

CITY OF COLUMBUS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
October 7, 2019
6:30 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

The City Council of Columbus, Kansas met October 7, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers presided over by Mayor Grant Spieth. Council members present: Connie Bennett, John Brassart, Jerri Burton, Steve Dunlap, Sean Gilmore, Jan Houser, Sammye Opela, Tom Pryor. Council members absent: Stephanie Farstvedt.

Pastor Jim Thomas representing First Baptist Church led the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Grant Spieth opened the High School Street Community Development Block Grant Hearing at 6:31 p.m.

Susan Galemore from the Southeast Kanas Regional Planning Commission and Jason Dickman representing Professional Engineering Consultants were on hand to answer questions regarding the High School Street improvement project. Ms. Galemore informed those present that HUD money is involved in the grant the City is applying for and this triggers the need for a public hearing to allow for public comment and questions. She supplied the scope of this project is reconstructing the existing two-lane street with asphalt pavement, concrete curb and gutter, new concrete driveway approaches, concrete surfacing for valley gutters, handicap access ramps, driveway entrances and necessary traffic and street signs. Additional items include the installation of curb inlets and junction boxes tied together with reinforced concrete pipe and outlet into existing storm sewers and or drainage ditches adjacent to the project. Estimated project cost is \$1,200,00 with a grant request of \$600,000.

Water and sewer line replacement on South High School Street will be a separate but concurrent project to the paving plan.

Ms. Galemore fielded questions from the council.

Mayor Spieth closed the public hearing at 6:38 p.m. and opened the regular council meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Burton moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of Appropriation Ordinance 19-500 and the September Hiring Report as presented. Houser seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Burton, Dunlap, Gilmore, Houser, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

Mayor Report –

- Mayor Spieth informed the council of the passing of Ward 5 Council Member Alvin Patterson.
-Appoint Sean Gilmore to the Labette/Cherokee County Juvenile Corrections Advisory Board (JCAB).

JCAB APPOINTMENT – SEAN GILMORE

Opela moved to approve the Mayor's appointment of Sean Gilmore to the Labette/Cherokee County Juvenile Corrections Advisory Board. Burton seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Burton, Dunlap, Gilmore, Houser, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

City Administrator Report-

- Diversity training very informative, had several council members attend. Planning two opportunities per year.
- Beautification team meeting bi-monthly, working on short-term goals.
- Looking for volunteers for the Census team. Members will be pro-active, informing residents of the importance of completing the upcoming census in April.
- West County Road signage update. Crew from the Kansas Department of Transportation has installed reflector signs at the West County Road turn off of Hwy 69 in hopes to improve visibility for turning on to Country Road in the dark.
- Today is the Community Day of Service. High school students performed many acts of service in the City including helping paint the fence at Reeves Park along with volunteers and members of the Parks committee.
- Reeves Park workdays were a success.
- Will be asking committee chairs for meetings in the coming weeks including:
 - Street to discuss 2020 street project
 - Economic Development to discuss future of Commercial Rehabilitation Matching Grant program and industrial development.
 - Joint Fire/Personnel work session to discuss change in fire positions.
- I will be attending the International City Managers Conference in Nashville the week of October 21 and will miss the next council meeting.

City Treasurer Report –

Mr. Mogle was absent from the meeting.

Interim City Superintendent Report

- Fall Cleanup complete.
- Fogging for mosquitos this week for the last time this year.
- Justin Graham and David Spatafora attended water/wastewater workshop in McPherson.
- Park improvements.
- Crews mowing and getting ready for Columbus Day.

City Clerk Report –

- Museum will be dedicating their art gallery in memory of Dorothy Fanoele this Thursday at 5:30 p.m.
- Voter registration for the November election ends October 15 at the County Courthouse.
- Small Business Hiring workshop at Cherokee County Extension Thursday at noon, register by Wednesday.

Rivas noted a Cherokee County Economic Development 2017 business plan in council packets. It will be reviewed and updated in the coming months.

Cherokee County Economic Development Opportunity Profile was put together for the county – it details opportunities in our community. The goal is to review/discuss to see where we can fill gaps at the next CCED meeting – make decisions to move forward.

Larry Hiatt reminded everyone of the Columbus Photo Exhibit Sneak Peak opportunity from 4-6 Wednesday 10/9 at 110 North Pennsylvania.

