

WASHINGTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Regular Meeting – City Hall
August 5, 2024

1. Call to order by Mayor Garrett Edgar.

2. Roll Call.

Present: Garrett Edgar, Mayor
 Mary Ann Crome, Council Member
 Jerry Fuhrken, Council Member
 Terry Morse, Council Member
 Carolyn Pinnick, Council Member
 Amy Anderson, Council Member

Absent:

Staff Present: Carl Chalfant, City Administrator
 Denise Powell, City Clerk
 Elizabeth Baskerville-Hiltgen, City Attorney
 Caroline Scoville, Playground Committee

Others: Traci Stigge, Playground Committee
 Marcia Funke, Washington Lions Club
 Cynthia Scheer, Washington County News

3. Approval of Agenda.

Motion to approve the agenda by Pinnick and seconded by Fuhrken.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
 Mary Ann Crome
 Jerry Fuhrken
 Terry Morse
 Carolyn Pinnick

4. Citizens Comments.

None.

5. Minutes.

Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 1 and adjourned meetings of July 9 & 23, 2024, by Pinnick and seconded by Crome.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
 Mary Ann Crome
 Jerry Fuhrken
 Terry Morse
 Carolyn Pinnick

6. Appropriations Ordinance 2024-08.

Motion to approve appropriations ordinance 2024-08 by Pinnick and seconded by Crome.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
 Mary Ann Crome
 Jerry Fuhrken
 Terry Morse
 Carolyn Pinnick

7. Lions Club Request.

Marcia Funke, Washington Lions Club, updated the Council on their project to construct a new shelter house at the south end of the city park. Funke stated Kyle Wolfgang, Wolfgang Construction would like to begin work next week. Jacob Latta, Randy’s Plumbing, will do the wiring. Funke asked if the city would be able to help out financially through the Larry Davison bequest money if they went over the \$12,000.

Consensus of the Council would be to commit up to \$5,000 to the Lions Club for the shelter house at the south end of city’s park.

8. Playground Committee.

Motion to approve the Professional Service Agreement as presented for the Playground Community Development Block Grant from North Central Regional Planning Commission at a cost not to exceed \$30,250.00 to be paid out of the general fund playground project by Pinnick and seconded by Crome.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

Caroline Scoville and Traci Stigge, playground committee members, were present to ask the Council to commit an additional \$35,000 to the 50% cash match for the CDBG grant of a \$400,000 playground. Currently the playground has \$100,000 committed from the city through the Larry Davison Bequest; a \$50,000 anonymous pledge and around \$14,000 raised through fundraisers. They are committed to raising the funds and have around two fundraisers a month planned through December. The consensus of the Council was to commit the additional \$35,000.

9. FNB Washington Fall Fest Request.

Motion to approve the Loudspeaker/Sound Amplifier permit and Street Use permit applications from FNB Washington for September 21, 2024, by Pinnick and seconded by Crome.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

10. MC 800 Bids.

No bids were received for MC800.

11. LKM Voting Delegates.

Motion to appoint City Administrator Carl Chalfant as a 2024 voting delegate and Council Member Terry Morse as 2024 alternate voting delegate to represent the city in the conduct and management of the affairs of the League of Kansas Municipalities by Crome and seconded by Pinnick.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

12. Hall Brothers Street Overlay.

City Administrator Carl Chalfant reached out to Hall Brothers, Marysville, to obtain a quote to overlay C Street for 4th to 6th Street while they were already in the area. Rob Roudybush, Hall Brothers, said they are booked and can’t work it in while they are in town. City Administrator Chalfant stated a request for proposal would need to be sent as per the city’s procurement policy.

13. Debris Removal.

Staff received communication from Phil Schlaman, KDHE, on July 22, 2024, indicating that KDHE would consider testing of the debris from old city hall to determine if it contained asbestos. The testing would have to be done by a State of Kansas licensed contractor. Mike Chavanu, Great Plains Asbestos Control Inc. (GPAC) was the only proposal received for the original RFP that requested relocation of the debris. Chavanu has been in communication with Schlaman, to discuss the process KDHE would require for testing.

14. 2025 Budget.

