

REGULAR MEETING, COUNCIL CHAMBERS; WASHINGTON, KANSAS; DATE: OCTOBER 2, 2006

The Governing Body of the City of Washington, Kansas, met in Regular Session in the usual meeting place in said City on Monday, the second day of October, 2006, at 7:00 P.M. with the following members present: Council Members Jon Snapp, Tom Dragastin, Dawn Kramer, Roxanne Schottel and Meyler Gibbs.

Absent: None.

Also present were City Administrator Tim Schook; City Attorney Paul Monty; City Clerk Denise Powell; Bill Hays, Washington County News; and Mendy Davis, Washington.

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

Xerox Copies of the minutes of the previous regular meeting of Tuesday, September 5th, were given to the Mayor and each Council member for review. Council Member Tom Dragastin made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Council Member Dawn Kramer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COMFORT KEEPERS: Mendy Davis, Washington, informed the Council of a new business, Comfort Keepers, in which she is employed that offers service to the elderly, ill and disabled people in Washington County. The business provides non-medical and personal-in-home care for families. Some of the services include light housekeeping, errand services, grocery shopping; medication reminders, bathing, special diet and meal preparations and more. Davis stated it is a good opportunity for seniors to stay home longer. Davis serves Clay, Riley, Marshall, Cloud, and Washington counties. The company is owned by Arbor Springs Home Care Services.

UTILITY BILLING: The utility billing code was not ready for review according to Tim Schook, city administrator.

ZONING: City Administrator Tim Schook stated he hadn't done anything on the Zoning Ordinance this month. He plans to get a copy of the City of Belleville's zoning ordinance and compare it to the proposed zoning ordinance.

SEWER: Tim Schook, city administrator, has talked to Pat Cox, BG Consultants, about the three options in repairing the city's sewer station. Schook says the difference is quite a lot of money and still a tough decision to make. Repairing the system we have will cost around \$30,000. Replacing the system with an above ground will cost around \$100,000.

Schook said, "there are pluses and minuses with either way. By repairing the old system we do not spend as much money and can operate another estimated 15 years without much trouble. By replacing the system it is estimated that we should operate another 30 years with very little trouble alleviating the worry about confined space issues by not sending personnel 22' in the ground and allowing one man to do routine maintenance." Schook also said Pat Cox, BG Consultants, says the financing could be rolled into the current KDHE financing of the lagoon, which is currently carrying a little over 3.5%.

Schook says he would like to have Pat Cox, BG Consultants, visit with the Council at the December council meeting.

15/36 PROJECT: City Attorney Paul Monty says he has met with the John and Ruth Gaines concerning the land acquisition. Monty also stated the project was moved back to next spring.

COLEMAN PROPERTY: Paul Monty, city attorney, stated Coleman had a court hearing last week and the judge levied a fine and sentenced him to 30 days in jail. If he had all the cars gone within 10 days the judge would suspend the jail sentence. City Administrator reported as of today nothing has been removed from the property.

There came on for consideration an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 703

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, KANSAS, 1985, BY DELETING ARTICLES THREE, FOUR AND FIVE OF CHAPTER VII AND SUBSTITUTING NEW PROVISIONS FOR ARTICLE THREE OF CHAPTER VII PERTAINING TO HEALTH, WEED AND MOTOR VEHICLE NUISANCES WITHIN THE CITY

said Ordinance No. 703 was read in full, considered and discussed, thereupon Council Member Tom Dragastin moved for its adoption and Council Member Meyler Gibbs seconded the motion. Thereupon the Mayor declared Ordinance No. 703 duly adopted and passed unanimously by all Council Members present, and the Mayor directed that said Ordinance No. 703 be published in the Washington County News on Thursday, October 5, 2006, as provided by the Ordinance.

LIBRARY: Mayor Travis Kier asked for an increase in the mill and reminded the Council just because they increase the mill doesn't mean they have to levy the total. The eight-mill figure is a maximum and may not be the figure set in coming budgets. The Council asked City Attorney Paul Monty to draw up a Charter Ordinance to increase the mill levy to from five to eight for the library fund.

BROADBAND OVER POWERLINES: City Administrator Tim Schook reported he had not yet met with representatives from USI Industrial Services, Inc., about doing a study.

ANIMAL CONTROL: City Administrator Tim Schook stated he had not yet advertised for the position of animal control. Schook said if an animal control officer was hired as contract labor they would be required to carry their own liability and workmen's compensation insurance which would cost \$750 to \$1,000. Offering \$200 per month means they will only receive approximately \$1,200 per year for a 24 hour seven day a week position. Schook says it will be a hard position to fill.

