

WASHINGTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Regular Meeting – City Hall
October 2, 2023

1. Call to order by Mayor Ryan Kern.

2. Roll Call.

Present: Ryan Kern, Mayor
Mary Ann Crome, Washington
Jerry Fuhrken, Council Member
Terry Morse, Council Member
Carolyn Pinnick, Council Member
Roxanne Schottel, Council Member

Absent:

Staff Present: Carl Chalfant, City Administrator
Denise Powell, City Clerk

Others: Cynthia Scheer, Washington County News
Kylee Riechers, Washington
Mike Schmaderer, KMEA Mid-States

3. Citizens Comments.

Motion to approve the Street Use permit for a 5K Race hosted by Kylee Riechers, Washington County High School student, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. November 4, 2023, contingent upon receipt of certificate of liability insurance by Schottel and seconded by Morse.

Vote: Ayes: Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel

Riechers, Washington, stated she chose the fundraiser for Mayo Clinic as her mom has been battling cancer and the event will be sponsored by Thrivent who will also provide the certificate for liability insurance.

4. Minutes.

Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held September 5, 2023, by Schottel and seconded by Pinnick.

Vote: Ayes: Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel

5. Appropriations Ordinance 2023-10.

Motion to approve appropriations ordinance 2023-10 by Schottel and seconded by Pinnick.

Vote: Ayes: Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel

6. Power Plant Lease Purchase/KMEA Mid-States Request.

Motion to approve payment of bills to KMEA Mid-States for \$35,268.99 and Farabee Mechanical Inc. for \$365,535.00 to be paid through the UB&T engine lease purchase by Morse and seconded by Pinnick.

Vote: Ayes: Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel
Abstain: Mary Ann Crome

Mike Schmaderer, KMEA Mid-States, was present to discuss why he has exceeded his \$300,000 quote for hooking up electrical system to the engines. He stated he should have spent more time putting together the estimate. "Some things came up such as putting in metering for Sunflower at a cost of \$30,000 and there was more travel as there were not motel rooms available in Washington," he said. Schmaderer stated his bill for September is around \$20,000 and doesn't think the total will be more than \$400,000.

Council asked Schmaderer to have a good estimate on remaining work to be completed to City Administrator Chalfant for the October meeting.

MaryAnn Crome arrived 6:53 p.m.

7. Power Plant Masonry bid.

Motion to approve the bid from Charles Votipka in the amount of \$15,000 to remove remaining window frames, fill in windows and around pipes and reinforce with Durawall and rebar, and wrap exhaust pipes with insulation, to be paid out of the Electric Production fund by Pinnick and seconded by Morse.

Vote: Ayes: Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel

8. Voltage Conversion Funding Opportunity.

No action was taken on applying for a Grid Resilience Grant as part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to upgrade the last two feeder lines for voltage conversion due to the electric fund being over budget on the engine project. Staff estimates the project to be a 1.2-million-dollar project with the City's share being around \$400,000.

9. Land Lease Agreement.

Staff received a Land Lease Agreement along with survey maps for a proposed Alltel Corporation d/b/a Verizon Wireless cellular tower. City Attorney Elizabeth Baskerville-Hiltgen is reviewing the documents and negotiating the lease with a 5% increase every five years.

10. Ordinance No. 821 & 222.

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 821, AN ORDINANCE REGULATING TRAFFIC WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, KANSAS; AND INCORPORATING BY REFERENCE THE *STANDARD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE FOR KANSAS CITIES 50th* EDITION, by Schottel and seconded by Pinnick.

Vote: Ayes: Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 822, AN ORDINANCE REGULATING PUBLIC OFFENSES WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, KANSAS; AND INCORPORATING BY REFERENCE THE *UNIFORM PUBLIC OFFENSE CODE FOR KANSAS CITIES*, 39th EDITION, by Schottel and seconded by Pinnick.

Vote: Ayes: Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel

11. Street Repair Estimates.

City Administrator Carl Chalfant reached out to Hall Brothers for budget estimates for repairing streets. Preliminary 2024 budget estimates for street repairs for D Street from Highway 36 to College Street is \$268,493 and C Street from Highway 36 to 4th Street is \$189,648.25.

Chalfant received a call with Becky Newbury, KDOT, pertaining to street repairs on the Unofficial Detour Agreement on Highway 36 Project. They would like to get the project completed and closed out by the end of the year.

Chalfant will seek formal bids from outside contractors once the city marks out the work that needs done. The original agreement with KDOT was for \$95,000; however; KDOT had an overrun on the project, which will affect the City's reimbursement. "I realize KDOT wants to close it up, however the city needs to protect ourselves," said Fuhrken.

12. Water Project Pay Request.

Motion to approve Water Project pay request from BG Consultants in the amount of \$7,760.50 by Pinnick and seconded by Morse.

