

WASHINGTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Regular Meeting –City Hall
June 7, 2021

1. Call to order by Mayor.

2. Roll Call.

Present: Ryan Kern, Mayor
Kevin Elder, Council Member
Theresa Herrs, Council Member
Don Imhoff, Council Member
Carolyn Pinnick, Council Member
Roxanne Schottel, Council Member

Absent:

Staff Present: Carl Chalfant, City Administrator
Denise Powell, City Clerk
Richard Applegarth, Power Plant Operator
Terry Morse, Power Plant Operator

Others: Chris Pannbacker, Washington County News
Denise O’Dea, USD 108
Justin Cordry, Washington County Sheriff
Susan Bruna, President of Lions Club
Marcia Funke, Lions Club Member

3. Citizens Comments.

No public comments.

4. Minutes.

Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held May 3, 2021, by Herrs and seconded by Pinnick.

Vote: Ayes: Kevin Elder
Theresa Herrs
Don Imhoff
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel

5. Appropriations Ordinance 2021-06.

Motion to approve appropriations ordinance 2021-06 by Imhoff and seconded by Elder.

Vote: Ayes: Kevin Elder
Theresa Herrs
Don Imhoff
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel

6. Sidewalk Project.

Motion to request bids for installation of a 4’ sidewalk along the east side of E Street from the elementary school parking lot south to 1st street and an alternate bid for the south side of College Street between D &E Streets by Herrs seconded by Pinnick.

Vote: Ayes: Kevin Elder
Theresa Herrs
Don Imhoff
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel

Washington County Sheriff Justin Cordry, USD 108 School Superintendent Denise O’Dea, and City Administrator Carl Chalfant discussed a collaborative effort between the Washington County Sheriff’s Office, USD 108 and City of Washington to install sidewalk along the east side of E Street, beginning at the south edge of the elementary school parking lot of the elementary school continuing south to West 1st Street and the south side of College Street between D & E Streets.

A general estimate from a local contractor for the proposed sidewalk along E Street was estimated to cost around \$37,270 and adding the sidewalk along College Street would be an additional \$20,000.

Sheriff Justin Cordry stated he had \$10,000 from the VIN fund to put towards the project. The City and USD 108 would be responsible for the difference.

7. Lions Club Park Improvements.

The City Council gave their blessing to Marcia Funke, Lions’ Club member, and Susan Bruna, Lions’ Club president, for the Lion’s Club to proceed with a large park improvement including playground equipment at the south end of the City’s Park. The Lion’s Club has a Coed softball tournament scheduled for the 4th of July to raise money for the improvements.

8. Bucket Truck Bids.

Motion to accept the bid from Altec for the purchase of a 2021 Altec AT37G articulating telescoping aerial device with 2022 Ford Chassis at a cost not to exceed \$110,946 plus \$2,581 for a 5-year Altec warranty by Pinnick and seconded by Elder.

Vote: Ayes: Kevin Elder
Theresa Herrs
Don Imhoff
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel

City Administrator Carl Chalfant sated the old bucket truck will be sold on Purplewave once the new one is delivered.

9. Swimming Lessons.

Motion to hire Shailyn Zenger to teach public swimming lessons at \$9.25 per hour during the week of June 21-July 2 by Herrs and seconded by Pinnick.

Vote: Ayes: Kevin Elder
Theresa Herrs
Don Imhoff
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel

10. B Street Final Pay Request.

Motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Contractor’s Application for Payment No. 9 from Vogts Parga Construction of \$2,529.17 and Completion of Work Certificate for the City of Washington/Washington County B Street Reconstruction Project No. 193038 by Herrs and seconded by Pinnick.

Vote: Ayes: Kevin Elder
Theresa Herrs
Don Imhoff
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel

11. FNB Request.

Motion to approve the Loudspeaker/Sound Amplifier permit, Street Use permit, and Special Purpose Vehicle Registration Form Request for Exemption applications contingent upon receipt of a certificate of insurance from FNB for September 18, 2021, by Herrs and seconded by Pinnick.