Schook is willing to fill the position but wants compensation of \$250 per month. City Attorney Paul Monty inquired as to what other complaints the city gets other than vicious dog. Schook stated dogs running at large, barking dogs and abused animals. Schook said patrons must fill out complaint forms for barking dogs and dogs running at large with the city clerk who then gives it to the city attorney. Council Member Jon Snapp asked what the dollar amount paid out for animal control was for last year. Council Member Meyler Gibbs asked for those figures to be presented at the November council meeting. The only other possibility is that we continue the way we are and only address vicious animals said Schook.

POOL: Pool committee minutes didn't get put in the council packets. City Clerk Denise Powell stated she would see they are put in the November packets.

EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE: City Clerk Denise Powell stated she has contacted Kelly Davert, BCBS representative, for a bid on the city employee's health insurance and has given employees a health profile to complete. Powell received a letter from BCBS stating the current group health benefit package will not be available at renewal. Davert will present a bid on different options at the November council meeting.

WAGES: Mayor Travis Kier asked that health insurance be considered when wages are discussed. City Administrator Tim Schook said the cost of living adjustment as set by the Social Security Administration should be released by the end of October.

INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS: Council Member Jon Snapp stated he has accepted a job in Colorado Springs, Colorado and this would be his last Council meeting. Mayor Travis Kier asked that Snapp write a letter stating he was leaving his post.

Snapp also reported that the hospital board has decided to build a new hospital and the commissioners were very favorable. Snapp said that 80-90 percent would be paid for by federal funds.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: On motion by Council Member Tom Dragastin that the City Council go into executive session for approximately 15 minutes for the purpose to discuss non-elected personnel. Request that City Administrator Tim Schook; City Attorney Paul Monty and City Clerk Denise Powell remain for executive session From 7:34 p.m. to 7:49 p.m. Thereupon Council Member Dawn Kramer seconded the motion. Thereupon the motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Council Member Dawn Kramer moved that the Council reconvenes to the regular session at 7:46 p.m. Thereupon Council Member Meyler Gibbs seconded the motion. Motion was declared carried. No action taken.

NOVEMBER COUNCIL MEETING: City Administrator Tim Schook reminded the Council he would not be at the November Council meeting because he is a board member for the Kansas Municipal Energy Agency and their fall conference is November 6 and 7 at Wichita.

CURB AND GUTTER PROGRAM: Midwest Materials by Mueller's of Hanover gave the city a price of \$15.50 per linear foot for concrete for the curb and gutter program according to Tim Schook, city administrator. Schook said he is hoping to complete some this fall and the rest in the spring. Schook also enclosed a draft for expanding the program. Council Member Jon Snapp said he believes it is a good program and makes a good impression of the town.

EQUIPMENT: City Administrator Tim Schook gave the Council an equipment replacement/purchase list and asked that 2007 purchases be discussed so he can complete his operational budget.

Council Member Jon Snapp made a motion to purchase a 1995 Ford LN 8000 single axle, diesel dump truck with blade and salt/sand spreader from Kansas State Surplus Property, Topeka, in the amount of \$10,000 paid out of the municipal equipment reserve fund. Council Member Meyler Gibbs seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Schook told the Council he would be willing to purchase a personal vehicle if the City would pay him a monthly reimbursement. This would move his truck to another department and make it possible to get rid of either the gray Dodge or white Ford.

Snapp suggested the Council look into purchasing a sedan such as a Grand Prix or Bonneville to use for meetings. No action was taken.

The Council asked that Caroline Yungeberg, full-time city employee, and Leland Cook, ambulance director, attend the November Council meeting to discuss the need for a new ambulance, evaluate the need for two units and discuss staffing.

ETHANOL PLANT: City Administrator Tim Schook stated he has not received word from E3 concerning location of the ethanol plant.

ELECTRIC UTILITY: Tim Schook, city administrator, says talks have started with Mid Kansas Electric Cooperative (MKEC) on power contracts.

As of now we basically have two choices:

1) The City sign an exclusive contract with MKEC and they will install the needed metering and provide us with all the necessary power, schedule, A, B, and C.

or

2) Go with the Kansas Municipal Energy Agency Energy Management Project No. 2. The group of municipals acts as a group with negotiations for schedule A & B power and then has total control over C Power. The City will need to purchase their own metering for this project.

Schook recommends the City go with the KMEA project. This would give the City the most control over cost for electricity.

There are lots of benefits to real time metering according to Schook. The City would be able to control cost better and get away from big fluctuations. Schook says the next step is to spend some money on consultants.

Council Member Tom Dragastin made a motion to have City Administrator Tim Schook pursue KMEA Energy Management Project No. 2 options. Council Member Jon Snapp second. Motion carried.

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 2006-10

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

Thereupon on motion made by Council Jon Snapp moved for its adoption, that the City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to issue payroll Check Numbers 3074 through 3129 and warrant Check Numbers 33320 through 33391 in payment of just bills and claims against the City and debit the appropriate fund for each expenditure. Thereupon Council Meyler Gibbs seconded the motion. Thereupon the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Council Roxanne Schottel made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Tom Dragastin seconded the motion. Motion carried.