

The Council of the City of Wellington, Kansas, met in Regular Session on April 18, 2017 at 6:30 p.m., in the City Council Room, City Administration Center, with Mayor Shelley Hansel presiding.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Hansel.

The Invocation was given by Council member Korte.

Council members Kip Etter, Kelly Hawley, Jan Korte, Bill Butts, Jim Valentine and Vince Wetta were present at roll call.

Members of the Staff present were City Manager Shane Shields, City Attorney Shawn DeJarnett, City Clerk/Finance Director Carol Mericle, and Public Utility Director Jason Newberry.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

There was no audience participation included in the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Korte, moved to approve the consent agenda. Council member Butts, seconded. The motion carried. The following items were approved under the Consent Agenda.

➤ **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1) Regular Session of April 4, 2017

➤ **APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS**

1) Payroll Report for March 19-April 1, 2017 in the amount of \$217,043.04

2) ACH Authorization Voucher #1045 for BCBS for March 29-April 4, 2017

3) ACH Authorization Voucher #1046 for BCBS for April 5-11, 2017

4) EFT for Airport Fuel for April 22, 2017

5) Claims Register for April 1-14, 2017 in the amount of \$1,119,699.33

➤ **RECEIPT OF COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE**

1) Clerk's Report for March 2017

2) Electric, Waterworks, Sewage Utility Operating Report for March 2017

3) Building/Demo Permit Report for March 2017

4) Code Enforcement Report for March 2017

5) Police Activity Report for March 2017

6) Ambulance Monthly Financial Report for March 2017

7) Fire/EMS Activities/Overtime/Revenue Report for March 2017

8) Memorial Auditorium Board Meeting Minutes for March 2, 2017

9) Media Release dated April 12, 2017-Board of Zoning Appeals Vacancy

10) Letter of Resignation from Airport Manager Patrick Hamlin, dated April 14, 2017

11) Correspondence from City of Hutchinson/Reno County re: Thank you to Fire Department

12) SCCDAT Newsletter for April 2017

REPORTS OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Council member Valentine shared his experience watching the EMS of Wellington in action yesterday. He thanked them for their hard work and dedication to the job. Council member Hawley mentioned that Sherry's army will be working this Saturday and if you would like to help meet at Impact bank at 8:00 am. Mayor Hansel shared that last week City Hall had 30 5th graders visit this facility to learn about city government. She also told that some of the students have gone to the Debuhr's residence and picked up tires for additional school projects.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS

Special Alcohol & Drug Fund Allocations. City Clerk/Finance Director Mericle shared that there were 8 applicants who applied for the funding. She told the amount was slightly under the budgeted

amount and the amounts were able to be awarded as requested. The committee is recommending the following amounts and organizations: Big Brothers/Big Sisters \$2,500, Mirror Inc. \$3,500, Project Prom \$1,500, Red Ribbon Committee USD 353 \$1,250, SCCDAT \$\$2,000, Sumner Mental Health Center \$3,500, Wellington Police Department \$600, and Wellington Recreation Commission \$1,500 for a total amount of \$16,350.00. Council member Korte moved to approve the Special Drug and Alcohol allocations as presented. Council member Etter seconded the motion. The motion carried. City Clerk/Finance Director Mericle reported letters will be sent to the recipients of the funds.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no public hearings included in the agenda.

ORDINANCES

There were no ordinances included in the agenda.

RESOLUTIONS

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ACCEPTING A BID AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH KRUSE CORPORATION OF WICHITA, KANSAS FOR THE REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT OF EXHAUST DUCTWORK FOR THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT HEADWORKS ROOM, ON-SITE LIFT STATION, AND OFF-SITE LIFT STATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$11,740 was introduced and considered. City Manager Shields stated this is a budgeted item. Director Newberry told that the old ductwork was made from galvanized steel and has deteriorated from the moisture and sulfide gas to the point of falling apart. If the ductwork isn't replaced, the sulfide gas will cause damage to the electrical equipment, steel doors, and motors within the facility. The new ductwork is made from PVC Pipe and Stainless Steel, and made to the same standards and sizes as in the original plant construction drawings. The staff recommends accepting the bid from Kruse Corporation as they have met all the requirements and have the lowest bid for the project. Council member Korte moved to accept the resolution. Council member Etter seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, those voting "AYE" were Council members Hawley, Korte, Butts, Valentine, Wetta, and Etter. There were no "NAY" votes. Number 5815 was assigned to this Resolution.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH COLLECTION BUREAU OF KANSAS, INC. (CBK) OF TOPEKA, KANSAS FOR COLLECTION SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF WELLINGTON, KANSAS UTILITY BILLING DEPARTMENT (contract included) was introduced and considered. City Manager Shields opened with the information from the work session to authorize moving forward with finding a collection service. City Clerk/Finance Director Mericle explained that the city used to have a company doing the collections that became inactive. Most of the recent uncollected accounts have been turned into the State Set-Off program. She said the total amount of bad debts that have been charged off since 2003, is \$1,008,343, and this amount does not include any of the hospital bills. She also shared that CBK will do the Set-Off program for us, as well as other collections, such as garnishments and court cases. Mr. Hollins was in attendance at the meeting and shared information about the company. He said the Collection Bureau of Kansas was actually founded by a collection attorney that has been practicing for over 35 years. It evolved in about 2003, due to the fact that some clients wanted a less aggressive manner to the collections process. The company is currently working with 54 municipalities, and to make things more efficient is working with host software, such as Incode 9. Mr. Hollins stated that the recovery rate on the utility debt is approximately 20%. All calls are recorded and callers are all from the state of Kansas. If there was ever a situation where a citizen felt they were being treated unfairly the CBK could send a recorded copy of the conversation to City Clerk/Finance Director Mericle. Mr. Hollins shared that municipalities are exempt from statute of limitations. Due to the nature of our system not having social security numbers in

2003 and years forward this new company will possibly be able to find our customers without that to collect the debt that is owed to the Utility department. Council member Valentine asked what the length of the contract was. Mr. Hollins replied it is for a 2 year term, however either party can execute a termination with a 30 day written notice. Council member Wetta Moved to approve the contract with the Collection Bureau of Kansas for collection services for the Utility Billing Department. Council member Butts seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, those voting “AYE” were Council members Etter, Hawley, Korte, Butts, Valentine, and Wetta. There were no “NAY” votes. Number 5816 was assigned to this Resolution.

STUDY ITEMS

No study items for discussion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council member Korte moved to recess into executive session for consultation with an attorney on matters that would be deemed privileged in an attorney-client relationship with City Manager Shields, City Attorney DeJarnett, Attorney Hughes, Mayor Hansel, Public Utility Director Newberry, and the Council for a period not to exceed 15 minutes. Council member Etter seconded the motion. The Council reconvened at 7:20 with no binding action taken

OTHER

City Manager Shields said a work session is needed to discuss the Housing Authority candidate. It was decided to hold the work session at 6 pm on May 2nd 2017, before the next Council meeting. City Clerk/Finance Director Mericle said she hoped to have a candidate for the Board of Zoning Appeals by then also.

Manager Shields told that Patrick Hamlin, Airport Manager has resigned as of May 12th. He is advertising for applicants for that position. He added the Airport Advisory committee will discuss the position also. He also told he has discussed getting a video made by CGI for Wellington that will be of no cost to the City. The company will be contacting area businesses to have advertising and links added on the website video.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.

Approved and filed this 2nd day May, 2017.

Mayor

City Clerk