

Regular Council Meeting
September 28, 2015

1. **Mayor Scott Schultz called the meeting to order at 7:30.** Present were Council Members Bruce Swihart, Carla Lampe, Roger Jensen, Amanda Milne and Paula Keller. Also present were City Superintendent JR Landenberger, City Attorney Mike Day, Police Chief Shane Guggenmos, and City Clerk Lila Whitmore.
2. **Minutes** from the September 14th meeting were distributed and read. It was moved by Amanda and seconded by Bruce to approve the minutes as read. Motion passed.
3. **Consent Agenda:** It was moved by Paula and seconded by Bruce to approve the following items from the Consent Agenda: Permission for Clerk to renew Western State Bank CD 1447000227; Permission for Clerk to renew First National Bank CD #18620. Motion passed.
4. **Visitors: None**
5. **Police Report:** a) Chief Guggenmos reported that progress is being made on the trailer issue. b) It was moved by Bruce and seconded by Paula to authorize Shane to purchase new tires for the Expedition at an approximate cost of \$700. Motion passed. c) The Council agreed that Shane could look into the possibility of selling one of the two standby police cars, preferably the one with the highest mileage. Shane will find out how much he might be able to get for it. It was moved by Carla and seconded by Roger to accept and file the police report. Motion passed.
6. **New Business:**
 - a. **Ted McCoy** – Mr. McCoy currently runs a reptile rescue operation out of a part of his business, the Empire Motel. The animals are tortoises, turtles, lizards and one alligator, which per City Code is allowed as long as it is smaller than 30 inches. He does not accept snakes or dangerous animals. He takes in homeless, relinquished and abandoned animals and tries to adopt them out. If the animal cannot be rehomed, the sanctuary offers a permanent place for them. He has applied for status as a 501C3 non-profit organization under the name “All God’s Creatures, Inc.”. He talked to the Council about his plans to expand and the need for a larger space and he is considering the property at 500 S. Benton. However, this building is in a residential area and would require a zoning change or variance. The Council requested the opportunity to visit his current operation before making a decision on whether or not to allow it in a residential area. The Council will tour the facility on September 29 at 4:30.
 - b. **High Plains Scenic Byways Resolution 2015-6.** It was moved by Bruce and seconded by Amanda to approve Resolution 2015-6 designating the following route as The High Plains Scenic Byway: Beginning at the point where US-40 intersects Kansas-27 in Sharon Springs, Kansas, continuing north to the intersection of US 36, then following US 36/K27 west through St. Francis, to the intersection of US-36 and K27 turning north along K-27 north to the Kansas/Nebraska State Line. Motion passed.
 - c. **Wade Krien Trash Waiver** – It was moved by Bruce and seconded by Roger to approve the trash waiver application from Wade Krien for his seasonal business The County Seat Greenery LLC. The business uses water only for irrigation purposes on a limited seasonal basis. Motion passed. The application will need to be reviewed and renewed annually in March.
 - d. **5 Year Plan** – JR presented a first draft of the 5 year plan for the Council to review. The plan includes projected infrastructure improvements and equipment purchases as well as the new pool. It was moved by Carla and seconded by Amanda to approve the purchase of tankless reclosures for \$12,600. Motion passed. JR talked about the age of the various vehicles and the current need for replacement of one of them. JR would like to replace his pickup and rotate the one he is currently driving into the inventory to eventually replace an older one. The Council gave approval for JR to obtain prices for the purchase of a newer pickup.
7. **Old Business:**
 - a. **Property Cleanup** – Royce Neitzel has not yet contacted JR with a plan for removal of the trees on his property at 606 S. River. He has until the first week of October to comply. The Council discussed the condition of the Roger Sauer property at 121 W. Webster. JR will ask Police Chief Guggenmos to talk with Mr. Sauer about the property being in violation of city code.
 - b. **Bird City Recycling** – Roger talked about the difficulties they are having with the way the Bird City recycling is being handled. Roger, along with Attorney Day, will try to arrange a meeting with the County Commissioners, County Attorney, and the Bird City Council to address the problem.

