

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
May 17, 2016
CITY HALL
121 S. MERIDIAN

Mayor Laurie Dove called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Dale Kerstetter, Lou Cicirello, Gina Gregory, Brendan McGettigan, Marci Maschino, Lionel Jackson, Ben Anderson and Al Hobson.

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: George Kolb, Interim City Administrator
Kristine Polian, Finance and Admin Director
Mark Hephner, Police Chief
Neil Owings, Parks and Public Buildings Superintendent
Lonnie Tormey, Fire Captain
Brent Holper, City Superintendent
Ryan Shrack, Community Development Director
Joshua Golka, City Engineer
Barry Arbuckle, City Attorney
Kristi Carrithers, City Clerk

Press present: The Ark Valley News

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Dove requested that Agenda Item 3, Special Budget Workshop be moved following the approval of Agenda. Gregory moved to approve the Agenda, as amended, second by Maschino. Vote yea: unanimous. Motion carried.

SPECIAL BUDGET WORKSHOP

Kolb explained that the Police Department and the Fire Department would report to Council this evening and other departments would report at a later meeting.

Chief Hephner presented to Council the Department's Mission Statement. All the duties of the department and officers reflect that "Valley Center is a safe place to live, work, learn and play." Chief noted budget highlights that include vehicle replacement and maintenance, SRO officers and professional service expense. A two year outlook for his Department includes increase in employee retention, upgrade/expansion of public safety building and upgrade of all 911 radios. Chief Hephner requested \$947,516.00 be allotted to the police department for the 2017 budget year.

Fire Chief Lonnie Tormey reported on the challenges his department faces regarding staffing. The Department operates currently with 2 full time positions and 19 paid on call firefighters. Fire Chief Tormey stated that the current staffing levels are inadequate for the department. The paid on call firemen usually have full time positions with other departments and are unable to assist on many of our local calls. This forces the 2 full time positions to respond to calls in the evening and weekend outside of their normal schedule. He feels we are "powering through a storm" and suggests addition

of 2 full time firemen to meet minimum staffing needs. Five year plans would be an additional 2 firemen allowing assigned shifts to cover gaps.

Hobson thanked both departments for their service to the community.

ADMINISTRATION AGENDA

MINUTES – MAY 3, 2016 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Jackson moved to accept the minutes of the May 3, 2016, regular City Council meeting, seconded by Maschino. Vote yea: unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE – YEAR TO DATE 01/01/2016-05/13/2016

Maschino moved to approve the year to date 01/01/2016-05/13/2016 appropriation ordinance as presented, seconded by Anderson. Vote yea: unanimous. Motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS – None

PUBLIC FORUM – Janice Sharp, Public Library Director, addressed Council about fundraising events for the Community Building. June 1, 2016 is the official kick off of the campaign with notices included with the June 1 City utility billing. Sharp reported that a generous donor has pledged \$100,000.00 in matching funds. Sharp passed around an engraved brick that K Club donors will receive when pledging \$1000.00. The Friends of the Library also are planning other community fundraising events this summer including an ice cream social on June 12th.

Councilman Anderson urged Council members to get the word out and donate to the campaign. He also challenged them to become a K Club member if possible.

APPOINTMENTS – None

COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS – None

OLD BUSINESS –

A. WSU STRATEGIC PLAN

Presentation was postponed awaiting arrival of presenter, Misty Buckner.

B. DISCUSSION OF 93RD ST. PAVING PROJECT

Interim City Administrator Kolb reported to Council that he received a contract from Sedgwick County for the 93rd. St. Paving Project on May 10, 2016. Staff is reviewing the contract but Sedgwick County is in a time constraint and would like to have it back to them by June 1, 2016 so that they can get it approved and the project started. The City's projected cost of the project increased by \$180,000.00 from the original estimate. Realizing that the overage has not been figured into the budget, the County offered to Kolb and the City of Valley Center an option to carry over the payment of the overage until next year.