Police Chief Report –

- Apologize that some council packets were not delivered until Saturday. A call for service came in late Friday evening. Due to the late hour it was decided to delay the remaining packet delivery to Saturday.
- KLETC training for Officers Hosier and Petree will be at the halfway mark after this week.
- In house training and range qualification tomorrow.
- Preparing for Columbus Day festivities.
- Working with Officer Gary Holt, City Administrator Rivas and City Attorney Wright on policy and procedures for code enforcement. Plan to have presentation at next council meeting.

Fire Chief Report-

- House fire Friday on West Maple. Appreciate Police Officers assistance with traffic control.
- Storm sirens tested day – all worked well.
- 280 calls to date.
- Fire prevention training at Park School today, will be at Highland on Wednesday.
- Fire hydrant painting about 70% complete. Working to get them completed by the weekend.

City Attorney Report –

- Will address several matters under old business. Ordinance at next meeting to correct type in the Uniform Public Offense Code previously adopted.

SELL FIRE DEPARTMENT TANKER #24

Bennett moved to allow the sale of 1994 Kenworth chassis (Tanker #24) to Joe Mooney for \$6,000. Opela seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Dunlap, Gilmore, Houser, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: Burton. Motion carried 7-1.

SMOKEY FUND DONATION

Bennett moved to donate the \$6,000 from the sale of the 1994 Kenworth chassis to the volunteer firefighter Smokey Fund. Houser seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Burton, Dunlap, Gilmore, Houser, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

Old Business –

1. ***Consider payment of special election invoice.*** City Administrator Daniela Rivas stated she reached out to the County Clerk after the last council meeting. It was explained the site support staff cost was to oversee the election process. Several council members had additional questions and comments. It was agreed to ask County Clerk Rod Edmondson to attend the October 21 council meeting.
2. ***Consider purchase of new sanitation vehicle to be paid out of sanitation reserves.*** City Administrator Rivas noted the City received three bids for a new trash truck. One was thrown out because it did not meet the submission deadline. The other two bids came in from Downing Sales & Service and Elliott Equipment, bid tab and spec sheets were in your packets. Interim City Superintendent recommended accepting the low bid from Elliott Equipment for a 2020 Freightliner. Houser moved to accept the low bid of \$72,120 including trade in for a 2020 Freightliner garbage truck from Elliott Equipment.

Burton seconded the motion. Several questions were brought up about alternative collection methods and reserve fund balance. Motion and second were withdrawn before a vote. Additional information and cost comparison will be presented at the November 4 council meeting.

- 3. Discussion: Changing the start date of a regular term of office.** City Attorney Barbara Wright informed the City has options for the start date of officers after a November election. Statute calls for the second Tuesday in January after the November election as the start date. The League of Kansas Municipalities has informed that we are able to charter out with an earlier date. Several options were discussed. She also noted we are now able to charter out of the primary election process. Opela moved to charter out of K.S.A. 25-2108(a) opting out of the primary election process. Dunlap seconded the motion. Voting aye: Brassart, Burton, Dunlap, Gilmore, Houser, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: Bennett. Motion carried 7-1.

Houser moved to amend Charter Ordinance 1436 per K.S.A. 25-2120 and allow newly elected council members to take the oath of office after the second council meeting in December and prior to December 31 of an election year. Opela seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Burton, Dunlap, Gilmore, Houser, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

New Business –

- 1. Consider Resolution 575 Certifying Legal Authority to Apply for the 2020 Kansas Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program From the Kansas Department of Commerce and Authorizing the Mayor/Commissioner to Sign and Submit Such an Application.** City Administrator Rivas stated this resolution gives the City permission to apply for the Block Grant. SEKRPC representative Susan Galemore informed that authorization for the Mayor to sign needs to be done again in a separate resolution to satisfy State requirements. Houser moved to adopt Resolution 575 Certifying Legal Authority to Apply for the 2020 Kansas Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program From the Kansas Department of Commerce and Authorizing the Mayor/Commissioner to Sign and Submit Such an Application. Opela seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Burton, Dunlap, Gilmore, Houser, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.
- 2. Consider Resolution 576 Assuring the Kansas Department of Commerce that Funds will be Continually Provided for the Operation and Maintenance of Improvement to the Street System to be Financed with Community Development Block Grant Funds.** Rivas noted this resolution acknowledges the commitment to provide funding to maintain this street going forward if we receive this grant. Opela moved to adopt Resolution 576 Assuring the Kansas Department of Commerce that Funds will be Continually Provided for the Operation and Maintenance of Improvement to the Street System to be Financed with Community Development Block Grant Funds. Burton seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Burton, Dunlap, Gilmore, Houser, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.
- 3. Consider motion to authorize the Mayor to sign all grant documents.** Rivas stated a packet titled Statement and Assurance of Certifications was included in the council packets. A motion is needed to allow the Mayor to sign these documents associated with

the block grant. Dunlap moved allow the Mayor to sign all grant documents. Houser seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Burton, Dunlap, Gilmore, Houser, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

