

City of Great Bend
August 17, 2020

REGULAR SESSION

The Governing Body met in Regular Session in the City Council Chambers. Mayor Cody Schmidt called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the following present: Councilmembers Junior Welsch, Jolene Biggs, Barry Bowers, Cory Urban, Alan Moeder, Brock McPherson, and via zoom, Lindsey Krom-Craven. Also in attendance were City Administrator Kendal Francis, City Attorney Robert Suelter, City Clerk/Finance Director Shawna Schafer.

OPENING: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A. CONSENT AGENDA

- a) **Minutes:** Minutes of the Regular Session held on August 3, 2020.
- b) **Claim's Warrant Register 8-17-20:** Covering 2020 bills to date in the amount of \$150,665.84.
- c) **Payroll Register P/R 8-14-20:** Covering payroll ending August 8, 2020 in the amount of \$338,454.49.
- d) **Appointments:** Mayor Schmidt appointed Vicki Berryman to the Tree Board.
- e) **Tree Trimmer License:** Greg Boys from Great Bend, KS has applied for a tree trimmers license. Application has been received along with payment and copy of the insurance.
- f) **Change of Date for the Next Regular Council Meeting:** The next regular council meeting falls on Labor Day which is a Holiday observed by the City. It is recommended that the meeting be held on Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.
- g) **Agenda:** Approval of agenda as submitted or amended.

Ms. Biggs made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bowers and passed with all voting in favor.

B. OLD BUSINESS: There were no old business.

C. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The public is free to comment on items not listed on the agenda. Please address comments to the City Council as a body and be mindful of others who may also wish to speak by limiting comments to 3 minutes.

1. Leesa Maupin addressed the Governing Body asking to remove an abatement charge that was assessed to her property. She stated her daughter lives in a trailer home, which sits on the same piece of property as her. She claimed she was not aware her daughter was illegally dumping sewage in the backyard. The city cleaned up the mess and

assessed the charges to her property, which is now accruing interest. She would like the Governing Body to approve removing the abatement until next year when her daughter has the money to pay it back. The Governing Body was not in favor.

D. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. 2021 Budget Ordinance No. 4359:** City Administrator, Kendal Francis, presented the 2021 Operating Budget to the Governing Body at the July 13, 2020 budget work session. The recommended 2021 budget presented no mill levy increase and no election to vote is required. The Notice of Public Hearing was published on July 31, 2020. Mayor Schmidt opened for public hearing. Mr. Urban made a motion to close public hearing. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dawson and passed with all voting in favor. Mr. Urban made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 4359 as the 2021 Budget Ordinance. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moeder and passed by a vote of 7-1, with Mr. McPherson voting no.
- 2. Councilmember Reports:** There were no councilmember reports.
- 3. Administrators Update:** City Administrator Kendal Francis presented an update on what is happening within the City organization.
- 4. CVB/Community Coordinator Report:** Community Coordinator Christina Hayes presented her monthly report.
- 5. Abatements:** Property Maintenance Enforcement Manager Austin LaViolette presented the following abatements to the Governing Body:
 - a. 1036 Jefferson Street:** Trash and refuse including, but not limited to; trash on property not in city approved containers, furniture, scrap wood, pallets, branch piles, plastic containers, and household debris that needs to be removed located at 1036 Jefferson Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is subject of Resolution Number 081720-A.
 - b. 1019 Frey Street:** There are several vehicles on the property that illegally parked in the yard, as well as several junked and inoperable vehicles that needs to be removed located at 1019 Frey Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is subject of Resolution Number 081720-B.
 - c. 1419 19th Street:** There is a sofa, trash bags, and tree limbs/branches that needs to be removed located at 1419 19th Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is subject of Resolution Number 081720-C.
 - d. 1714 Adams Street:** There is a large tree branch down in the front yard, wood construction materials, furniture, and other general refuse that needs to be removed located at 1714 Adams Street constituting an unlawful accumulation. This real estate is subject of Resolution Number 081720-D.

