

City Council Meeting Minutes
October 3, 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, Mark Brooks, Betty Hughey, and Sharon Haun. City Attorney Randy Heilman and City Administrator Danny Matthews were also present. Others attending were: Larry Fischer, Robert Herbig, David Fritchen, Bill Frost, Diana Jost, Kay Hutchinson, Pete Day, Bob Hiebert, William Kassebaum, Larry Heyka, Cynthia Engle, Wayne Kohler, Jason Orr, Jay Newton, Steve Hanson, Diane Wolfe, Kelley Judd, Gary Catlin, Building Inspector Larry Siegrist, Deputy Building Inspector James Masters, Road & Parks Superintendent Jeff Barbo, Marcus Hernandez, and Megan Glotzbach.

BLIGHTED STRUCTURES HEARING

Deputy Building Inspector James Masters noted there are three structures with resolutions stating the time and place for a public hearing as today October 3, 2017.

Deputy Building Inspector Masters noted 319 Hall St. – Owner: Steven & Leah Hanson – with a recommendation to repair or demolish; the roof has been partially finished but there is still work that needs to be completed on the exterior. Steven Hanson requested a 60 day extension to close all the openings, as required, and expects all cosmetic exterior items will be completed by Christmas. After discussion Councilperson Jesse Knight made a motion to allow the repair extension for 319 Hall Street and set a further hearing on December 19, 2017 at 5:30 P.M. Councilmember Sharon Jones seconded the motion and the Council voted 6-0 in favor. Motion carried.

Deputy Building Inspector Masters noted 318 W. Main St. – Owner: Sandra Bane – with a recommendation to repair; has finished the required repairs and no further action is required.

Deputy Building Inspector Masters noted 229 S. Neosho St. – Owner Samuel Ziegler – with a recommendation to repair or demolish; the owner hired David Blythe to board up the windows for future repair. Deputy Building Inspector Masters noted the International Property Maintenance Code allows for a one year boarding up for future repair (found in the IMPC Section 110.1: Boarding the building up for future repair shall not extend beyond one year.) Councilperson Mark Brooks inquired about the condition of the roof. Deputy Building Inspector Masters noted he believed the roof would hold up for the next year. Jason Orr, Lawyer for the bank holding the property lien, requested to be kept in the loop with any future proceedings on this property.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD I

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Steve Shepard pulled one Community Event, Gathering in the Grove, due to missing information on the form. Councilperson Betty Hughey made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented in the packet. Councilperson Jesse Knight seconded the motion. The consent agenda consisted of:

- A. September 19, 2017 Minutes.
- B. September 19, 2017 to Current Appropriations.
- C. Transfers: K-13 from Paul & Christie Haynes to Preston L. & Amy J. Petersen, Sedgwick, KS.
- D. 2 Community Events with Alcohol Consumption Applications.
 - a. Luke Furman – November 18, 2017
 - b. Council Grove/Morris County Chamber & Tourism – November 18, 2017
- E. Shared On-site Wastewater Treatment System Agreement.
 - a. Brandt & Shelia Rudzinski of C-40 and William & Melanie Hankley Trust of C-39.

The Council voted 4-0 in favor with Councilpersons Jeff Blosser and Sharon Jones abstaining. Motion carried. 6-0

OLD BUSINESS

F. Trash Cans and Dog Clean Up Stations Discussion.

City Administrator Danny Matthews noted he requested a bid for trash cans from Adams Lumber. City Administrator Matthews noted the Road & Parks Department can power wash and paint the current trash cans to be used in the parks for the time being until new ones can be purchased. Councilperson Jesse Knight noted some cities have manufactured their own trash cans by welding sheet metal and using powder coating.

City Administrator Matthews recommended purchasing eight dog clean up stations; five at the Riverwalk, and three on Main Street; by the Covered Wagon, Post Office, and the Bowers Center. Mayor Steve Shepard noted he would like to see a local business submit a bid for the trash cans and the dog clean up stations. Councilperson Mark Brooks noted other parks could use clean up stations as well. Councilperson Knight suggested requesting quotes for 12 to 24 dog clean up stations. Councilperson Jesse Knight made a motion to table this discussion until the suggested quotes could be received. Councilperson Betty Hughey seconded the motion and the Council voted 6-0 in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

G. Council Grove Lake Association and “Grant of Authority” Request.

No report from the Lake Association at this time.

Dave Fritchen, representing the Council Grove Lake Association, requested a “Grant of Authority” to appeal the 2014 taxes. William Kassebaum, County Counselor, presented a protest petition, signed by 67 Council Grove citizens, opposing the City retroactively approving the “Grant of Authority” request. After discussion Councilperson Jeff Blosser made a motion to go into a 20 minute Executive Session – Attorney Client Privilege – to discuss the “Grant of Authority” request. Those to attend are the full Council present, Mayor Steve Shepard, City Attorney Randy Heilman, and City Administrator Danny Matthews. Councilperson Betty Hughey seconded the motion and the Council voted 6-0 in favor. Motion carried.

Upon return Councilperson Mark Brooks made a motion to table the “Grant of Authority” request until the next regular City Council meeting on October 17, 2017. Councilperson Betty Hughey seconded the motion and the Council voted 6-0 in favor. Motion carried.

