

REGULAR MEETING, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WASHINGTON, KANSAS, MARCH 1, 2004

The Governing body of the City of Washington, Kansas, met in regular session in the usual meeting place in said City on the first day of March 2004, at 7 p.m. with the following members present. Mayor Travis Kier; Council Members Meyler Gibbs, Kevin Williams, Jon Snapp, Dawn Kramer and Roxanne Schottel.

ABSENT: NONE.

ALSO PRESENT WERE: Paul Monty, City Attorney; City Administrator Tim Schook, City Clerk Denise Powell; Dan Thalman, Washington County News.

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

Copies of the minutes of the previous regular meeting of Monday, February 2 and adjourned meeting minutes of Monday, February 23, 2004, were given to the Mayor and each council member for review. Council Member Dawn Kramer made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Council Member Kevin Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

WELCOME SIGN: Sign proposals for the billboard west of town, designed by Kelli Oestreich, were reviewed. City Administrator Tim Schook is to get measurements of the billboard so Council Member Dawn Kramer can acquire bids for the next regular council meeting.

KUHLMAN BUILDING: The Jones brothers have the contract. The Council is waiting on Jones's to get back to them.

LEASE/PURCHASE COOLING TOWER: First National Bank of Washington did not have the revised lease purchase agreement ready for the March meeting.

WESTSIDE: City Administrator Tim Schook is still waiting for written notification that cleanup is complete from Kansas Department of Health and Environment before any further action can be taken.

SNOW REMOVAL POLICY: City Administrator Tim Schook is working on a proposed snow removal policy.

FAIR HOUSING MONTH: Council Member Jon Snapp moved to direct Mayor Travis Kier to sign a proclamation proclaiming April to be Fair Housing Month. Council Member Meyler Gibbs seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

UNITED BANK AND TRUST: Council Member Dawn Kramer moved to direct Mayor Travis Kier to sign a custodial agreement with United Bank and Trust regarding pledge securities. Council Member Roxanne Schottel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE & PARKS: Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks annual operation and maintenance assurance statement was discussed. This agreement is part of the original grant the golf course received and includes maintaining a designated wildlife habitat area south of the fairway of hole one. Council Member Roxanne Schottel moved to enter into agreement. Council Member Kevin Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried.

UTILITY BILLING: City Administrator Tim Schook and City Attorney Paul Monty are still working on this section of the City code.

ZONING: City Administrator Tim Schook asked the City Council adjourn to a meeting to work on the zoning ordinance.

BAD CHECK POLICY: The council discussed the City's bad check policy. Council Member Meyler Gibbs made a motion that after the City receives one bad check from a customer, that customer be put on a cash only basis. Council Member Jon Snapp seconded the motion. Councilman Meyler Gibbs withdrew his motion following discussion and made a new motion that a customer who gives the City two bad checks be placed on a cash only basis for 12 months from the date the second bad check was received. Councilman Jon Snapp seconded that motion. Motion carried.

KMEA BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Council Member Meyler Gibbs moved to reappoint Council Member Kevin Williams to the Kansas Municipal Energy Agency Board of Directors for a two-year term from May 1, 2004, to April 30, 2006. Council Member Jon Snapp seconded the motion. Motion carried.

DOG BITE: An untagged dog bit City Employee Larry Pape while he was reading utility meters Monday, March 1. Pape received two puncture wounds to his calf in the incident. The dog has been quarantined at the Washington Vet Clinic. The dog's owner is unaware if the dog has had a rabies shot. The dog does not have a City license, and the City has no proof of rabies vaccination for this animal. The council discussed the current policy on animals. City Attorney Paul Monty will check in to the length of time someone who is by a dog bite has before they should begin rabies shots.

ANIMAL CONTROL POLICY: The City needs to re-evaluate the way City employees are paid for animal control. The payments need to be made on the employee's paycheck and Animal Control Officer Jerry Pierce is in agreement with this. City Administrator Tim Schook and City Attorney Paul Monty suggested the City pay overtime rather than so much per animal, with a one-hour minimum. Only responding to vicious dog calls after hours and the aspect of trapping feral cats were discussed. Schook and Monty will work on this policy and have it ready for review at the April council meeting.

