

REGULAR MEETING, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WASHINGTON, KANSAS, NOVEMBER 3, 2003

The Governing body of the City of Washington, Kansas, met in regular session in the usual meeting place in said City on the third day of November, 2003, at 7 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Travis Kier; Council Members: Meyler Gibbs, Dawn Kramer, Roxanne Schottel, Kevin Williams and Jon Snapp.

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT WERE: Paul Monty, City Attorney; City Administrator Tim Schook; County Clerk and Modern Pioneer Study Club Representative Lou Kern; and Susan Graham.

Mayor Travis Kier called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Copies of the minutes of the previous regular meeting of Monday, October 6, 2003, were given to the Mayor and each council member for review. Council Member Kevin Williams made a motion to accept the minutes. Council Member Jon Snapp seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

GRANT APPLICATION LETTER: Mayor Travis Kier discussed a letter he wrote in support of the ambulance service's attempt to obtain a grant for a new blood pressure monitor. Council Member Roxanne Schottel made a motion to approve the letter. Council Member Meyler Gibbs seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ENGINEER STUDY: SEGA is to do engineer's study of the City's electrical distribution system. City Administrator Tim Schook stated the engineer's study is still ongoing.

JONES EASEMENT: City Attorney Paul Monty presented to the Council a copy of the lease he has drawn up regarding the easement. Council Member Jon Snapp made a motion to authorize the Mayor to enter into the lease as it is written. Council Member Meyler Gibbs seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SIDEWALKS: City Administrator Tim Schook stated a safety study would cost \$12,000 to \$15,000. That would include putting the City map on CAD system. Schook did not get the amount that we could save by doing some of the legwork ourselves. This issue was tabled for now.

WELCOME SIGN: Kelli Oestreich would like three or four points of information to include on the Welcome to Washington sign on the west edge of town. Council Member Dawn Kramer is to get information to her tomorrow, and she should have design proposals by the December council meeting.

ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE: City Administrator Tim Schook discussed with the Council the possibility of changing the meter reading date from the 10th of each month to the 1st of each month, as well as switching to palm pilots to do the reads with. This would allow income to be watched on a day-to-day basis, with better reports and tracking capabilities. Schook has not decided on the number of palm pilots that might be needed. Schook also stated that the funding for this would be as follows: \$6,000 each from Water, Sewer, and Electric departments, and \$8,000 from Equipment Reserve fund. This issue was tabled until Monday, November 10th, when City Clerk Denise Powell will be back.

REFUSE AND TRASH HAULING: Mayor Travis Kier talked about the need to do a public awareness campaign to inform the citizens of Washington about trash hauling. The Council decided to have City Administrator Tim Schook place an ad in the newspaper. There was a question about putting the names of the trash haulers who are currently approved by the City of Washington in the ad. The concern was that if at a later date the haulers are not approved due to failure to pass inspection or something of that nature, this would generate confusion for the citizens of Washington. The decision was to put the names of the haulers who have been approved up to this point in the ad. The ultimate responsibility for choosing trash haulers will rest with each citizen.

BID OPENING FOR TRASH HAULING: The City only received one bid for City trash hauling. The bid was from C & M Refuse and was for the amount of \$850.00 per year. That includes two pickups per week from May through September at \$100.00 per month and one pickup per week from October through April at \$50.00 per month. Council Member Meyler Gibbs made a motion to accept C & M Refuse's bid. Council Member Roxanne Schottel seconded the motion. Council Member Dawn Kramer abstained. Motion carried.

REFUSE HAULER LICENSE: Temps Disposal Service completed the paperwork and application fee for a City Refuse Hauler License. Council Member Roxanne Schottel made a motion to approve the license. Council Member Meyler Gibbs seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MODERN PIONEER STUDY CLUB: Representatives Lou Kern and Susan Graham asked the Council for their support of a grant for a Chautaukua project they are working on for a weeklong event in June-July 2005. The club would have a 50'x90' tent that they are looking for a place to set up. The project would include teaching history lessons, as well as daily events for children and nightly events for adults. The club is asking the Council for a place to set up the tent, as well as assistance with electrical needs. The Council said yes, they would be willing to help if the grant was approved.

POLLING PLACES: County Clerk Lou Kern spoke to the Council about handicap accessibility for polling places. Handicap accessibility has to be in place by August 2004. Kern stated that there are no curb cuts or signage in front of City Hall, which is currently used as a polling place. Mayor Travis Kier disagreed, stating that there are curb cuts that would suffice wheelchair accessibility, but Kier agreed that there is no signage. It was suggested that the first parking space on the north side of City Hall be designated as a handicapped space. City Administrator Tim Schook asked about moving the polling place back to the Library. Kern stated that could probably be done. No decision was reached, and this issue was tabled until the Council receives further information.

INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENT: Council Member Jon Snapp stated he heard rumors that the City will not be offering health insurance to its employees. Council Member Snapp asked that it be noted in the minutes that it has never been suggested that we (meaning the City) not offer health insurance to its employees. It has been discussed that the City look into cost saving measures due to the rising costs of health insurance, but never terminating insurance.