Vote: Ayes: Kevin Elder
Theresa Herrs
Don Imhoff
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel

12. Diesel Oil Quotes.

Motion to accept the bid of Petro Choice Lubrication Solutions for 15-55 gallon barrels of S.A.E. 40 diesel engine oil for the power plant at a cost not to exceed \$7,194.00 by Herrs and seconded by Elder.

Vote: Ayes: Kevin Elder
Theresa Herrs
Don Imhoff
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel

13. July 4th & City Picnic.

Motion to allow the swimming pool to host a free swim from 1-5 p.m. July 4, 2021 by Herrs and seconded by Pinnick.

Vote: Ayes: Kevin Elder
Theresa Herrs
Don Imhoff
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel

Consensus of Council is to host a summer picnic in August for fire, ems, pool, and city employees and allow them to swim for free on that day.

14. KDOT Reconstruction Project.

Motion to designate Carl Chalfant, city administrator, as contracting officer and project liaison for KDOT Reconstruction Project #36-101 KA-3244-01 and authorize Chalfant to sign and execute project agreements upon review and approval of the City Attorney by Imhoff and seconded by Herrs.

Vote: Ayes: Kevin Elder
Theresa Herrs
Don Imhoff
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel

15. KMGA Appointments.

Motion to appoint Richard Applegarth as Director and Carl Chalfant as Alternate Director to serve two-year terms from September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2023, on the KMGA Board of Directors and give the alternate director entitlement to vote on behalf of the City by Herrs and seconded by Imhoff.

Vote: Ayes: Kevin Elder
Theresa Herrs
Don Imhoff
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel

16. Mayoral Appointment.

Motion to approve Mayor Ryan Kern’s appointment of Denise Dragastin and Gracie Bryant to the Library Board for a four-year term June 7, 2021 through April 30, 2025, by Herrs and seconded by Imhoff.

Vote: Ayes: Kevin Elder
Theresa Herrs
Don Imhoff
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel

17. Substation Workshop.

Motion to allow Jacob Oppenheimer to attend the KMU Substation Workshop June 15-16 by Imhoff and seconded by Herrs.

Vote: Ayes: Kevin Elder
Theresa Herrs
Don Imhoff
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel

18. City Administrator Report.

a) **Power Plant Report.** Richard Applegarth and Terry Morse, power plant operators, discussed maintenance to engines at the power plant. Engine 7 had a blower disintegrate. A remanufactured blower was purchased. When cleaning the engine staff found a broken ring. The top crank shaft and pistons were pulled and aluminum was found throughout. Staff will get clean and get estimates to make it run reliably. Estimates to overhaul and repair the engine are estimated at \$250,000. Morse said a dual fuel engine will cost around \$750,000 and the Council may want to consider putting money towards a dual fuel engine rather than spending money repairing the diesel only engine. Applegarth stated the cost to run the diesel engine is 25 cents per kilowatt and 10 cents per kilowatt for the dual fuel engine. Staff will get estimates for repair and bring back to the Council.

The City needs engines 1, 6 & 7 to pick up peak load generation and all three are RICE-NESHAP compliant. The City must maintain its own demand requirement to meet their contract obligations. If the City load would increase the Council may look at a catalyst on unit 3 to make it RICE-NESHAP compliant.

Also discussed hiring someone for the power plant as Applegarth plans to retire in 2022.

b) **Old Water Pumphouse.** Due to the deterioration of the roof, door, and wood frame work, staff is considering demolition of the old water pumphouse and filling in the old pit by Mill Creek. City Administrator Carl Chalfant will visit with the Corp of Engineers and Kansas Department of Health and Environment to see if a permit is required from Corp of Engineers and proper filling requirements from Kansas Department of Health and Environment. due to below water level of Mill Creek prior to proceeding with demolition.

c) **Streets.** Staff is diligently trying to catch up with street repairs. With all of the projects and weather conditions it has been really difficult to get more than one day at a time of good patching.

