

The Council of the City of Wellington, Kansas, met in Regular Session on May 3, 2016 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 Reverend Don Byant of First Christian Church.

Council members Bill Butts, Kip Etter, Jan Korte and Vince Wetta were present at roll call. Council members Green and Valentine were absent.

Members of the Staff present were City Manager Roy Eckert, City Clerk Carol S. Mericle, Finance Director Shane Shields and Public Works Director Jeremy Jones.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Code Compliance Violations. Kristy Debuhr, 220 N. Haslet, requested a hearing for Code Compliance Violations. She explained her situation and requested help in code compliance issue with her property, including the fact that she had received the property from family, was requesting additional time and making Council aware of financial concerns.

Council member Wetta asked if there was a way she could use Sherry Wiley and her crew to assist with the clean-up. The Council agreed that might be an option.

Mayor Hansel informed Ms. Debuhr that the city is concerned with the tires and standing water. Ms. Debuhr responded that she talked to Aaron Norton, Engineering Aide and is trying to utilize all means possible but she is overwhelmed.

Mayor Hansel asked Manager Eckert if the City had any ideas to help. Manager Eckert responded that the City was aware that the tires were there before she moved in. She then asked Director Jones how the tires could be disposed of. Ms. Debuhr responded that she found out the city trash wants around \$3.00 per tire. Director Jones informed the council that the City charges \$3.50 per tire for disposal because we have a recycling company pick them up and they charge us \$3.00 per tire. Staff estimates there are several hundred tires out there. Ms. Debuhr commented that she contacted companies that dispose of tires in Wichita and the cheapest she could find was \$1.75 per tire. She is struggling to pay normal bills and cannot afford to pay to have these removed and doesn't know what to do.

Council member Etter asked Manager Eckert what happens if she cannot pay for the tire removal and wanted to know if the cost would fall back on the City. Manager Eckert replied that there were a few options the City could explore.

Council member Wetta asked if the City had a truck and if we could haul them. Director Jones replied it would be several dump truck loads since there were so many tires. Council member Etter said he would be willing to donate his personal trailer and time to help. He appreciates that she has come forward and he wants to work with individuals who want to work with the City. However, he is concerned about who would pay for the disposal of the tires. He commented since the tires have been there for several years, the City could give her an extension to allow time to arrange for disposal and give Staff and Council time to get a plan. He also said he is concerned about the City contributing financially.

Council member Korte wanted to make sure she had a team of volunteers to help get rid of the tires as an extension was not enough to help her situation. Council member Etter said he would help and Council member Wetta feels that there are enough people in this community that would be willing to help. The Council verified they had Ms. Debuhr's contact information.

Council member Etter made a motion to give Ms. Debuhr a 90 day extension. Council member Wetta seconded. The motion carried.

WSU MiniMPA Certificates. Mayor Hansel informed the Council that the next agenda item, which was awarding Utility Director Jason Newberry and Engineering Aide Aaron Norton certificates for

completion of the WSU MPA program would not occur this evening. However, she congratulated both for their successful completion of the program.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

➤ **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- 1) Work Session of April 18, 2016
- 2) Regular Session of April 19, 2016
- 3) Special Session of April 27, 2016

➤ **APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS**

- 1) Payroll Report April 3 - 16, 2016 in the amount of \$223,804.18
- 2) ACH Authorization Voucher #995 for BCBS for April 13 - 19, 2016
- 3) ACH Authorization Voucher #996 for BCBS for April 20 - 26, 2016
- 4) Claims Register for April 16 - 30, 2016 in the amount of \$541,480.80

➤ **COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE**

- 1) Local Retail Sales Tax & Compensating Use Tax Funds for March 2016
- 2) WRC Meeting Minutes for February 26, 2016
- 3) WRC Meeting Minutes for March 22, 2016

REPORTS OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Council member Wetta reported on his desired trip to Topeka to talk to the KDHE about the raw water issue. He visited with Representative Ed Trimmer today who has been out of town and they will go as soon as possible. Council member Wetta said that it is best to talk face-to-face to deal with the issue. Manager Eckert reported that the water deliveries have gone great for the customers. Mayor Hansel agreed that is very important that we pin down a solution to the water issue and not delay. Council member Wetta agrees that we are well on our way but again feels it is important that this issue be handled in person instead of phone calls and emails. Mayor Hansel also stated that the City has received a few phone calls with incorrect information and the City is not providing free water to the residents of Mayfield, just those who are affected by this situation.

Council member Korte gave a report on the hospital. She said she is on the hospital committee that meets with the CEO, CFO and Chairman every month and she wanted to share a few pieces of information. Council member Korte stated every week the CEO reviews the entries into the emergency room to make sure that everyone that is seen at the emergency room is actually treated at this hospital if possible. He told the committee that an average of 5 cases per week are transferred to other facilities due to heart issues or other issues that this hospital cannot treat. She also added there are 8 zip codes that are treated at our hospital that may not have made it to other facilities and that is evidence that we truly need to keep this hospital open. She continued, the medical staff continues to support this hospital with both surgery and radiology volume increasing, which are profitable. Council member Korte told that the CEO met with the Chief of Police recently regarding prisoner care and has agreed to do services on City prisoners free of charge, which is a positive thing, because either the prisoner has to be released to get

medical services or the City has to pay for any services received. They are also working on correcting their bad debt and getting their books back in order for audit purposes. She said they also have a new policy to discount a self-pay patient, for those who do not have health insurance. She stated this is fair as the calculation is very similar to the discount insurance companies negotiate and pay.