BOWS AND ARROWS: Council Member Dawn Kramer brought up people shooting bows and arrows within the City limits. City Attorney Paul Monty is to speak with Washington County Sheriff Bill Overbeck on this issue.

SPEED LIMITS: Speed limit signs were discussed around the school, along with parking on F Street. City Administrator Tim Schook stated that he would look into placing and moving signs around to help better identify traffic ordinance regulations.

THANKSGIVING: Councilman Meyler Gibbs made a motion to allow the City of Washington employees to have the Friday after Thanksgiving off as a paid holiday. Councilman Kevin Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried.

LIQUID GLASS BOTTLING: City Administrator Tim Schook will speak with the company and get more information regarding employment and money amounts dealing with their expansion needs.

EMERGENCY SERVICES BUILDING: The bids for items that were let out for re-bid were discussed. Council Member Meyler Gibbs made a motion to accept bids as recommended by Architect Don Mars, and approve Mayor Travis Kier and City Clerk Denise Powell to sign contracts. Council Member Roxanne Schottel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

BIDS AWARDED:

Item S1-Concrete – Midwest Products @ \$71.00 per cubic yard
Items S2-S6-Reinforcing Steel – Midwest Steel @ \$5,010.00
Items S5-S6-Concrete Sealer – Town & Country @ \$2,067.42
Item CA1-Concrete Accessories – Zabokrtsky Hardware (Included in Plumbing bid)
Item B1-Concrete Block – Stamm Masonry @ \$6,436.16
Item ST1-Steel – J&N Elliott @ \$27,191.00
Items L1-L18-Lumber – Washington Lumber @ \$5125.74
Item L19-Block Filler – Stallbaumer Lumber @ \$139.00

Items L20-L23-Paint – Zabokrtsky Hardware @ \$1,707.94
Item L24-Suspended Ceiling – Stallbaumer Lumber @ \$2100.00
Item HM1-Hollow Metal Doors and Frames – Cook Door and Hardware @ \$8,295.00
Item WD1-Wood Doors and Wood Trim – Cook Door and Hardware @ \$3,200.00
Item OD1-Overhead Doors – Town and Country @ \$14,069.33
Item AW1-Aluminum Doors and Windows – J&N Elliott @ \$5,444.00
Item AG1-Aluminum Grills & Shutters – Stallbaumer Lumber @ \$4400.00
Item FC1-Floor Covering – Washington Lumber @ \$2,863.40
Item MB1-Metal Building – J&N Elliott @ \$44,980.00
Item P1 & CA1-Plumbing & Concrete Accessories – Zabokrtsky @ \$19,134.36
Item M1-Mechanical – Pure Energy @ \$24,301.15 (Low bidder did not bid to specifications, Pure Energy was next lowest bidder)
Item E1-Electrical – Pure Energy @ \$14,802.00
Item MBI-Metal Building Insulation – CGI Silvercote @ \$10,893.94

HYLAND BUILDING: Brad Owens no longer wants to take possession of this building. City Administrator Tim Schook suggested we tear this building down at a later date. This issue was tabled for now.

ELECTRIC RATES: City Administrator Tim Schook stated that the Energy Cost Adjustment is very high right now. Schook doesn't think we can operate cheaper than buying it at this point. Schook stated that the City crews are currently working on the garage portion of the cooling tower project and enclosing it to make it more energy efficient in the winter.

ROAD SAFETY AUDIT: The Road Safety Audit preliminary report includes two main recommendations. The first is to widen the intersection of Highways 15 & 36. This would affect the house on that corner. The second recommendation is to incorporate a center turning lane through the City of Washington.

GRANT PROJECT UPDATE: KDOT and City of Washington are working on a grant project. 15&36 intersection is a promising project for a grant. Pierce Street was looked at also, but Schook did not have all the details.

WATER METER CHANGE OUT BIDS: Two bids were received on the project of changing out 200 meters. Water Products bid the amount of \$4,699.50. Salina Supply bid the amount of \$4,998.00. Council Member Dawn Kramer made a motion to accept the bid from Water Products. Council Member Meyler Gibbs seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There came on for consideration an Ordinance entitled:

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 2003-11

“AN ORDINANCE ALLOWING FOR PAYMENT OF THE CITY’S BILLS AND DEBITS.”

Thereupon on motion made by Council Member Roxanne Schottel moved for its adoption, that the City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to issue payroll Check 13044 through 13094 and warrant Check Nos. 13002 through 13083 in payment of just bills and claims against the City and debit the appropriate fund for each expenditure. Thereupon Council Member Kevin Williams seconded the motion. Thereupon the mayor declared the motion carried.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Council Member Kevin Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting to Monday, November 10, 2003, at 7:00 p.m. Council Member Meyler Gibbs seconded the motion. Motion carried, meeting adjourned to Monday, November 10, 2003 at 7:00 p.m.