- d) **Water Tower.** A sample of the TNEMC Tank White paint color to be used on the water tower was shown to the Council. Consensus of the Council was to have Washington painted on the tower.
- e) **Employment Positions.** The City will have three employees retiring in the next year and a half. Chalfant stated those positions will require training. Chalfant would like to hire the first of August a position to cover water/wastewater operator and power plant operator. Council asked if anyone currently on staff would be interested in filling those positions. Chalfant stated he would inquire.
- f) **Housing Cleanup.** The two houses at 207 W 5th and 216 W 4th were torn down the week of June 3 as part of the Housing Cleanup program.
- g) **Water Project.** Council Member Theresa Herrs inquired about complaints of landscaping issues left from the water contractor. Staff is compiling a list to send to the contractor.

19. City Clerk's Report.

- a) **Insurance Dividend.** Justin Dragastin, The Dragastin Agency, delivered a Kansas Municipal Utilities Safety Group dividend check in the amount of \$18,539.20 from EMC Insurance on May 10th. Last year's dividend was \$19,788.16. The total KMU Safety Group Program dividend this year is \$3,625,512.65.
- b) **Fuel Adjustment.** The fuel adjustment for bills due June 10, 2021 (April usage) is +.00512 utilizing \$50,000 of \$175,000 of expenses that were adjusted to levelize the fuel adjustment in utility bills due to the cold snap February 2021. The remaining expense adjustment is \$100,000.

The City received a credit for current month resettlements of \$22,408.55 and a credit for February true-up for the cold weather event behind the surplus generation of \$30,268.02. Ultimately the City received a total credit of \$52,676.57 for the February event. Enclosed is a copy of the EMP2 SPP Integrated Marketplace Billing for Operating Month of April 2021 and the KMEA bill for April 2021 usage.

- c) **Council Seats.** Jerry Fuhrken, Carolyn Pinnick and Terry Morse have filed for City Council.
- d) **Sunday Sales.** Kansas legislature passed an update to Sunday sales, allowing for cities to expand Sunday sales as early as 9 am, end not later than 8pm, and prohibiting sales on Easter Sunday, Christmas Day and Thanksgiving Day. A statutory process must be followed which is essentially the charter ordinance process. Robert L'Ecuyer, B&B Lix, visited with City Clerk Denise M. Powell, and he is not in favor of expanding Sunday sales.

Ordinance No. 702, which outlines the City's current ordinance regarding Sunday sales, was given the Council for review.. If the council wishes to expand Sunday sales, a new ordinance will need to be adopted, and will require a 60-day notice.

- e) **Water Project.** Final monitoring of the water project was May 25, 2021. A letter stating the City is in compliance with the state and federal program requirements of the project was given to the Council.

The Water Project Ribbon Cutting will be at 10 a.m. Monday, June 14th at Old City Hall in front of USDA sign.

Staff is working with Sarah Hines, USDA, and Brian Foster, BG, to seek approval to complete work on the water tower; VFD's and pumps at the City's wells; extension of the water main in the city's industrial park; and GIS mapping of the water system. A meeting is scheduled for 9 a.m. Thursday, June 10th.

- f) **Budget.** Staff will proceed as if the Revenue Neutral Rate will be exceeded and is awaiting additional information, including sample ordinances and resolutions, from the League of Kansas Municipalities. Once staff has preliminary budget information ready it will be presented to the council.
- g) **Insurance.** No further information has been received at this time on Munchkinland insurance options from Justin Dragastin, The Dragastin Agency.

h) Reports.

Council Members were given the Washington County Senior Citizens Meal Site April 2021 financials and April Board minutes; Fire minutes for May 2021 and the resignation of Barry Finlayson from the fire department.

Pot Holes.

Chris Pannbacker, Washington County News reporter, asked if there was a plan on filling potholes. City Administrator Carl Chalfant stated staff is working on them as manpower and weather allows.

Motion to adjourn by Imhoff and seconded by Herrs.

Vote: Ayes: Kevin Elder
Theresa Herrs
Don Imhoff
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel

Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Denise M. Powell, City Clerk