

SPECIAL MEETING, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WASHINGTON, KANSAS, JULY 25, 2003

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

ABSENT: Jon Snapp.

ALSO PRESENT WERE: Tim Schook, City Administrator; Denise Powell, City Clerk; Bill Hays, Washington County News; Jay D. Langley, CPA with Clubine and Rettele, Salina.

Mayor Travis Kier called meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

AUDIT: Jay D. Langley, CPA with Clubine and Rettele, presented the 2004 budget and audit report for the 2002 year.

Langley stated he is looking for the Council to approve the notice of budget. Once approved, the budget is published in the Washington County News and a budget hearing would take place. It also must be presented to the County Clerk by Aug. 25.

A mill levy might be lowered but not raised according to Langley. One mill levy for the City is equal to approximately \$3,578. The proposed mill levy in 2002 was 45.513 and in 2003 were 46.27. The 2004 proposed levy is 45.868, which is a drop but would actually be an increase in dollars due to the increased valuation.

Councilman Meyler Gibbs made a motion to approve publishing of the budget in the Washington County News on Thursday, July 31, 2003, and to meet at Noon, Tuesday, Aug. 12 in Council Chambers for a budget hearing. Councilman Kevin Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Langley also reviewed the 2002 audit report.

Langley informed the Council that employees in KPERS should make sure KPERS funds have been added back in to their income when filing their personal tax returns. The IRS will audit or pull for review all 2003 tax returns for those who are in KPERS.

KDOT: City Administrator Tim Schook reported that he recently met with Tom Bennet of BG Consultants, Manhattan, concerning the KDOT Geometric Improvement Project at Hwy. 15/U.S. 36 Junction. Improvements need to be made concerning safety issues.

Schook stated basically there are three options for the KDOT grant:

1. To take care of the intersection itself, which would, cost approximately \$548,520.
2. Take care of the intersection adding new curb, gutters and storm water improvements up through C Street at a cost of \$689,200.
3. Intersection 15 and West on 36 to the west city limits at a cost of \$1,110,650.

Schook said the City is eligible up to \$700,000 in grant monies. He also stated he felt the City had a good chance at option one or two. He stated he wouldn't even consider option three.

If awarded the grant, the project would be done in 2007. Schook said on option 1 the city would have a 10 percent match, \$50,000; Schook stated KDOT has low interest loans available to pay the match.

Councilwoman Roxanne Schottel made a motion to apply for a grant on option one with a match of 10 percent, \$50,000 for the KDOT Geometric Improvement Project at the intersection of Hwy. 15/U.S. 36 Junction. Councilwoman Dawn Kramer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Schook stated there is an Economic Improvement Grant, which the City might be eligible for from U.S. 36 to Second Street. Project cost would be approximately \$600,000 and the city would have to match 25 percent.

Schook stated if the City applied for the grant and it was granted they would have till 2007 to decide how to do the project.

ADJOURNMENT: Councilman Meyler Gibbs made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Roxanne Schottel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

