax and plotter. The Kyocera copier is eight years old. Council Member Theresa Herrs stated the County may share cost with the City for the purpose of the plotter.
- d) **Vacation Leave.** City Clerk will be taking some time off upon the arrival of a new grandbaby.
- e) **Reports.** The Washington County Senior Citizens Meal Site December 2022 financials and January 2023 Fire minutes were given to the Council for review.

22. Reports.

1. Morse

- a) **Abandoned vehicle.** Council Member Morse asked what could be done with inoperable/abandoned vehicles in the 100 block W 6th Street and asked the City to follow-up with an inoperable vehicle in the 100 block of West 8th Street.

2. Herrs

- a) **Horse Soldier Monument.** Council Member Herrs discussed the Horse Soldier Monument and the number of people who stop at it. Council suggested talking with Gloria Moore about a pamphlet/brochure about the monument.

23. Executive Session.

Motion to enter into executive session to discuss employee evaluation and job performance for non-elected personnel to include the Mayor, Council, and City Administrator to resume in the Council chambers at 9:25 p.m. by Herrs and seconded by Fuhrken.

Vote: Ayes: Jerry Fuhrken
 Theresa Herrs
 Terry Morse
 Carolyn Pinnick

Motion to approve a 10% wage increase for Journeyman Lineman and promote him to Electric Distribution Superintendent effective on the first full pay period following the six-month probationary date of February 22, 2023, by Pinnick and seconded by Herrs.

Vote: Ayes: Jerry Fuhrken
Theresa Herrs
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

Meeting adjourned by Herrs and seconded by Fuhrken.

Vote: Ayes: Jerry Fuhrken
Theresa Herrs
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

Meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

Denise M. Powell, City Clerk