Vote: Ayes: Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel

13. Sewer Lift Station Pump.

Motion to accept the quote from Hickman Environmental Services to remove the existing Smith & Loveless Pump Station and install a refurbished Smith & Loveless Pump Station at the park lift station at a cost not to exceed \$27,187.50 to be paid out of the Sewer fund in 2024 by Pinnick and seconded by Crome.

Vote: Ayes: Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel

14. Delinquent Accounts.

Motion to write off the balances of the following accounts: Ricky Woodward, \$745.71; Eleanor Rogge, \$117.87; Alice Stanton, \$553.18; Dennis Malone, \$735.50; and Donna Carroll, \$597.71, by Schottel and seconded by Pinnick.

Vote: Ayes: Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel

15. EMS Applicant.

Motion to hire Colleen Bruna, RN, for the ambulance service by Schottel and seconded by Fuhrken.

Vote: Ayes: Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel

16. City Administrator Report.

- a) **Employment Openings.** Staff has not received any applicants for open positions following all of the advertisements.
- b) **PFAS Testing.** The testing schedule for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) has not been set yet.
- c) **Industrial Park Utility Extension.** A fourth round of bacteria tests were taken Sept. 18th and 19th, with the returned results of “absent”. The main is now in service. The water meter serving the Faith Connection Church has been switched over to the new main. Ohlsen’s is scheduling to disconnect the abandoned service and dress things up in the next week.
- d) **Substation Transformer Repair.** Substation transformer repair was put on hold until October.
- e) **Water Plant Electric Entrance Upgrade.** The pad mount transformer that feeds the water plant was delivered this week and will set in the substation on the south side of the power plant. This will eliminate some of the overhead wiring on the north side of the power plant, along with eliminating rotted-out poles and pole mounted transformers on the west side of the water plant. Staff will be burying underground from the transformer to the west wall of the water plant with a disconnect. Staff is obtaining quotes for performing the electric wiring in the water plant from the disconnect to the existing panels, along with a dry type transformer for operation of the 120/240-volt equipment.
- f) **Hanover Ambulance.** During inventory on 9-29-2023, damage to the Hanover ambulance was found. The accident investigation procedures were initiated, and paperwork is being completed. At this time, an insurance claim will not be filed. The follow-up paperwork was available for review.

17. City Clerk’s Report.

- a) **Water Project Requirements.** Staff recently received an email from Beverly Howard, State Community Programs Loan Technician with USDA, requesting items needed on an annual basis until the water loan is paid in full. Items include the adopted budget, management reports, water rates, and insurance information including proof of commercial property insurance, general liability insurance, workers compensation insurance and the position schedule bond or crime policy.

City Clerk Powell contacted The Dragastin Agency and spoke with Marci Kohlmeyer concerning the current position schedule bond and crime policy as neither of policies met the limit guidelines of one-year annual debt payment (principal and interest) of the water project. Kohlmeyer sought quotes to find the best coverage for the best price meeting the requirements. Cost for increasing limits for the Position Schedule Bond will be \$4,820.52 and the Crime Policy will be \$159. It was determined the City could cancel the Position Schedule Bond, and increase the coverage on the Crime Policy to meet all requirements. The cost to increase the Crime coverage limit from \$5,000 to \$250,000 is an additional premium this year of \$59. There is a \$2,500 deductible per loss/occurrence.

City Clerk Powell will continue to work with Howard and Sarah Hopkins, USDA Loan Specialist, to make sure all the requirements are met.

- b) **Code Violations.** Council members agreed at the September Council meeting it was time to get serious about code violations. Each council member was to bring a list to the October Council meeting of properties they believe to have a code violation. Staff is asked to determine if a violation exists, and if so, proceed

according to City code with alleviating the violation. City Clerk Powell will put together a list of properties the Council believe have code violations for the November Council packet.

- c) **Reports.** The Washington County Senior Citizens Meal Site August 2023 financials and Fire minutes for September were given to the Council for review.

18. Street Superintendent.

Superintendent Chris Milam visited with the Council about being the only employee in his department and that it has been a struggle to keep up with things.

19. Reports.

Jerry Fuhrken.

- a) **Chip Sealing.** Councilmember Fuhrken asked about chip sealing streets this year, to which Chalfant replied that it wasn't going to happen as patching has to be done first.

Terry Morse.

- a) **Playground.** Morse stated he would like to meet with the playground committee at Munchkinland to discuss renovating rather than replacing the playground. Consensus of the Council was to give all the Council a chance to view the playground before holding a meeting with the playground committee.

Mayor Ryan Kern.

- a) **Sidewalk/Campground.** Discussed a safe route to school along D Street and the unsightliness of the campground at E & College Street.

Motion to adjourn by Schottel and seconded by Pinnick.

Vote: Ayes: Mary Ann Crome
Jerry Fuhrken
Terry Morse
Carolyn Pinnick
Roxanne Schottel

Adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Denise M. Powell, City Clerk