H. Concrete Trucks on Spencer Street Concerns.

Mayor Steve Shepard inquired why Penny’s Concrete trucks were using Spencer Street instead of the agreed upon Glen Street. Pete Day, representing Penny’s Concrete, noted Spencer Street is only used on busy days when there is a chance of two trucks meeting on Glen Street, which is too narrow to support two trucks passing each other. Mayor Shepard noted during the 9/11 service, at the Fire Station, the service was stopped two or three times due to concrete trucks driving on Spencer Street. Mr. Day noted he will remind the drivers not to use Spencer Street. But if they have to for safety reasons, only use Spencer Street empty. Mr. Day noted other companies have heavy trucks traveling on Spencer Street and suggested the City consider laying down a better constricted road that can withstand the traffic. Councilperson Brooks suggested the Road & Parks Committee meet to consider a long term solution for the Spencer Street road. Councilperson Jesse Knight suggested a representative of Penny’s Concrete meet with the Road & Parks Committee and work on a solution.

I. House Numbering Ordinance – 1st Reading.

The House Numbering Ordinance is presented in the Packet for the Council’s review. City Attorney Randy Heilman noted a letter will be sent to any property not in compliance. Councilperson Jesse Knight suggested stating in the Ordinance that a courtesy letter will be sent as well as how long they will have to become compliant. City Administrator Danny Matthews noted the letters must be readable block numbers on the front of the house. After discussion Councilperson Jesse Knight made a motion to add information on the courtesy letter as suggested earlier, more description on what type of lettering is not allowed, and any other details the Building Inspectors deem necessary. Councilperson Jeff Blosser seconded the motion and the Council voted 6-0 in favor. Motion carried.

J. Two Employee Appointments.

Mayor Steve Shepard appointed Dale Everett to Maintenance I – A @ 12.38/hour, retroactive back to his six month anniversary date of September 2, 2017, and James Masters to \$16.75/hour for completion of the International Code Council Certification for Residential Electrical Inspector. Councilperson Mark Brooks confirmed all appointments. Councilperson Betty Hughey seconded the confirmation and the Council voted 6-0 in favor. Motion carried.

K. City Lake Committee Recommendations.

Building Inspector Larry Siegrist reported the City Lake Committee’s Recommendation: J-3, Owner: Marilyn Joerg, previously requested to trim trees in a City Commons Area to extend a lateral field. The owner is now requesting to trim/cut more trees in the City Commons Area to allow for landscaping around the lateral field. Neighbors have no issues with request. Councilperson Jesse Knight made a motion to approve the Recommendation. Councilperson Jeff Blosser seconded the motion and the Council voted 6-0 in favor. Motion carried.

L. Longevity Pay Discussion.

City Administrator Danny Matthews noted some Department Heads had requested the Longevity Pay be considered for an increase. The current Longevity Pay and the proposed Longevity Pay are in the Packet for the Council to review. Councilperson Mark Brooks noted he did not know there was a Longevity Pay and wondered when it was put into place. City Administrator Danny Matthews noted the Longevity Pay was started at the current rate before he started in 1983. Councilperson Mark Brooks made a motion to approve the proposed Longevity Pay as presented in the packet. Councilperson Sharon Jones seconded the motion and the Council voted 6-0 in favor. Motion carried.

M. 20 Minute Executive Session – Non-Elected Personnel Matter – To Discuss City Administrator Search.

Councilperson Jesse Knight made a motion to go into a 20 minute Executive Session – Non-Elected Personnel Matter – To Discuss the City Administrator Search. Those to attend are the full Council present, Mayor Steve Shepard, City Attorney Randy Heilman, City Administrator Danny Matthews, and Jay Newton. Councilperson Sharon Haun seconded the motion and the Council voted 6-0 in favor. Motion carried.

Upon return Councilperson Jesse Knight made a motion to hire Jay Newton, City Administrator Consultant, for two consultations; City Administrator Interviews and a follow up consultation, at \$500.00 each plus mileage for tonight's meeting, to be paid out of General Government. Councilperson Jeff Blosser seconded the motion and the Council voted 6-0 in favor. Motion carried.

GOVERNING BODY COMMENTS

Councilperson Betty Hughey reminded the public that on Sunday October 8, 2017 from 3:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. at the Riverwalk will be some Breast Cancer Awareness Activities.

Councilperson Mark Brooks noted on Sunday October 8, 2017 at 2:00 P.M. at the Kaw Mission there will be an announcement of the findings during the summer 2017 Archeological Dig.

City Administrator Danny Matthews noted he received information on the LED conversion from Stanion Electric and Keystone. Keystone is giving the City two types of lights to try out to see what will work best. City Administrator Matthews noted the other company that was going to do a light study is requesting a lot of information and will take time to put all the information together. Councilperson Mark Brooks noted he still believes the other company should give the Council more information on how many lights are needed.

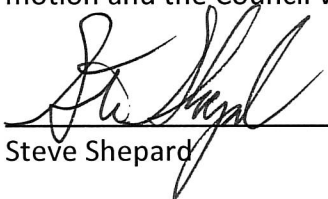
City Administrator Matthews noted the Work-Study scheduled for Thursday October 5, 2017 for City Administrator Interviews will be a Special Meeting and the Council will go into an Executive Session for the Interviews.

Mayor Steve Shepard reminded the public about the Work-Study on October 10, 2017 at 5:30 P.M. to receive public feedback on the regulation of abandoned and vacant buildings Ordinance.

Councilperson Mark Brooks requested an ad placed in the Republican reminding the public about the Work-Study.

ADJOURNMENT

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



Steve Shepard Mayor

ATTEST:



Danny Matthews City Administrator