Council member Etter asked Manager Eckert to give an update on John Sweet, City Administrator from Lyons, KS. Manager Eckert reported he is reaching out to both Attorney Mike Brown and Judge Frank Korte to fine-tune the wording and decisions made prior to putting them into place. Council member Etter asked about the Land Bank and Manager Eckert talked about legal issues.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS

Proclamation. Mayor Hansel read a Proclamation for Public Service Week, May 1 – 7, 2016.

Sumner County Economic Development Commission Small Business Workshop. Manager Eckert shared a flier regarding an upcoming small business workshop since Sumner County Economic Development Executive Director Stacy Davis was not able to attend tonight. The Small Business Workshop is for both prospective and current small business owners. It is Sponsored and led by the Kansas Small Business Development Center and will be Tuesday May 17th from 9 am – noon at 123 North Jefferson, Wellington. He added the workshop is free, but you do have to register because seating is limited. Anyone interested please respond by email to Linda Brown at lbrown@co.sumner.ks.us

Crestview Heights Subdivision. Manager Eckert informed Council that Crestview Heights subdivision was to be built with the hope of getting additional homes in Wellington, however it is going up for tax auction now and the City has been asked if it wants to purchase the land. He continued there are 38 lots that are still available but the infrastructure, such as streets and utilities, are not yet in place. He said that a decision can't be made tonight as more discussion and discovery needs to be done, and there will be another council meeting prior to the auction sale on May 24th. Finance Director Shields shared that the Ad Valorem tax amount is \$50,000 and the specials come to around \$180,000. As you may recall with the purchase of Settlers Creek, which was a purchase for both the ad valorem and special amounts, this property may be able to be purchased with just the ad valorem price and the specials would be abated. We are working with attorneys to verify these amounts as purchasing for the full amount would be difficult.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no public hearings included in the agenda.

ORDINANCES

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WELLINGTON, KANSAS, GRANTING TO KANSAS FIBER NETWORK, A KANSAS LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (KSFIBERNET), ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, A TELECOMMUNICATIONS FRANCHISE AND PRESCRIBING THE TERMS OF SAID GRANT AND RELATING THERETO was introduced and considered.

Bob Wallentine of KSFibernet was present to answer questions on the franchise. He is working with Sumner Communications, their first customer in this area, to provide services to government, education and health care companies. Mr. Wallentine told they are a Kansas company, out of Wichita and Overland Park and are owned by 29 different independent telephone companies in the State.

Manager Eckert shared that the City staff reviewed the information and are pleased with what they found.

Council member Butts moved to adopt the ordinance as presented. Council member Korte seconded. Upon roll call vote, those voting "AYE" were Council members Butts, Etter, Korte and Wetta. There were no "NAY" votes. Number 4191 was assigned to this ordinance.

Mayor Hansel asked when the City would start seeing activity. Mr. Wallentine shared that they would connect with Sumner Communications out by Walmart. He said they have fiber along the turnpike and railroad so we should see activity within the month.

Council member Wetta asked for an update about the golf course irrigation system installation. Council member Butts responded that all the new towers, which is the equipment that houses the electronic information, are up and they are now waiting for the pump equipment and assemblies. He believes that May 23rd is the installation date. He shared that this will be a big step forward in progress in both condition and use of water for the golf course. Manager Eckert shared with the Council that the water conservation is around 70%, which is excellent and will pay for itself in water savings alone.

RESOLUTIONS

There were no resolutions included in the agenda.

STUDY ITEMS

There were no study items included in the agenda.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Hansel reminded everyone that Monday, May 16th at 5:30 p.m. is a work session to discuss manager evaluation and possibly the water issue, depending on what Council member Wetta finds out in Topeka. Also the Town Hall meeting on May 10th will be the final one and located here at 7:00 p.m. There will be a new format and it will focus more on leadership and a hands-on approach. She added that from what they understand, the 30-day clock from the KDHE on raw water issue does not actually start until we receive an official letter from KDHE stating this. She reminded everyone that the contacts with KDHE are very happy with the proactive approach and communication from the City. Council member Wetta shared his concerns about how many times the ball has been dropped on the raw water issue and he wants to again state how important he feels that someone needs to go to Topeka to talk to them face-to-face. Council members Etter and Butts both volunteered to go. Mayor Hansel asked the Council to keep the week of May 23 – 27 open for a work session regarding the issue.

A motion to adjourn was seconded and carried.

Approved and filed this 17th day of May, 2016.

Mayor

City Clerk