

ADJOURNED MEETING, COUNCIL CHAMBERS; WASHINGTON, KANSAS; DATE: DECEMBER 5, 2006

The Governing Body of the City of Washington, Kansas, met in Regular Session in the usual meeting place in said City on Tuesday, the fifth day of December, 2006, at 7:00 P.M. with the following members present: Mayor Travis Kier; Council Members Tom Dragastin, Randy Wyatt and Meyler Gibbs.

Absent: Council Member Roxanne Schottel and Dawn Kramer.

Also present were City Clerk Denise Powell; City Administrator Tim Schook; Power Plant Superintendent Terry Morse; Mike Schuessler, Washington; Randy James, Topeka, president of WJW Gambino's, Inc.; Pat Cox, senior project engineer with BG Consultants, Manhattan; Sheriff Bill Overbeck; Malcolm Stamm, Washington; and Marcia Funke, Washington.

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

Xerox Copies of the minutes of the previous regular meeting of Monday, November 6, 2006, 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 Randy Wyatt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 2006-12

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

Thereupon on motion made by Council Tom Dragastin moved for its adoption, that the City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to issue payroll Check Numbers 3237 through 3282 and warrant Check Numbers 31991 through 33543 in payment of just bills and claims against the City and debit the appropriate fund for each expenditure. Thereupon Council Randy Wyatt seconded the motion. Thereupon the motion carried.

COMMERCIAL LOT: Mike Schuessler, Washington, and Randy James, Topeka, president of WJW Gambino's, Inc., presented a concept drawing and an overview of the proposed business plan which is part of the application guidelines toward a free commercial lot located at 317 West Seventh Street.

SEWER: Pat Cox, senior project engineer with BG Consultants, Manhattan, visited with the Council about the City's main sewer pump station. Cox discussed the three options which are repair the valves and pump; replace with a submersible pump or replace with a recessed pump.

Cox made a recommendation for the recessed pump which would have no confined space, be above grade and easily accessible stating the cost at around \$100,000. Cox said the existing well will need to be abandoned according to EPA standards. Cox also visited about adding the expenses to the existing State's revolving loan with current interest at 2.4%.

Council Member Tom Dragastin moved to hire BG Consultants, Inc., to proceed with replacement of the lift station and funding application. Council Member Randy Wyatt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SHERIFF CONTRACT: Sheriff Bill Overbeck presented the 2007 Law Enforcement Contract. The contract provides one officer on-duty with patrol vehicle January 1, 2007, through December 31, 2007, to equal a minimum of 1,825 hours and a maximum of 2,190 hours at a yearly fee of \$25,000. Council Member Meyler Gibbs made a motion to approve the 2007 Law Enforcement Contract. Council Member Randy Wyatt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Sheriff Overbeck also presented a bill for \$330 to house an inmate for 11 days at the Republic County Jail, Belleville. The inmate was released by the judge after serving 11 days of the 30 day sentence. If he does not comply with the orders of the court he will be re-arrested December 23, 2006, to serve the remaining 19 days of his sentence.

WASHINGTON COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION: Malcom Stamm and Terry Morse, representatives of WCDC, met with the Council in regards to completing an inventory of assets survey for WCDC's web page.

TREE: Marcia Funke, Washington, visited the Council about removal of a dead elm tree on her property.

EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE & WAGES: Council Member Randy Wyatt made a motion for a 2.5% wage increase and to approve Blue Cross Blue Shield's bid of Option 2, Option 2 Comprehensive Major Medical Program for employee health insurance effective January 1, 2007, through December 31, 2007. Council Member Tom Dragastin seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meyler Gibbs abstained due to conflict of interest.

UTILITY BILLING: The utility billing code was not ready for review.

ZONING: City Administrator Tim Schook and City Attorney Paul Monty were to tone down the proposed ordinance and give to the Council for review. Ordinance was not ready for review.

15/36 PROJECT: City Attorney Paul Monty stated he should have the appraisal for the Gaines land acquisition at the December council meeting. Monty was not present at the meeting to provide a report.

COLEMAN PROPERTY: The Council instructed Monty to file on blighted property as per Ordinance No. 703 at the same address, 123 West Eighth Street at the November sixth council meeting. Monty was not present at the meeting to provide a report.

LIBRARY: The Council directed City Attorney Paul Monty to prepare a Charter Ordinance to increase the mill levy from five to eight for the library fund at the October meeting. Monty was not present at the meeting.

BROADBAND OVER POWERLINES: City Administrator Tim Schook will not meet with representatives from USI Industrial Services, Inc., about doing a study until January 2007.

ANIMAL CONTROL: City Attorney Paul Monty was to visit with Sheriff Bill Overbeck concerning vicious animals after 5 p.m., weekends and holidays with city personnel handling animal issues during normal business hours and report at the December council meeting. Monty was not at that meeting.

Sheriff Bill Overbeck stated he would assist the City any way he can with animals that are a threat to the public.

POOL: Previous meeting minutes of the pool committee were enclosed in the council packets. The pool drawing and specs from Tom Arpin, BG Consultants, Inc., Manhattan, were reviewed.