Kolb explained options available to Council include abandon the project until a later date; and modification to the project which he then let City Engineer Golka explain. Golka reported that he and Mr. Kolb meet with Sedgwick County staff regarding the existing project design last week. Golka expressed concerns regarding the replacement of culverts located at 93rd and Broadway and altering the profile of the existing road surface by one foot. Installation of larger culverts could increase the potential of flooding downstream and raising the profile of the roadway could increase the potential of flooding upstream. Although the County is resistant to any altering of designs, Golka recommended that paving the existing road at the current profile and cleaning the existing culverts would be best at this time. Brent Holper would be the point man for the project between the County and the City.

Mayor Dove addressed Council regarding her frustration regarding the process associated with this project. She felt that the process and planning of this project has been mis-represented and rushed. She feels that the scope of the project was changed after the initial approval from Council and staff had not fully investigated and disclosed all details to Council. "The County's timeline is not our responsibility and we shouldn't rush a decision with so many unknowns still out there" stated Dove.

Councilmembers also expressed frustration over the increase in the cost of the project, the uncertainty of a potentially large drainage issue and no formal contract or plans to review. However, they recognize that the road is widely traveled with many high school children driving that road to school and the hazards that creates. Council directed staff to meet with Sedgwick County to request a delay for our formal contract until these issues can be resolved.

Jackson moved to table any formal decision until the June 7, 2016 meeting, seconded by Kerstetter. Vote yea: unanimous. Motion carried

Mayor Dove called for a 10 minutes recess at 7:27pm. Mayor Dove called the meeting back to order at 7:37pm.

Dennis Allison, 9111 N. Osage, Tim Van Scyoc, 501 Kanza, Glen Nilsen, 301 Kanza and Jan Groves, 9201 Osage, addressed Council regarding the 93rd St. paving project. As residents that live near the area affected by the project, they urged Council to proceed with the project. They feel that the road is dangerous. Grading of the road has left it with only a dirt base which turns to mud when it rains and the crushed limestone that has been placed on the road turns into a powder that creates a sight hazard. They expressed concern for the students traveling along the road in its current state.

Mayor Dove thanked the residents all for their comments and concerns.

A. WSU STRATEGIC PLAN-continued

Misty Buckner distributed the Summary Report from the feedback received at the Community Engagement Open House held on May 12th. She requested additional time at the June 7, 2016 Council meeting to develop specific strategies with Council input.

NEW BUSINESS-

A. UTILITY RATE PRESENTATION AND RECOMMENDATION

Kolb reported that a Utility Rate Analysis was completed for Water, Sewer and Stormwater. The reports indicated that Water and Sewer rates were adequate to cover expenses, however the revenue

generated from Stormwater rates cannot meet the obligations for project funding. The analysis report conducted indicated a need for a 60% rate increase. Kolb introduced Beth Warren to explain the report and go over options.

Warren explained that the Stormwater fee is in response to a 2012 EPA Federal mandate regarding runoff. She presented historical data from 2012-2014 which is used to project future year's needs. Projections with no rate increase show a deficient in the Stormwater Fund Balance by 2019. A projection with a one-time rate increase was also included.

Discussion regarding citizen reaction to proposed increases as well as visible outcomes of the fee was discussed. Polian stated that the funding for the Meridian/Ford Streets drainage projects is one of the most tangible projects. Golka reported that he expects more mandates from the Federal Government to be implemented that will continue to cost the City. McGettigan asked if the proposed water treatment plant would be funded with these monies. That project would be funded through the water fund. Hobson was concerned about the public perception of increases and how account increases would be calculated. Polian pointed out that rates are split into 5 classes with the majority being Class 1-residential. Classes are divided up according to the impervious surface, with large areas paying higher rates.