4. ***Consider an Agreement with Southeast Kansas Regional Planning Commission for Administrative Consulting Services for a 2020 Kansas Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Project for Street Improvements.*** Rivas commented this agreement included in your packet outlines the oversight of the grant application by SEKRPC at a cost of \$20,00. This fee is rolled into the grant and there is no charge if we are not awarded the grant. We receive project readiness points for having a project administrator in place when we submit the grant. Houser moved to approve the agreement with Southeast Kansas Regional Planning Commission for Administrative Consulting Services for a 2020 Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Project for Street Improvements. Opela seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Burton, Dunlap, Gilmore, Houser, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.
5. ***Consider an Agreement with PEC for Professional Engineering of High School Street Reconstruction from Maple to US-160 Project number 2331-197025-004-5052.*** Rivas stated this agreement with PEC was in the council packet and outlines the engineering details for the grant project. Their fee is \$81,800 and there is no charge if the grant is not awarded. We receive project readiness points for having an engineer in place when we submit the grant. Burton moved to approve the agreement with PEC for Professional Engineering of High School Street Reconstruction from Maple to US-160 Project number 2331-197025-004-5052. Houser seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Burton, Dunlap, Gilmore, Houser, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.
6. ***Consider Ordinance 1450 Designating High School Street within the City of Columbus, Kansas as a main trafficway.*** Rivas noted this is standard practice when authorizing bond applications. Opela moved to approve Ordinance 1450 Designating High School Street within the City of Columbus, Kansas as a main trafficway. Burton seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Burton, Dunlap, Gilmore, Houser, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.
7. ***Consider Resolution 577 Authorizing the Improvement or Re-improvement of a Main Trafficway within the City of Columbus, Kansas; and Providing for the payment of the Cost Thereof.*** Rivas explained this is needed to show the City is authorized and the council has approved and is committed to the cost of improving this street. Houser moved to adopt Resolution 577 Authorizing the Improvement or Re-improvement of a Main Trafficway within the City of Columbus, Kansas; and Providing for the payment of the Cost Thereof. Burton seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Burton, Dunlap, Gilmore, Houser, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.
8. ***Consider Commercial Rehabilitation Grant for Los Lunas up to \$1,919.50 as presented to be paid out of economic development fund.*** Rivas noted a Commercial Rehabilitation Matching Grant application from Los Lunas was in your packet. Information on other grants approved this year was on the summary page as well. Opela moved to approve Commercial Rehabilitation Matching Grant for Los Lunas to replace signage not to exceed \$1,919.50 to be paid out of economic development. Dunlap seconded the motion.

Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Burton, Dunlap, Gilmore, Houser, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

9. ***Consider Approval of funding assistance for a Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan to be paid out of Capital Reserve-Streets in the amount of \$7,500.*** Dan Walters of the Columbus Recreation Commission found a grant for a Pedestrian Master Plan. This grant through Kansas Department of Transportation would provide funding for a consultant to develop a Master Plan for the City with emphasis on schools to get the City connected by sidewalks. The CRC approved to pay for half of the project. The City would be reimbursed \$6,000 if the grant is awarded. Rivas noted there is continued funding opportunities in the next phases of the process. Opela moved to approve funding assistance for a Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan to be paid out of Capital Reserve-Streets in the amount of \$7,500. Burton seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Burton, Dunlap, Gilmore, Houser, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Burton moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 p.m. Pryor seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Burton, Dunlap, Gilmore, Houser, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

Meetings:

Fire/Personnel Work session

Tuesday October 8, 2019 @ 5:00 p.m.

Streets/Alleys/Bridges

Thursday October 10, 2019 @ 3:30 p.m.

Economic Development

Tuesday October 15, 2019 @ 3:00 p.m.

Cherri Chancellor City Clerk