Mr. Urban made a motion to approve Resolution Numbers 081720A-D. The motion was seconded by Mr. Welsch and passed with all voting in favor.

- 6. Grit Chamber & Classifier:** Utilities Superintendent Reuben Martin reported that the Grit Chamber and Classifier is the system that separate particles like sand and grit from the incoming material going further down the system and causing premature wear on the walls, mixer paddles, sensors, etc. This system is a 1979 Smith and Loveless Pista Grit system. The system has not been operational for 2 years, which means the materials it needs to remove has been bypassing the system and wearing on the treatment plant. The City only received two bids. Staff recommends going with Ray Lindsey for a purchase price of \$164,844. Ms. Biggs made a motion to approve bid from Ray Lindsey for \$164,844 for the purchase of the Grit Chamber and Classifier. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dawson and passed by a vote of 7-1, with Mr. McPherson voting no.

- 7. Ultraviolet System for Effluent:** Utilities Superintendent Reuben Martin reported that the Ultraviolet System is a 1998 Trojan 3000 Classic which was put in when the plant was updated. Currently the system is obsolete, and parts are no longer being produced, which makes existing parts highly marked up. Not all the lights are working and as such, we have pieced together parts to make the system work properly. We run all our effluent at this time through one side of the 2-channel system. This bid would allow us to have one side completely rebuilt with new, then the following year to replace the other side at a reduced cost. The City only received 2 bids. Staff Recommends going with Ray Lindsey for a purchase price of \$181,000. Mr. Dawson made a motion to approve bid from Ray Lindsey for \$181,000 for the purchase of the Ultraviolet System. The motion was seconded by Mr. Welsch and passed by a vote of 7-1, with Mr. McPherson voting no.

- 8. Baseball Field Lighting Change Order:** Public Lands Director Scott Keeler reported that after digging test holes the last couple of weeks, we discovered the soil did not meet the type 5 standards. We hit sand 3 to 4 feet and water around 9 feet. Working with Musco Engineers, they have recommended to install metal casings. The tallest poles require 18ft. deep holes, the other poles, depending on their height, require a 10 to 14 ft. deep hole. P&S Electric went out for bids to subcontract and Rosencrantz-Bemis was the low bid for \$126,502. Mr. Urban made a motion to approve change order to P&S Electric for \$126,502. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bowers and passed with all voting in favor.

- 9. Water & Sewer Rates:** City Administrator Kendal Francis reported that the City hired Ranson Financial to perform a third-party analysis of the utility rates. The analysis revealed that if rates were not addressed, expenditures would exceed revenues by \$1.9million in water & \$3.7million in sewer by 2025. Therefore, staff is recommending the following increases for both water & sewer usage rates. Water: Increase 22% from \$2.54/1,000 gals. to \$3.10/1,000 gals. & then 3% each year for next 5 years. Sewer: Increase 33% from \$3.80/1,000 gals. to \$5.05/1,000 gals. & then 3.5% each year for next 5 years. Further review of the rates also revealed that, for unknown reasons, neither the water meter charges nor usage rates for customers in the Westport Addition had not been adjusted since at least 1975. By ordinance, the rates are \$0.60/1,000 gals. The City's cost of producing 1,000 gals. of water is \$1.11. We recognize that it was the City's oversight that created this discrepancy. Furthermore, we understand that immediately correcting the issue would create an undo financial burden to the customer. Therefore, we have developed a plan to incrementally adjust water rates for Westport Addition customers that will bring them in line with all other users by the year 2024. This was an informational item only. No action was taken.

10. Request for Executive Session: Ms. Biggs made a motion to recess into executive session for a period of 15 minutes to discuss pending litigation pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), consultation with an attorney for the body which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, with the regular meeting to resume in the City Council Chambers at 8:03pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Welsch and passed with all voting in favor. The regular meeting resumed at 8:03pm. No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. Biggs made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Moeder seconded this motion and passed with all voting in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm.