

City Council Meeting Minutes
April 4, 2017

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, Betty Hughey, and Sharon Haun. Mark Brooks was absent. City Attorney Randy Heilman and City Administrator Danny Matthews were also present. Others attending were: Larry Fischer, Larry Heyka, Kelley Judd, Tom Nurnberg, Brady Hedstrom, Diane Wolfe, Wayne Kohler, Mary Honeyman, Brian Newell, David Fritchen, Recreation Director Justin Carlson, Road & Parks Superintendent Jeff Barbo, Building Inspector Larry Siegrist, Craig McNeal, and Megan Glotzbach.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD I

Diane Wolfe, Council Grove/Morris County Chamber Director, noted on May 7, 2017 the chamber will be bringing in tourism writers to Council Grove and would like to have dinner at the Fairgrounds Park Shelter House and is requesting the fees be waived. Councilperson Betty Hughey made a motion to waive the \$10.00 use fee for the Chamber to use the Fairgrounds Park Shelter House. Councilperson Sharon Haun seconded the motion and the Council voted 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilperson Betty Hughey made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented in the packet. Councilperson Sharon Haun seconded the motion. The consent agenda consisted of:

- A. March 21, 2017 Minutes.
- B. March 21, 2017 to Current Appropriations.

The Council voted 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

C. Street Light Discussion.

Mayor Steve Shepard noted Police Chief John Stone recommends the Council place a light on the 700-800 block of Houck Road due to the area being dark and potentially unsafe. Councilperson Betty Hughey made a motion to approve the placing of a street light on the 700-800 block of Houck Rd. Councilperson Jeff Blosser seconded the motion and the Council voted 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.

D. BG Overage Approval Request.

Brady Hedstrom, Representing BG Consultants, noted the amount of the overage is based on the number of total days the technicians worked over the original 25 day plan that had previously been paid for. Mr. Hedstrom noted the amount the City owes will be 20% or \$1,844.78 and the remaining 80% will be submitted to KDOT for payment once the City approves their payment. Councilperson Jeff Blosser made a motion to approve paying the Cities portion of 20% to BG Consultants for the overage on Inspection fees up to \$1,844.78. Councilperson Jesse Knight seconded the motion and the Council voted 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.

E. Tax Appeal Discussion.

Mayor Steve Shepard noted 192 tax appeals were received by the deadline and an additional 45 were received after the deadline as of April 4, 2017. Councilperson Jeff Blosser inquired if the remaining Lake residents could pay under protest in December. City Attorney Randy Heilman noted the language for an amendment to the lease can be worked out to allow payment under protest. The Lake residents noted it would be nice to know the calculation for the land valuations. David Fritchen, representing the Lake Association, requested the City give a Grant of Authority to the Lake Association to appeal the Lake taxes as a whole and feels this would solve any confusion and issues. After further discussion Councilperson Jesse Knight made a motion to allow the 45 received after deadline and any remaining ones received by April 5, 2017 at noon to be submitted to the County Appraiser's Office by April 10, 2017. Councilperson Sharon Haun seconded the motion and the Council voted 4-0 in favor with Councilperson Jeff Blosser abstaining. Motion carried. 5-0
Councilperson Jesse Knight made a motion for City Attorney Randy Heilman to work with the Lake Association to clean up the lease language and allow payment under protest for 2017 taxes. Councilperson Sharon Jones seconded the motion and the Council voted 4-0 in favor with Councilperson Jeff Blosser abstaining. Motion carried. 5-0

NEW BUSINESS

F. Council Grove City Lake Association.

David Fritchen, representing the Lake Association, thanked the Councilmembers for the Chemical Class.

G. Recreation Advisory Board Recommendation.

Recreation Director Justin Carlson presented the Recreation Advisory Board recommendations; Council Grove Recreation Department Rental Agreement, Council Grove Softball Club Field Usage Agreement

2017, and Council Grove Recreation Department 2017 Employee Wage Scale. The rental agreement set up annual fees for long term renters as well as a minimum cleaning fee for organizations the Council wishes to waive fees to. Once Pool Manager Cassi Owen receives her trainer certifications, WSI Trainer and CPR/First Aid Trainer, the City will be able to host lifeguard training as an added revenue source. The CG Softball Club will be required to maintain insurance requirements, chalk and line fields for game use, rake batter's box, pitchers area, and all bases, clean bathrooms and empty all dumpsters/pick up trash. The Recreation Department will drag fields and mow the complex, as well as provide trash bags and concessions during league season. Councilperson Jeff Blosser made a motion to accept the Recreation Advisory Board Recommendations. Councilperson Betty Hughey seconded the motion and the Council voted 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.

H. Employee Appointments.

Mayor Steve Shepard appointed Gracie Feters to Spring High School Season 1st year Concessions @ \$7.69/hour, Arthur Rathke to Riverwalk Supervisor @ \$1.00/hour in addition to his current wage, Vicki McRae to Planning and Zoning Board, and Betty Hughey to Alternate for the Utility Committee. Councilperson Jeff Blosser confirmed all appointments. Councilperson Sharon Haun seconded the confirmation and the Council voted 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.

I. Preliminary Discussion – Acquisition of Property at 312 West Main.

Councilperson Jeff Blosser made a motion to go into a 20 minute executive session to discuss acquisition of retail property, those to attend are the five Councilmembers, Mayor Steve Shepard, City Attorney Randy Heilman, City Administrator Danny Matthews, Building Inspector Larry Siegrist, and Brian Newell (Riley Construction Representative). Councilperson Betty Hughey seconded the motion and the Council voted 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.

Upon return to regular session Councilperson Jeff Blosser made a motion to go into a 20 minute executive session to discuss acquisition of retail property, those to attend are the five Councilmembers, Mayor Steve Shepard, City Attorney Randy Heilman, City Administrator Danny Matthews, Building Inspector Larry Siegrist, and Brian Newell (Riley Construction Representative). Councilperson Betty Hughey seconded the motion and the Council voted 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.

Upon return to regular session Councilperson Jesse Knight made a motion to schedule a meeting with the County Commissioners to discuss 312 West Main, those to attend are Mayor Steve Shepard, Councilperson's Jesse Knight, Betty Hughey, and Sharon Haun, City Attorney Randy Heilman, City Administrator Danny Matthews, Building Inspector Larry Siegrist, and Riley Construction Repetitive. Councilperson Betty Hughey seconded the motion and the Council voted 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.

GOVERNING BODY COMMENTS

Councilperson Jesse Knight requested an update from the Riverwalk Committee for the Riverwalk Project. Councilperson Knight inquired about the progress of placing new trash cans and pet stations around City parks. Councilperson Knight noted there is still a stage on the Riverwalk that needs to be removed.

Councilperson Jeff Blosser noted chip and seal estimates will be completed soon and spring training will be happening over the next few Sunday's.


Councilperson Sharon Haun noted the Historic Sites Committee is progressing on installing new historic signs.

City Attorney Randy Heilman noted Eric Nelson is requesting to vacate Hughes St. south of the liquor store. City Attorney Heilman noted bankruptcy claim for Seadeek Building on North Neosho is proceeding.

City Administrator Danny Matthews noted all department heads and committees need to submit any material for the Council Meeting Packets by 5:00 P.M. the Thursday before the Council Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilperson Betty Hughey made a motion to adjourn. Councilperson Sharon Jones seconded the motion and the Council voted 4-0 in favor. Motion carried.


Steve Shepard Mayor

ATTEST: 
Danny Matthews City Administrator

