

REGULAR MEETING, COUNCIL CHAMBERS; WASHINGTON, KANSAS; DATE: MARCH 5, 2007

The Governing Body of the City of Washington, Kansas, met in Regular Session in the usual meeting place in said City on Monday, the fifth day of March, 2007, at 7:00 P.M. with the following members present: Mayor Travis L. Kier; Council Members Tom Dragastin, Randy Wyatt, Dawn Kramer, Meyler Gibbs and Roxanne Schottel.

Absent: Council: None.

Also present were City Administrator Tim Schook; City Clerk Denise Powell; Legal Counsel Libby Hiltgen, Galloway, Wieggers and Brinegar, PA; Bill Hays and Dan Thalman, Washington County News; Monte Green and Mike Ryan, Ryan and Mullin, LLC; Harold Jones, Justin Cordry, Gene Martin, Paul Drush, Randy Tiffany, Mike Schuessler, Paul and Gayle Monty and Jan and Terry Taylor, all of 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, February 5, 2007, were given to the Mayor and each Council Member for review. Council Member Roxanne Schottel moved to approve the minutes as written. Council Member Randy Wyatt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 2007-3

“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 3373 through 3439; warrant Check Numbers 33678 through 33760; and Wires -20 through -22 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.

LEGAL COUNSEL: Michael W. Ryan and Monte Green, attorneys with the law firm of Ryan and Mullin LLC, Clay Center, visited with the Council about providing legal services to the City. Ryan stated they will open an office in Washington and asked for an opportunity to bid for city attorney.

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

ZONING: Zoning ordinance was not ready for review.

15/36 PROJECT: Tim Schook, city administrator, said he is getting the legal counsel on board with the project.

BLIGHTED PREMISE: City Administrator Tim Schook said a hearing was scheduled with the Standard Hearing Officer on a property located at 123 West Eighth Street.

LIBRARY: Tim Schook, city administrator, said he hoped to have the numbers put together by the April meeting so a decision can be made on increasing the mill levy for the library.

ANIMAL CONTROL: An ordinance to update animal control has not been drawn up. The Council adopted the following changes at their January meeting: city employees to deal with animal issues from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. during normal business hours and the Sheriff’s department to handle all vicious animal issues.

POOL COMMITTEE: The pool committee sent the plans back to the engineer for modifications. City Administrator Tim Schook is to come up with options for funding and projected cost if city employees provide labor.

AMBULANCE: Council Member Meyler Gibbs stated he and Director Leland Cook were going to begin getting spec sheets for a new ambulance. Estimated cost is \$100,000.

COMMERCIAL LOT: Mayor Travis Kier opened one bid on the former Westside property, located at 317 West Seventh Street. Council Member Dawn Kramer moved to accept the bid of \$500 by Randy James and Mike Schuessler for property located at 317 West Seventh Street. Council Member Roxanne Schottel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COMPUTERS: Council Member Meyler Gibbs made a motion to accept the upgrades to computers from Dague Computers and Engraving as presented: one desktop computer with printer at a cost of \$2,068, with \$1,551 out of the ambulance fund and \$517 out of general fund; a projector and 72" screen at a cost of \$1,369 with \$1,000 out of the general fund and \$369 out of the equipment reserve fund; one laptop computer and flash drive for \$2,110 with \$510 out of the general fund, \$580 out of equipment reserve fund, \$510 out of the water fund and \$510 out of the sewer and waste fund at a total cost of \$5,547. Council Member Randy Wyatt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A computer replacement plan was given to the Council.

INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS: Council Member Dawn Kramer inquired about a house at 122 East Fourth Street.

Council Member Tom Dragastin stated he is aware that B Street is the county's responsibility but it is a disaster and something needs to be done. City Administrator Tim Schook said he has been in contact with County Engineer Dave Willbrant but the funding is not there for the City to replace the curb and gutter this year. Schook said the City Council needs to decide where the funding can come from. There are no grants or free money available for this project.

Council Member Randy Wyatt stated the County is not doing their part in stepping forward to handle funding with the state-mandated service and the last time the funding was increased was 1996. Mayor Travis Kier asked Schook to send a letter to meet with other governing bodies of the cities in the County and the Washington County Commission to discuss proper funding. Council Member Tom Dragastin moved to nominate Meyler Gibbs to represent the City of Washington. Council Member Randy Wyatt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Council Member Roxanne Schottel inquired about the rental conflict of the rock building located at the fair grounds. Details on the Hughes wedding are being worked out. Tim Schook, city administrator, stated the Council told him to make it happen and that is what he plans to do.

EARLY RETIREMENT: Jerry Pierce and Red Dusin turned in written notification opting for the early retirement option according to City Administrator Tim Schook. Schook stated the City would need to hire a journeyman lineman as line superintendent.

ON MOTION by Council Member Meyler Gibbs that the City Council go into executive session for approximately five minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. From 7:50 p.m. to 7:55 p.m. Thereupon Council Member Randy Wyatt seconded the motion. Thereupon the motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Council Member Tom Dragastin that the Council reconvenes to the regular session at 7:55 p.m. Thereupon Council Member Roxanne Schottel seconded the motion. Motion was declared carried.

POWER PLANT: Council Member Tom Dragastin made a motion to implement employee terminations effective May 1. Council Member Randy Wyatt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

City Administrator Tim Schook stated he hoped to implement the new schedule at the Power Plant by the end of March if automatic notification equipment was up and running. Schook said the on-call employee would handle situations that arise. Schook visited about purchasing a pager for the on-call employee and about visiting with Sheila Ouellette, 911 communications director, about doing some dispatching for the City.

POLICIES: Council Member Dawn Kramer made a motion to approve as written the building rental agreement; table and bench rental agreement; table and bench check in and out form; building rental policy; and table and bench policy as presented. Council Member Tom Dragastin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ESB: Council Member Roxanne Schottel made a motion to allow one time rental of the Emergency Services Building June 1-4 for the Hughes wedding with proceeds going to the City Fire department. Motion carried.

City Administrator Tim Schook stated he has spoke with Fire Chief Mike Hattesoehl. Schook also said he would ask fire department volunteers to help with staffing the night of the event.

THANK YOU: The Mayor and Council Members signed a thank you to the Maynard Smith Family for a \$300 memorial given to the ambulance service for use of equipment.

PROPERTY: City Administrator Tim Schook visited with Ernie Nutsch on plans to take out the tree line and install a fence at the material yard. The property was surveyed by BG Consultants, Manhattan, prior to construction of the Emergency Services Building. Schook informed Nutsch if he disagreed with the property line he had the option to have it surveyed at his own expense.

COURT COSTS: There came on for consideration an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 706

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER IX, ARTICLE 1, SECTIONS 104 AND 105 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, KANSAS, 1985 RELATING TO THE AMOUNT OF COURT COSTS TO BE ASSESSED IN CASES FILED IN MUNICIPAL COURT AND RELATING TO COMPENSATION OF MUNICIPAL JUDGE.

said Ordinance No. 706 was read in full, considered and discussed, thereupon Council Member Roxanne Schottel moved for its adoption and Council Member Meyler Gibbs seconded the motion. Thereupon the Mayor declared Ordinance No. 706 duly adopted and passed unanimously by all Council Members present, and the Mayor directed that said Ordinance No. 706 be published in the Washington County News on Thursday, March 8, 2007, as provided by Ordinance.

ELECTRIC: City Administrator Tim Schook reported an individual who doesn't live in the city limits but is on city electricity was interested in putting up a wind turbine. Schook stated he was concerned about the effect it would have on city electricity. Schook stated he would work on an ordinance for safety and aesthetics.

Council Member Roxanne Schottel made a motion authorizing the Mayor to sign a Metering Services Agreement between the City of Washington and Kansas Municipal Energy Agency. Council Member Randy Wyatt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CHAIRS: Council Member Meyler Gibbs made a motion to purchase new chairs for the Council chambers a cost of \$169 each. Motion died for lack of second.

LEGAL REPRESENTATION AGREEMENT: Libby Hiltgen, attorney with the law firm of Galloway, Wieggers and Brinegar, presented a legal representation agreement.

PRESENTATION OF PLAQUES: Mayor Travis Kier presented a plaque to Terry Taylor as judge and to Paul Monty as attorney honoring their years of service to the City of Washington.

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