

City Council Meeting Minutes
January 19, 2016

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Steve Shepard called the Regular City Council Meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. Council members present were: Jesse Knight, Sharon Jones, Jeff Blosser, Mark Brooks, Betty Hughey, and Sharon Haun. City Administrator Danny Matthews and City Attorney Randy Heilman were also present. Others attending were: Larry Heyka, Robert Herbig, Alicia Wessel, Diane Wolfe, Deputy Building Inspector Lawrence Siegrist, Craig McNeal, Megan Glotzbach, and Kelly Gaston.

HEARINGS ON BLIGHTED HOUSES AT 5:30 PM – Added to the Agenda

Deputy Building Inspector Lawrence Siegrist reported the property owned by Glenn and June Law, with David Campbell listed as the owner's agent, at 39 Orchard Street, would like to have 90 days to demo garage, repair porch, and paint. Lawrence Siegrist noted that the Blighted House Committee approved the 90 days and understand that they may need an extension to get the painting done. Mark Brooks made a motion to approve giving Glenn and June Law 90 days to demo garage, repair porch, and paint. Betty Hughey seconded the motion and the Council voted 6-0 in favor. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD I

Diane Wolfe reported that Kansas Day is going to be held on January 29, 2016 from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. at the Chamber office. This will be celebrating Kansas's 155th birthday. There will be Last Chance Store postcards, Kansas trivia cards to fill out and turn in for a prize, coloring books for kids, and Kansas themed treats to eat. The 155th person though the door will receive a gift certificate, to be decided on later.

MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & APPROPRIATIONS

Betty Hughey made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 5, 2016 regular City Council Meeting and appropriations as presented in the packet. Sharon Jones seconded the motion and the Council voted 6-0 in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. TRANSFERS: A-8

Betty Hughey made a motion to approve the transfer of A-8 from Larry and Mary Jo Heyka to Casa Lago, LLC, Manhattan, KS. Sharon Jones seconded the motion and the Council voted 6-0 in favor. Motion carried.

B. "Dead end" sign request

A request was presented to the Council to put a "dead end" sign on West Conn Street. City Administrator Danny Matthews reported that Chief of Police John Stone noted that he agreed with the sign being put up. After discussion, Betty Hughey made a motion to put up the "dead end" sign on West Conn Street. Sharon Haun seconded the motion and the Council voted 6-0 in favor. Motion carried.

C. PLANNING AND ZONING RECOMMENDATIONS

Deputy Building Inspector Lawrence Siegrist reported the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends the approval of a Sign Permit from Gary Smith, CPA at 200 W. Main. Jessie Knight inquired if the sign was already up and Deputy Building Inspector Lawrence Siegrist said that it was up already and that the owner accepted paying a fine because he put it up early. Jessie Knight made a motion to allow the sign to be put up and charge the fine. Jeff Blosser seconded the motion and the Council voted 6-0 in favor. Motion carried.

D. EMPLOYEE PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Steve Shepard appointed Larry Siegrist to Building Inspector at \$2,600 per month with a three month probation period. Also, and at the recommendation of Chief of Police John Stone, the Mayor appoint Jenna Herrington as a Class B Police Officer at \$15.35 per hour with a three month probation period with the City of Council Grove Police Department. City Administrator Danny Matthews noted that Officer Herrington has graduated and has received her certificate from the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center. City Administrator Danny Matthews asked for clarification on when Larry Siegrist would be receiving his new pay. Following discussion, Jessie Knight made a motion to confirm the appointment of Officer Herrington and to discuss Larry Siegrist appointment with the Salaries Ordinance later. Betty Hughey seconded the motion and the Council voted 6-0 in favor. Motion carried.

E. Pride Resolution

Mayor Steve Shepard proposed that the City of Council Grove participate in the PRIDE Program for the year 2016. Mayor Steve Shepard noted that he felt this was a great program and that the people who are a part of the PRIDE committee have done a lot of great work in the past. Jessie Knight noted as well that he felt it was a great committee to be a part of and if someone wanted to help out the community; joining the PRIDE Committee was a great way to do it. Jeff Blosser made a motion to pass the Pride Resolution. Sharon Jones seconded the motion and the Council voted 6-0 in favor. Motion carried. Resolution number 011916-01

F. SIDEWALK GRANT

Jessie Knight requested to move this to the next meeting because he has someone who wants to speak the Council about the Sidewalk Grant and they are out of town right now. No action was taken at this time.

G. REAL ESTATE CONTRACTS

City Attorney Randy Heilman reported he had concluded negotiations with Curtis Meierhoff and Sara Ross for the acquisition of land owned by the City that adjoins their property and property owned by Leonard Hutchison. Meierhoff/Ross and Leonard Hutchison have paid all fees associated with the purchase. Mark Brooks inquired if the contract included annexation and City Attorney Heilman said it did not. Mark Brooks noted that the Armory needs to be annexed. Following discussion, Jessie Knight made a motion to accept both real estate contracts. Sharon Jones seconded the motion and the Council voted 5-1, Mark Brooks opposed. Motion carried

H. PLAT UPDATE

Mayor Steve Shepard noted that the County requested that they receive the last ½ of 2015 taxes before they record the plat. City Attorney Randy Heilman noted that all taxes that are due and owed have to be paid before the plat can be recorded. Mayor Steve Shepard also noted that the county wanted to ask Mr. Brosemer some questions but he was not able to make it to the meeting and will be meeting with the county at a later date. City Attorney Randy Heilman noted that the lease had to be changed due to the new wording with the plat and had been sent to the Lake Association for approval. Robert Herbig inquired who Randy was sending the lease to and Randy Heilman said he will be contacting Mr. Frost. Robert Herbig noted that the Lake Association supported waiting till the last ½ of the 2015 taxes were due to give more time for the lease to be fixed and Mr. Brosemer to meet with the county. Robert also thanked the City on behalf of the Lake Association for all they have done with the plat. Jesse Knight also thinks the city should wait till the last ½ of the taxes come due to pay them.

