

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
July 20, 2021
CITY HALL
121 S. MERIDIAN

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

Members Absent: Mayor Cicirello

Staff Present: Lloyd Newman, Public Safety Director
Rodney Eggleston, Public Works Director
Ryan Shrack, Community Development Director
Neal Owings, Parks and Public Buildings 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 AGENDA

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

ADMINISTRATION AGENDA –
JUNE 6, 2021, REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES-

Evans moved to approve the minutes of the July 6, 2021, regular City Council meeting as presented, seconded by Gregory. Vote yea: unanimous. Motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS –
HERSHEL SMITH PRESENTATION-

Council Chair Anderson read a proclamation declaring July 30, 2021, as “Hershel Smith Day” in honor of his years of service and retirement. A plaque was also presented to Mr. Smith. Anderson invited everyone to a public reception at the Community Building on Friday, July 23rd from 1:30-3:00pm.

MATT
MATTHEW KOEHN-MINI MPA PRESENTATION-

Matthew Koehn was presented with award for completion of mini-MPA course from Wichita State University. Dr. Melissa Walker and Mercy Umeri with WSU stated that the course was held on a weekly basis for four months.

PUBLIC FORUM –

Trish Corcoran, 715 Valley Park Dr. addressed Council about concerns she had regarding issues she experiences following the construction of the apartments built by Mennonite Housing behind her house. She stated that drainage in her yard has been an issue, she would like a privacy fence installed to hide the easement area, The trash pick-up at the development occurs very early on Tuesday mornings and is loud.

She also stated that the lighting spills into her yard and she has to keep all her curtains drawn to keep the light out.

APPOINTMENTS – None

COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS – None

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS-

A. DISCUSSION REGARDING QUIET RAILROAD ZONES

City Engineer Golka led Council discussion regarding preliminary estimates to bring crossing up to standards to apply for a quiet zone within Valley Center. To bring eight intersections up to standards the cost would be approximately 5 million dollars. Councilmembers questioned the need for a median divide at some of the intersections that would impede traffic making turns. They also wondered if the project could be split with the intersections in the heart of the city completed first and those south of Valley Center at 69th and 61st completed at a later date. Gregory wished that more citizens were in attendance at the meeting to express their views. A general consensus of the Council was to bring back cost estimates and possible options without the median and just within Valley Center. But also recognized that other infrastructure and street projects should take priority. No action taken at this time.

B. C.I.P COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

Asst. City Administrator Smith asked Council for input regarding a formal committee that would present Capital Improvement Projects for the City. Currently staff evaluates projects and presents preliminary cost estimates. Smith asked if the Council would like to expand the process to include Council members or community representatives. Council discussed who should have a voice, the school, or business owners or community members. Wilson, Kerstetter and Anderson all expressed interest in serving on the committee. Smith stated that projects would still be presented to full Council for approval. Gregory cautioned that if a committee had too many members projects could get stalled. Smith will gather more information from other cities, and it will be discussed at the next meeting. No action needed at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE - JULY 20, 2021
- B. CHEK RECONCILIATION – JUNE 2021
- C. TREASURER’S REPORT – JUNE 2021
- D. REVENUE AND EXPENSE SUMMARY – JUNE 2021
- E. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD MINUTES – JULY 7, 2021

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

STAFF REPORTS

CITY ENGINEER GOLKA

A project status and budget meeting will be held July 29th.

ASST. CITY ADMINISTRATOR SMITH

The League of Kansas Municipalities annual conference will be held October 9-11th. Early bird registration ends this Friday so let City Clerk know if you’d like to attend. Financial reports have been updated on the website.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR CLARK

The mil and overlay project with Pearson Construction is going well. Reminded everyone of the closure of Ford Street. Citations will be written for going around the barricades to non-residents.

GOVERNING BODY REPORTS –
COUNCILMEMBER COLBERT

The Kansas Economic Outlook Conference will be held October 7, 2021, in Wichita.

Several members of the local boy scout troop attended the meeting. Attendance of public meeting is a requirement for one of their badges as they work toward Eagle Scout.

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

ADJOURN -

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 PM.

Kristi Carrithers, City Clerk