AMBULANCE: Discussion on purchase of a new ambulance will be addressed at a future date.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTING CONTEST: Council Member Tom Dragastin made a motion to do the residential Christmas Lighting Contest and provide free electricity for month of December to the first place winner; \$50 off electricity for the month of December to the second place winner and \$25 off electricity for the month of December to the third place winner. Council Member Randy Wyatt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

AMBULANCE: Council Member Randy Wyatt made a motion to increase the fee per loaded mile from \$9.25 to \$10 as of January 1, 2007. Council Member Meyler Gibbs seconded the motion. Motion carried.

REFUSE LICENSE APPLICATION: Council Member Meyler Gibbs made a motion to accept Jones Trash Service refuse license application for 2007. Council Member Tom Dragastin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

REFUSE: Mayor Travis Kier opened one bid for the city's trash hauling. Council Member Meyler Gibbs made a motion to accept the bid from C&M Refuse, a two-year contract from January 1, 2007, through December 31, 2008, for \$850 per year less \$50 if paying for full year in January. Council Member Randy Wyatt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CEREAL MALT BEVERAGE LICENSE: Council Member Meyler Gibbs made a motion to approve the cereal malt beverage license applications for Kier's Short Stop and Washington Bowl. Council Member Randy Wyatt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

EMAIL: City Clerk Denise Powell informed the Council email accounts were available to be set up through the City to provide easier means for taxpayers to correspond with council members. Council members were also asked for input on a new city brochure "Almost Everything You Need to Know About The City of Washington."

DONATIONS: The Council acknowledges the receipt of three donations: \$500 from the Ron Eaton Memorial to ambulance; \$150 from Marjorie Nutsch to the cemetery; and \$115 from Washington County Saddle Club and Jr. Rodeo participants to go towards electricity at the fairgrounds.

RECORDS REQUEST FEE SCHEDULE: City Clerk Denise Powell is to work with City Attorney Paul Monty on a request for records fee schedule and present at the January meeting.

2006 AUDIT: Council Member Meyler Gibbs moved to approve a contract with Clubine and Rettele Chartered, Salina, for the 2006 audit not to exceed \$5,000 for the audit and \$350 for the budget. Council Member Randy Wyatt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL COMMENTS: Council Member Randy Wyatt stated city resident Roger Smith asked him about the sidewalk replacement on his property. City Administrator Tim Schook reported the City is waiting on the contractor.

Mayor Travis Kier stated Leca Good asked him if anything could be done with the RV bus parked across the street from her residence. City Administrator Tim Schook stated the City would visit with the owner because it is a problem for street maintenance also.

CONCEALED WEAPONS: City Administrator Tim Schook stated he would have City Attorney Paul Monty review the proposed ordinance on concealed/carry law by the League of Kansas Municipalities and draw up an ordinance for the January council meeting.

RESIDENTIAL FREE LOTS: City Administrator Tim Schook presented two applications for free residential lots for review. Schook stated he would visit with both applicants to see if they are worth merit and present at the January council meeting.

COMMERCIAL LOT: City Administrator Tim Schook stated a tract of land located between ESB and the city's material yard may be another possibility for land for Greg Knedlik to use for his storage units. Council Member Tom Dragastin stated we should explore options in assisting Knedlik in finding a place to locate.

ELECTRIC: "The tolling project still proves to be a success," according to City Administrator Tim Schook. The tolling project is where the Aquila municipalities pooled their efforts in buying natural gas through Kansas Municipal Energy Agency to try and curb some of the high energy cost June through September. In the later part of August and all of September there was cooler than anticipated weather which means not all the gas the City paid for was used. Aquila has been very cooperative on this issue and will give the City a credit back of almost \$7,000.00 for gas not used in this program. This program saved the city as a whole \$.01 to \$.015 per kilowatt during these months.

The negotiation committee met with Mid Kansas Electric Cooperative on the intervention with the sale of Aquila to MKEC. "This meeting went very well," according to Schook, "it appears all the details will be worked out the first quarter of 2007." Major issues on the intervention are the ability for municipals to pool their resources through KMEA, to allow the ability to buy into the Holcomb Project (coal fired generation), arbitration of differences, and the required Southwest Power Pool metering which is already underway.

Council Member Meyler Gibbs made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION 2006-12, a resolution in support of the Sunflower Electric Power Corporation application for a prevention of significant deterioration construction permit for the Holcomb Station project. Council Member Tom Dragastin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Schook reported the power outages on Wednesday, Nov. 29th were caused by a floater (wires that have come loose and touch each other) around Haddam on the Aquila system.

Council Member Randy Wyatt moved to accept the bid of \$3,910.36 for parts, labor and travel time of four hours plus tax and freight for a new bucket on the electric distribution boom truck from Specialty Hydraulic Services, Meade. Council Member Tom Dragastin seconded the motion. Motion carried. Yearly insulation testing on the bucket truck revealed the bucket needs to be replaced.

CITY ATTORNEY COMMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Council Member Meyler Gibbs moved to adjourn to Noon Wednesday, December 27 at City Hall. Council Member Randy Wyatt seconded the motion. Motion carried.