Motion to authorize staff to publish the Notice of Hearing to Exceed Revenue Neutral Rate and Budget Hearing on the City’s website and in the Washington County News, the official city newspaper, to hold a public hearing at 6:30 p.m., September 3, 2024, at City Hall by Crome and seconded by Fuhrken.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

15. East 2nd Street Project.

Motion to approve a cost not to exceed \$8,000 for core drilling and payment design by a Geotech consultant as a subconsultant to CES Group, Inc. for the East 2nd Street Project by Crome and seconded by Morse.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

Staff was to notify Rob Peschel, CES Group, Inc., that the subcontractor is required to submit a certificate of insurance to the city prior to work being done.

16. Employee Resignation.

Motion to accept the resignation of EMT Kylee Nikkel by Crome and seconded by Morse.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

17. Executive Session.

Motion to recess into executive session to discuss employee performance for nonelected personnel to include the Mayor and Council and City Administrator to resume in the Council chambers at 8:22 p.m. by Pinnick and seconded by Crome.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

Motion to allow the public works superintendent to transfer to the electric department in the electric lineman #2 position effective August 19, 2024, and to have the city administrator place ads for a public works superintendent by Pinnick and seconded by Morse.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick
Nays: Mary Ann Crome

18. SPCC Plan.

Motion to approve the Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan as presented by Pinnick and seconded by Fuhrken.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

19. City Administrator Report.

- a) **Capacity Payments.** The KMEA EMP2 bill for June electricity shows the capacity payments have gone from \$3,789 to \$9,049.50. The city is now receiving capacity payments for the two new engines.
- b) **Sewer.** Staff will be applying for the Kansas Water Office grant again for sewer lining.
- c) **PWS Well Sampling for Water Quality.** Nick Schneider, research project manager with Kansas Geological Survey, is assessing groundwater quality across the state. They pick one well in each town and will be sampling the city's number two water well. They will be analyzing for a variety of water quality parameters (nitrate, total dissolved solids, chloride, arsenic, uranium, and a number of others). The funding comes from Kansas Geological Survey. The city will receive a copy of the results.
- d) **Engine Testing.** Engine testing has been postponed due to gas injectors requiring replacement, an issue with blower and problems with a solenoid on engine nine. Testing is scheduled for August 20 and 21. Both have tested at 105% on diesel.
- e) **Park Siren.** Haug Communications has repaired the park siren.
- f) **Code Violations.** Staff updated the code violation list and has followed up as time allows. Some have been resolved, some are still working on them, and some have been sent to City Attorney Elizabeth Hiltgen for assistance. Hiltgen stated City Administrator Chalfant will touch base with property owners to inspect three structures and submit his findings to begin the condemnation process. Hiltgen said if the Council has additional properties they wish to be included they need to touch base with Chalfant.
- g) **Storm Sewer.** Ohlsen's contacted City Administrator on Wednesday, July, 31, 2024, stating that they were getting close to being caught up and plan to start the storm sewer project in mid-August.
- h) **Energy Efficiency Grant.** Staff submitted a grant application to the KCC for an energy efficiency grant which will pay for LED street lights to replace the mercury vapor and sodium high pressure street lights.
- i) **Vertical Bridge (formally Verizon) tower.** Staff received new drawings and communications referencing the original proposal from Verizon. Vertical Bridge has taken over the proposal for the planned tower site. Staff has received preliminary drawings from Dick Noerr with FFI and the city

attorney has received contract discussion from James Cardinal, who worked with Verizon on the first proposal. Hiltgen has requested some clarification on the contract and hasn't heard back.

- j) **Plaque.** City Administrator Chalfant stated he was humbled at receiving a plaque by Senator Moran for his years of public service.

20. City Clerk's Report.

a) **Reports.**

The Library and Fire July minutes and Washington County Senior Citizens Meal Site June financials were given to the council for review.

21. Reports.

a) **City Attorney Elizabeth Baskerville-Hiltgen.**

Hiltgen gave a friendly reminder to the mayor and council to not converse in front of city hall after meetings, discussed the Kansas Open Meetings Act, serial meetings and bad perception.

Motion to adjourn by Pinnick and seconded by Fuhrken.

Vote: Ayes: Amy Anderson
Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick

Adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Denise M. Powell, City Clerk