

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
June 15, 2021
CITY HALL
121 S. MERIDIAN

Mayor Cicirello called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Matt Stamm, Paul Davis, Gina Gregory, Chris Evans, Robert Wilson, Dale Kerstetter and Ronald Colbert.

Members Absent: Ben Anderson

Staff Present: Lloyd Newman, Public Safety Director
Rodney Eggleston, Public Works Director
Ryan Shrack, Community Development Director
Josh Golka, City Engineer
Barry Arbuckle, City Attorney
Barry Smith, Assistant City Administrator
Brent Clark, City Administrator
Matt Koehn, City Treasurer
Kristi Carrithers, City Clerk

Press present: The Ark Valley News

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA -

Evans moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Davis. Vote yea: unanimous. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATION AGENDA –

JUNE 1, 2021, REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES-

Gregory moved to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2021, regular City Council meeting as presented, seconded by Colbert. Vote yea: unanimous. Motion carried.

**PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS –
DEPARTMENT BUDGET PRESENTATIONS**

Rodney Eggleston, Public Works Director addressed Council. He reminded Council that Public Works encompasses 4 different budget items. The streets department is responsible for 73 miles of road within the city limits. He is excited that Pearson has been contracted to do a 2: mill with 1.5 overlay in 2021. He anticipates more work on streets will be completed in house. Included in the 2022 budget request is a dual drum vibratory packer, hydraulic breaker for the case backhoe and 1 full time employee. The water department will complete the refurbishment of the water tower in 2021 but requests a well maintenance increase so that all wells can be maintained and cleaned on a regular basis. A standby generator for the Colby life station should arrive and be installed in 4 – 6 weeks.

Community Development Director Ryan Shrack reported an increase of new single and multiple family homes built in Valley Center. Bill Andrews will complete his final 2 tests for Commercial inspections in 2022. Shrack provided a breakdown of budget with most items remaining the same. His department is responsible for most community promotions and donations.

PUBLIC FORUM –

Mayor Cicirello stated that with Governor Kelly's emergency order expiring, all public comments should be made in person. Emails with public comments will no longer be accepted.

APPOINTMENTS –

EQUUS BEDS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NO 2 APPOINTMENT

Public Works Director Rodney Eggleston and City Administrator Clark explained that this district has not had any representation and Council needs to appoint someone to serve on the Equus Beds Groundwater Management District 2. Kerstetter moved to appoint Rodney Eggleston as voting delegate with Brent Clark serving as alternate. Motion seconded by Evans. Vote yea: unanimous. Motion carried

COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS – None

OLD BUSINESS – NONE

NEW BUSINESS-

A. BUDGET PRESENTATION – 1ST DRAFT

Asst. City Administrator Smith addressed Council regarding the 2022 budget. He began by showing a feature added to the city website. It is an interactive budget screen that allows citizens to view current and past years budget. Smith reported the city received the estimated valuation from Sedgwick County. The overall estimated assessed valuation increased by 3.31%. With the passage of SB13/HB2104 a new process creates a Revenue Neutral Rate which becomes the base for the following years budget. He presented information of each department. He requested feedback from Council so that a proposed budget could be on the July 6th agenda. Council was in favor of moving to a KP&F retirement system for the Police and Fire staff

B. APPROVAL OF WATER TOWER DESIGN

City Administrator Clark stated that the community survey regarding the water tower design was very successful. The survey generated 1985 votes. He stated that design submitted by Brickmob (option1) received the majority of votes by a wide margin. Of the 1985 votes submitted 1359 were for the “honeycomb” design. Mayor Cicirello stated that the public vote should be considered, even though it was not his first choice.

Wilson moved to approve design #1 to be painted on the water tower during the rehab process. Motion seconded by Evans. Vote Yea; Stamm, Evans, Gregory, Kerstetter, Wilson and Colbert. Opposed: Davis. Motion carried.

C. ARPA FUNDING AGREEMENT

Asst. City Administrator Smith requested Council authorize a City Representative to sign necessary paperwork regarding the American Rescue Plant Act funding. He anticipates the City will receive 1.1 million in funds.

Stamm moved to authorize Barry Smith to sign all documents relating to the ARPA, seconded by Wilson. Vote yea: Stamm, Evans, Gregory, Davis, Wilson and Colbert. Opposed: Kerstetter. Motion carried.

D. APPROVAL OF BID FOR DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT SOUTH OF NESS

City Engineer Golka stated that 2 bids were received regarding drainage improvements south of Ness. The current headwall and the area at the downfall are deteriorating and need to be repaired. The stormwater utility fund will be used to finance this project.

Evans moved to approve the low, qualified bid from McCullough Excavation in the amount of \$48,493.28, Motion seconded by Davis. Vote yea: unanimous. Motion carried.