I. 10 MINUTE EXECUTIVE SESSION- TO DISCUSS SALARY ORDINANCE – Added to the Agenda

Jeff Blosser made a motion to go into a 10-minute executive session, Attorney Client Privilege, to discuss the salary ordinance. Those to attend are the full Council, City Administrator, Mayor, and City Attorney. Betty Hughey seconded the motion and the Council voted 6-0 in favor. Motion carried.

Upon return to Regular Session, Jeff Blosser made a motion to table the salary ordinance until the next meeting and to confirm the appointment of Larry Siegrist at \$2,600 per month starting his pay retroactive to the first day of the current pay period. Betty Hughey seconded the motion and the Council voted 6-0 in favor. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

J. SALARIES ORDINANCE

Tabled until the next meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD II

None at this time.

GOVERNING BODY COMMENTS

Jesse Knight reminded the public a Comprehensive Plan Open House will be held January 20, 2016, at the Armory.

Jeff Blosser noted that Baseball and Softball Committee will not meet this Wednesday January 20, 2016 due to the Comprehensive Plan Open House and will instead meet next Wednesday January 27, 2016.

Councilman Blosser noted the Street and Parks Committee will get together to discuss problems with the sand volleyball and will get back with an approval to the city later.

Councilman Blosser noted that the bi-annual bridge inspections for the County, and including the City's Valley Street Bridge will be happening next week. Councilman Blosser noted the cost will be \$85 for the Valley Street Bridge. Mayor Steve Shepard thanked the County for letting the City add a bridge to the County's bridges.

Mark Brooks noted that there was no stop sign out of the Bachura Family Automotive at 1404 Industrial Park Blvd, north of town. City Administrator Danny Matthews commented that the city would have to refer to KDOT about the stop sign.

Councilman Brooks received a call requesting a variance on the water bill ordinance for a recently deceased person. The person who will have power of attorney will not have the authority to pay the water bill until everything is finalized in February. City Administrator Danny Matthews noted that there will be late fees for January and February. Mark Brooks made a motion to allow the variance to the parties until the power of attorney is appointed and will pay the water bill.

Councilman Brooks inquired about an update on the stoplight. City Administrator Danny Matthews said that he knows that Road & Parks Superintendent Jeff Barbo has made contact with someone but he will ask for more information from Jeff Barbo in the Monday Department Head meeting. Councilman Brooks requested that someone come next council meeting to talk about possibilities with the stoplight.

Councilman Brooks noted that the Historic Sites Meeting was canceled due to weather.

Councilman Brooks requested of Councilmen Knight to set up a meeting with the 4th of July committee to start working on planning for the 4th of July celebrations.

Betty Hughey requested to setup the time for the Blighted House Committee Meeting. After discussion it was decided that the Blighted House Committee Meeting will be January 27, 2016 at 10am.

Council Member Haun noted that she had recently attended a roundtable discussion at the League of Kansas Municipality meeting and they suggested that a city needs to set up a group that is comprised of people that belong to the other major groups in the city as well as the county. This will allow all the different groups to communicate better and let all entities know what everyone is doing.

Council Member Haun noted that the Flint Hills Regional Council heard reports about the CG Comprehensive plan at their last meeting and that she was happy to see it was on their radar.

City Administrator Danny Matthews noted that the asbestos report that was requested was in front of the councilmembers.

City Administrator Danny Matthews noted that there were 2016 Keep it Clean Calendars that were available for the councilmembers if they would like them.

City Administrator Danny Matthews also noted that the Bill Pay Online is in working order and customers are now able to pay their water bill online. As of right now, if a customer wishes to pay online, they will have to fill in how much their bill is and the account information, but in the near future they will be able to search for their account and it will have the total amount for the bill already in the system. There will be a convenience fee to the customer for using the online system.

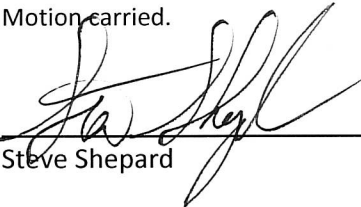
Mayor Steve Shepard reminded the public a Comprehensive Plan Open House will be held January 20, 2016, at the Armory from 6:30 pm-8:30 pm.

Mayor Shepard noted that the County Commissioners asked about when the water plant will be getting a power generator.

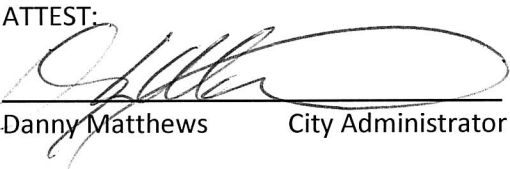
Mayor Shepard noted that there will be an Emergency Preparedness meeting on January 25, 2016 at 7pm. It will be held at the Hospital and the people who will attend include the Chief of Police, Fire Chief, Department Heads, and the Mayor.

ADJOURNMENT

Betty Hughey made a motion to adjourn. Jessie Knight seconded the motion and the Council voted 6-0 in favor. Motion carried.



Steve Shepard Mayor

ATTEST:


Danny Matthews City Administrator

