

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
March 7, 2017  
CITY HALL  
121 S. MERIDIAN

Mayor Dove called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Dale Kerstetter, Lou Cicirello, Gina Gregory, Marci Maschino, Lionel Jackson, Ben Anderson and Al Hobson.

Members Absent:       Brendan McGettigan

Staff Present:         Kristine Polian, Finance and Admin Director  
Neal Owing, Parks and Public Buildings Director  
Ryan Shrack, Community Development Director  
Joshua Golka, City Engineer  
Lonnie Tormey, Fire Captain  
Lloyd Newman, Police Sargent  
Barry Arbuckle, City Attorney  
Scott Hildebrand, City Administrator  
Kristi Carrithers, City Clerk

Press present:         The Ark Valley News

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA -**

Jackson moved to approve the Agenda, seconded by Gregory. Vote Yea: Unanimous. Motion carried.

**ADMINISTRATION AGENDA -**

A. MINUTES – FEBRUARY 21, 2017 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Hobson moved to accept the minutes of the February 21, 2017, regular City Council meeting, seconded by Maschino. Vote Yea: Unanimous. Motion carried.

B. YEAR IN REVIEW

Polian presented the 2016 year in review. She stressed that the City finances have not been audited, but does not expect much, if any change. The report covered the highlights of the City and individual departments with any decreases in fund balance reflect a deliberate financial decision. Council thanked Polian and staff for the report and the information presented.

**PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS –**

A. MATT McCREARY – no presentation

B. SHELDON HOWELL – Kansas Collegiate Baseball

Sheldon Howell, 5811 Sullivan, Wichita, is the director of the local Kansas Collegiate baseball league. A new “Valley Center Mud dobbers” team has been formed and he requested financial support from the City. The team will play a total of 42 games with up to 20 played in Valley Center. Season expenses are just over \$16,000.00 and Howell requested the Council consider funding \$10,000.00 for the team.

C. POLICE DEPARTMENT YEAR END REPORT

Sargent Newman presented the year-end report for the Police Department.

**PUBLIC FORUM –**

Mike Love-441 N. Valley Creek Drive and Derick Claasen-107 N. Red Bud Court both spoke to Council in support of possible tax abatement for new home construction. As builders they have seen growth in surrounding cities that offered tax abatements to owners. Claasen said that he has already seen an increase in interest in new houses currently for sale in Valley Center, because of the possibility of a tax abatement.

Chris Strunk with Main Street Valley Center, requested the closing of the 200 block of Main St. for a Spring Food Truck event planned for April 28, 2017. The request will be placed on the March 21, 2017 agenda for formal action.

**APPOINTMENTS – None**

**COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS – None**

**OLD BUSINESS – None**

**NEW BUSINESS –**

**A. ORDINANCE 1301-17; REGARDING WATER ACCOUNTS & RELATED FEES, 1<sup>ST</sup> READING**

Hildebrand explained that the current ordinance regarding water accounts and related fees is outdated and needs to be changed. The wording of Ordinance 1301-17, allows rates and fees to be set by resolution, instead of passage of new Ordinance. Adoption of this ordinance allows more flexibility in service times to customers to provide better customer service.

Maschino moved, seconded by Gregory to approve Ordinance 1301-17, regarding water accounts and related fees, for 1<sup>st</sup>. reading. Vote Yea: Unanimous. Motion carried.

**B. DISCUSSION REGARDING SEC. 114.4 OF STO. OPERATION OF GOLF CARTS**

Several residents and the Valley Center Recreation Commission have approached staff and officials of the City to allow golf carts to operate on City streets to get from homes to the golf course. Residents cite the lack of parking at the golf course creates problems if everyone has to transport carts on trailers and the time involved to load and unload. Arbuckle explained the current State statute does give cities to authority to allow carts on City streets. However, carts would need to follow vehicle requirements of proper insurance, signal, brake and head lights and could only be operated between sunrise and sunset.

Discussion followed on speed limits, busy streets, underage drivers, joy riding around town. Council directed staff to bring in sample ordinances that allow carts for review before making any final decision as they feel it could be a benefit to the community.

**C. DISCUSSION REGARDING TREE BOARD AND PARKS ADVISORY BOARD**

Hildebrand asked Council for direction regarding the future of existing City Boards. Many of the appointed boards are inactive and/or have the same people on them and function for the same basic purpose. Council feels the boards give citizens a chance to serve and have a voice, however, boards that operate for the same purpose could be combined. Hildebrand will work on drafting new by-laws and combining boards by function.

**D. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS NON-ELECTED PERSONNEL**

Cicirello moved, seconded by Jackson to recess into Executive Session for a period of 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel to include City Administrator Hildebrand. Vote Yea: Unanimous. Motion carried.

Recess began at 7:48pm  
Recess ended at 8:03pm

Cicirello reported no official action was taken during Executive Session.

Cicirello moved, seconded by Kerstetter to eliminate the position of Director of Administration and Finance and promote Kristine Polian to Assistant City Administrator. Vote Yea: Unanimous. Motion carried.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA -**

- A. APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE MARCH 7, 2017
- B. DISPOSAL OF CITY PROPERTY
- C. CITY WIDE CLEAN UP

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

#### **STAFF REPORTS -**

##### FIRE CHIEF TORMEY

Tormey reported that two of his part-time firefighters took a brush firetruck to Reno County to help with the grass fires. Maschino inquired what fell into the miscellaneous category on the report in the agenda. Tormey stated that it is mostly burn permits.

##### PARKS AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS DIRECTOR OWINGS

Owings has hired Angie Sloan as the third full-time staff member in his department. She began January 27, 2017.

The painting of the old public works building has been completed.

##### CITY ENGINEER GOLKA

Work on Emporia began March 6, 2017. He will be in contact with residents and those effected regarding streets closure.

##### CITY ADMINISTRATOR HILDEBRAND

Interviews for the position of Director of Public Works have been scheduled, beginning March 8, 2017.

A Land Bank Meeting will be held on March 21, 2017, following the City Council Meeting.

Hildebrand presented to Council a proposed Budget calendar and a priorities survey for Council members to complete by March 21, 2017. Hildebrand reminded Council that the budget will be drafted for outcomes not a line by line budget.

Jackson moved, seconded by Maschino to approve the preliminary budget calendar. Vote Yea: Unanimous. Motion carried.

#### **GOVERNING BODY REPORTS –**

##### COUNCIL MEMBER HOBSON

Hobson thanked Chief Tormey for his department and all the works they do.

**ADJOURN -**

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

**Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.**

---

**Kristi Carrithers, City Clerk**