HOUSING CLEAN-UP AND FREE HOUSING LOT PLANS: City Administrator Tim Schook stated he has several homeowners interested in the Housing Clean-up and Free Housing Lot plans. Schook proposed creating a department in the general fund and setting aside \$6000 for the two plans in 2004. The plans include provisions, one of which states the City must deem a house un-inhabitable. In addition under the Housing Cleanup plan the owner must pay all landfill charges and provide all necessary backfill material. Under the Free Housing Lot plan the City would tear down the structure at no cost to the property owner if the property owner opts to make a tax-deductible donation of the property to the City after an appraisal is completed and all taxes are paid to date. The City would turn the lot over to the neighborhood revitalization program for new housing to be built. City Attorney Paul Monty was asked to work on the legalities of the plans.

HOUSING CLEANUP APPLICATIONS: Applications were received for consideration of reduced landfill rates for demolition materials. Council Member Dawn Kramer made a motion to approve the applications. Council Member Kevin Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: On motion by Council Member Kevin Williams that the City Council go into executive session for approximately 15 minutes for the purpose of possible contractual negotiations. From 8:02 p.m. to 8:17 p.m. Thereupon Council Member Roxanne Schottel seconded the motion. Thereupon the motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Council Member Meyler Gibbs that the council reconvenes to regular session at 8:17 p.m. Thereupon Council Member Roxanne Schottel seconded the motion. Motion was declared carried. No action taken.

NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION PLAN: City Attorney Paul Monty is reviewing City Administrator Tim Schook's Neighborhood Revitalization Plan and will possibly have a rough draft for review at the April council meeting.

GREEN RIVER ORDINANCE: Council Member Jon Snapp expressed concern that some mobile retailers are coming into town and taking money back out to their communities and they pay no local property tax. The Green River Ordinance states that sellers may not sell to residential residents for the purpose of soliciting orders for goods it is declared to be a nuisance and punishable as a misdemeanor. There was

concern that enforcing this ordinance may affect Scouts and other non-profit organizations. Council Member Dawn Kramer moved to revoke the Green River Ordinance. Council Member Roxanne Schottel seconded the motion. Kramer and Schottel voted yea, Council Members Kevin Williams, Meyler Gibbs and Jon Snapp voted nay. Motion failed.

ROAD SAFETY AUDIT: City Administrator Tim Schook stated he received the road safety audit from the Kansas Department of Transportation and they recommend adding a right turn lane by Washington Texaco and improvements to the 15/36 junctions.

UTILITY HEARING: The resident who requested a utility hearing made payment on their delinquent account.

REPORTS: City Administrator Tim Schook and City Clerk Denise Powell informed the Council of reports available to them from the new accounting software. After discussion, the Council asked that a bad debt list and employee leave balances be placed in Council packets every quarter and payroll reports, treasurer's report, and accounts payable reports be placed in the monthly packets.

There came on for consideration an Ordinance entitled:

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 2004-3

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

Thereupon on motion made by Council Member Dawn Kramer moved for its adoption, that the City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to issue payroll Check Numbers ____ through ____ and warrant Check Numbers ____ through ____ 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.

INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS: Council Member Meyler Gibbs asked about requiring Jones Trash Service to install a fence to hide the trash trucks. He also had concerns with them leaving trucks full of garbage set on the lot. No action was taken.

FARM LEASE: City Attorney Paul Monty stated the farm lease with Larry Ditmars for 14 acres south of the Lagoons was due in February, and asked if the council wished to act on that. Council Member Kevin Williams moved to enter into a new lease agreement with Larry Ditmars. Council Member Meyler Gibbs seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Council Member Meyler Gibbs made a motion to adjourn the meeting to 7 p.m. Monday, March 22. Council Member Jon Snapp seconded the motion. Motion carried.