E. APPROVAL OF BID FOR WATERLINE RELOCATION ALONG SHERIDAN - LEEKERS

City Engineer Golka stated that 5 bids were received regarding waterline relocation along Sheridan. He reminded Council that the relocation was approved at a previous meeting. This approval is to award the contract to the contractor. Council questioned the wide range of bids. Golka voiced his opinion that Pearson's bid is lower due to their projects being completed locally.

Kerstetter moved to approve the low, qualified bid from Pearson Construction LLC in the amount of \$52,848.25, Motion seconded by Stamm. Vote yea: unanimous. Motion carried.

F. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS NON-ELECTED PERSONNEL

Gregory moved to recess into executive session including mayor and city council to discuss an individual employee's performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). The open meeting will resume in the City Council Chamber in 10 minutes. Motion seconded by Kerstetter. Vote yea: unanimous. Motion Carried. Session started at 8:28 pm. Mayor Cicirello called meeting back to order at 8:38 pm.

Gregory stated that no official action was taken during executive session.

Gregory moved to recess into executive session including mayor, city council and City Administrator Clark to discuss an individual employee's performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). The open meeting will resume in the City Council Chamber in five minutes. Motion seconded by Kerstetter. Vote yea: unanimous. Motion Carried. Session started at 8:41pm Mayor Cicirello called meeting back to order at 8:46 pm.

Gregory stated no official action was taken during executive session.

Mayor Cicirello requested a 5-minute break in the meeting. Kerstetter moved to have a 5-minute break in the open meeting. Motion seconded by Gregory. Vote yea: unanimous. Motion Carried. Break started at 8:47pm. Mayor Cicirello called meeting back to order at 8:52 pm.

Colbert moved to recess into executive session including mayor and city council to discuss an individual employee's performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). The open meeting will resume in the City Council Chamber in 10 minutes. Motion seconded by Kerstetter. Vote yea: unanimous. Motion Carried. Session started at 8:52pm Mayor Cicirello called meeting back to order at 9:02 pm.

Colbert stated no official action was taken during the executive session.

Kerstetter moved to recess into executive session including mayor, city council and City Administrator Clark to discuss an individual employee's performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). The open meeting will resume in the City Council Chamber in 10 minutes. Motion seconded by Colbert. Vote yea: unanimous. Motion Carried. Session started at 9:03pm Mayor Cicirello called meeting back to order at 9:13 pm.

Kerstetter stated no official action was taken during the executive session.

Kerstetter moved to renew contract with City Administrator Brent Clark. The renewal is for a new 4-year contract ending June 30, 2025. Clark will receive a 5% pay increase, 5 additional days of vacation, an increase of city contribution to KPERS 457 from 5% to 6% and a four-month severance for termination. Gregory seconded the motion. Vote Yea: Unanimous. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE - JUNE 1, 2021
- B. CHECK RECONCILIATION – MAY 2021
- C. TREASURER’S REPORT – MAY 2021
- D. REVENUE AND EXPENSE SUMMARY – MAY 2021
- E. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD MINUTES – JUNE 2, 2021

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

STAFF REPORTS

CITY ADMINISTRATOR CLARK

Clark thanked the Mayor and City Council for their vote of confidence. He is proud to be the Administrator for Valley Center. Clark recognize Smith and Treasurer Koehn for the budget presentation and all the efforts and progress made implementing IT for the City.

GOVERNING BODY REPORTS –

MAYOR CICIRELLO

Expressed his appreciation for the use of technology beginning in the city. The interactive maps and budget on the website are wonderful. Thanked Administrator Clark for his work for the city.

COUNCILMEMBER DAVIS

Thanked Barry Smith for the budget presentation. Thanked the streets crew for filling potholes in his area. Asked about the status for the farmer’s market signs that were left up throughout the week. Shrack stated that the organizers forgot to get them after the market closed, but they will make sure to take them down.

COUNCILMEMBER GREGORY

Inquired whether a meeting has been scheduled with BNSF. Golka stated that he would contact them and bring a meeting date to the next City Council meeting.

COUNCILMEMBER KERSTETTER

Reported that his children participated in the Mud-daubers training camp and had a wonderful time. Would like to continue to support the team in any way we can.

COUNCILMEMBER COLBERT

Thanked Smith for the budget presentation. Reported that he along with Brent Clark and Rodney Eggleston met with WAMPO staff this morning. He also questioned the placement of signs being placed along streets. Shrack stated that garage sale signs should be removed once the sale is over. Commercial signs are prohibited in right of way areas but can be placed in yards in private property.

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

ADJOURN -

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM.

Kristi Carrithers, City Clerk