Cicirello moved to direct staff to prepare a Resolution providing for a gradual stormwater rate increase of either 2 years or 4 years to be presented at the June 7, 2016 meeting. Anderson seconded the motion. Vote yea: unanimous. Motion carried

B. ORDINANCE 1294-16: AUTHORIZING AND PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING AND IMPROVEMENT BONDS, SERIES 2016-1

Polian introduced Dustin Avey, Garth Herrmann and Jake Ediger, who assisted with the GO Bond sale. Herrmann then reported that the Bond sale was held at 11:00am this morning and they received 3 bids. He felt that The City of Valley Center's rating of AA – helped secure very competitive bids. The winning bid for \$4,490,000.00 was accepted from Robert W. Baird for a rate of 2.31% for a 20 year term.

Polian reminded Council that this GO Bond includes the \$600,000.00 funding for the 93rd St Project. She explained that if the Council does not proceed with that project funds could be allocated to other projects. Herrmann confirmed this, and stated they would need to amend the bond issue with the State.

Cicirello moved to waive the first reading requirement for Ordinance 1294-16, Anderson seconded the motion. Vote yea: unanimous. Motion carried.

Cicirello moved to adopt Ordinance 1294-16, authorizing and providing for the issuance of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2016-1, of the City of Valley Center, Ks. Kerstetter seconded the motion. Vote yea: unanimous. Motion carried.

C. RESOLUTION 652-16: AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE SALE AND DELIVERY OF GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING AND IMPROVEMENT BONDS, SERIES 2016-1

Cicirello moved, seconded by Kerstetter, to adopt Resolution 652-16, authorizing and directing the sale and delivery of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2016-1, of the City of Valley Center, Kansas, previously authorized by Ordinance 1294-16. Vote Yea: Unanimous. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE**
- B. TREASURER'S REPORT**
- C. REVENUE AND EXPENSE SUMMARIES, MARCH 2016**
- D. DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS FOR COLLECTION**
- E. CHECK RECONCILIATION**
- F. FAITH CHURCH EVENT REQUEST**
- G. BOOSTER CLUB EVENT REQUEST**
- H. LIBRARY/FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY REQUEST**

Anderson moved, seconded by Kerstetter to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Vote Yea: Unanimous. Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR SHRACK

The Main Street Valley Center committee will be meeting Friday, May 20, 2016 to decide on a logo. Designs were submitted by local high school students for consideration.

PARKS AND PUBLIC BUILDING SUPERINTENET OWINGS

Owings reported that his department has been hampered by the rain as they work on several projects including the waterfall, the retaining wall at Veteran's Park and the Wetland Park trail. However the swimming pool should be ready to begin filling for opening on Memorial Day weekend. The Splashpad will be in operation on or before Memorial Day weekend.

Cicirello asked Owings to check on the timers for sprinklers. Owings said they are aware of an issue and have been looking into it.

CITY ENGINEER GOLKA

Golka reported there is a 4-6 week time frame to begin the Leeker's north driveway project.

There will also be an open house information meeting regarding the Master Drainage study at the Community Building on May 26, 2016.

INTERIM CITY ADMINISTRATOR KOLB

Announced an open house information meeting hosted by Sedgwick County regarding the 93rd St. Project. It will be located at the high school from 4:30-6:30pm on Wednesday, May 18th.

GOVERNING BODY REPORTS –

MAYOR DOVE

Mayor Dove thanked Council for their service to the community.

COUNCIL MEMBER KERSTETTER

Thanked all staff for their work and suggested a possible lunch or BBQ for staff this summer.

COUNCIL MEMBER CICIRELLO

Cicirello noted how busy/congested the intersection at 85th and Broadway is. Cicirello wondered if we could partner with Park City to install a round-about or possible dedicated turning lanes. Golka reported that we are already working on improving that intersection.

COUNCIL MEMBER MCGETTIGAN

Appreciated the mowing around the City and the improved drainage in front of his shop.

COUNCIL MEMBER ANDERSON

Anderson stated that he hopes that the citizens residing along 93rd Street don't feel that Council has discounted the need for the project. The citizens have valid concerns about the safety and maintenance of the Street but feels the Council needs to be aware of all the impacts of the projects in order to proceed.

Hobson moved to adjourn, second by Kerstetter. Vote Yea: Unanimous.

ADJOURN -

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 PM.

Kristi Carrithers, City Clerk