- c. **“Friends of the Park” Update** – Carla reported that the project is moving along and they hope to have it completed in a couple of weeks.
 - d. **Bandshell Sail Shades** –Paula has not yet heard back from tention.com with prices.
 - e. **New Pool Update** – The Council discussed the plan provided by Attorney Day for pursuing funding options for the new pool. It was moved by Bruce and seconded by Roger to move forward with the plan and to have Mike consult with the new pool committee and the rec commission to discuss the details. Motion passed.
 - f. **Trash Ordinance** – The Council reviewed the list of customers impacted by Ordinance No. 597 and the proposed letter to be sent. It was moved by Amanda and seconded by Paula for the City Clerk to send the letter as written to the impacted customers. Motion passed with Council member Lampe abstaining.
 - g. **Electrical Infrastructure Update** – JR talked to Prairieland about using the City supplied steel poles in the well line work that is being done. The only material not yet received is the wire.
- 8. Building Permits:** It was moved by Roger and seconded by Bruce to approve the following building permits: Priscilla Grice – 306 E. 1st, wood fence; Vicki Killingsworth – 521 E. Jackson, 12x12 wood frame addition with concrete pad; Linda Rogers – 528 S. Jackson, cedar fence; Bankwest of Kansas – 121 W. Washington, new steel and concrete sign; pending JR’s approval: Melissa McAtee – 412 E. First; wood and metal fence. Motion passed.
- 9. Superintendent Report:** **a)** No update yet on the engine failure. JR is waiting for Fairbanks Morse to assess the issue. **b)** JR shared financial analysis of the proposed sale of the electrical infrastructure to Prairie Land and the effect it would have on the City’s revenue and budget. After discussion it was moved by Paula and seconded by Carla to have JR draft a letter to decline the offer from Prairie Land. Motion passed. **c)** JR will put the sewer pond leveling system out for bids. **d)** JR will be purchasing winter tires for the skidster from the Coop for \$1085.12. **e)** JR will be getting a price to repair the heating system at the roadside park. **f)** It was moved by Amanda and seconded by Paula to sign the contract with Roofmasters for \$17028 to repair the library roof. Motion passed. Some of the cost will be paid from the insurance proceeds the city received from EMC insurance following last years’ storm. The work will be done in the spring. **g)** JR reported that the handrails on Washington Street should be installed this fall. **h)** It was moved by Roger and seconded by Carla for JR to purchase a thermal imaging camera for \$2000. Motion passed. It was moved by Amanda and seconded by Paula to accept and file the superintendent report. Motion passed.
- 10. Attorney Report:** Attorney Day reminded Council members to review the City Code chapters prior to the next meeting. He handed out copies of the KOMA statutes for Council members to read. KOMA regulations will be reviewed at the next meeting. It was moved by Bruce and seconded by Amanda to accept and file the attorney report. Motion passed.
- 11. Clerk Report – a)** Clerk Whitmore shared the cash balance report showing the year end cash balance from 2004 thru the current date. She also shared the swimming pool and theater revenue and expense charts for 2010 thru 2015. **b)** It was moved by Bruce and seconded by Amanda to give permission for Clerk Whitmore to attend the IIMC Certified Municipal Clerk training in Wichita November 2-6. The cost for the training is \$460. Hotel cost will be approximately \$540. Motion passed. **c)** Lila reported that the Department of Labor safety inspector was here on August 11th and his report was received. There will be a meeting of the safety committee on October 1st to discuss the report and develop an action plan. Members of the committee are JR, Carla and Dan Blair. Mayor Schultz appointed Clerk Whitmore to the committee as well. **d)** Lila reported that the CIC Symposium she attended in Wichita was very worthwhile and she will be utilizing the knowledge gained to streamline some processes and use the software’s capabilities to improve data tracking and report generation. **e)** The Council gave approval for Goodwill to park a collection trailer at the recycling center for 2 weeks sometime in October. It was moved by Carla and seconded by Amanda to accept and file the Clerk report. Motion passed.
- 12. Council comments:**
- Paula – updated the Council on the Assisted Living project.
 - Amanda – none
 - Roger – none
 - Carla – none
 - Bruce – recognized Earl Hankins for the work he did sweeping up the rock and debris behind the football field grandstands at the high school.

- 13.** Mayor Comments – Mayor Schultz read a thank you from the Charles Curry family for the plant that was sent in memory of their loved one. Mayor Schultz also shared that the Hansen Foundation has approved an additional \$50000 in grant money for the 18 Northwest Kansas counties.
- 14.** Adjournment: It was moved by Carla and seconded by Amanda to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

City Clerk