

The Council of the City of Wellington, Kansas, met in a Work Session on May 16, 2016 at 5:30 p.m., in the City Council Room, City Administration Center, with Mayor Shelley Hansel presiding.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Hansel.

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

Members of the Staff present were City Attorney Mike Brown, City Manager Roy Eckert, Finance Director Shane Shields and City Clerk Carol Mericle.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Council member Etter moved that Council, Attorney Mike Brown, City Manager Roy Eckert, Financial Director Shane Shields and Stacy Davis, Director of Sumner County Economic Development move into Executive Session to discuss confidential data relating to financial affairs or trade secrets of second parties for no longer than 15 minutes. Council member Green seconded.

After fifteen minutes, Mayor Hansel brought the Council back in session and informed that no binding action was taken in the discussion of Trade Secrets of Second parties.

### **REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS**

*Update, Economic Development.* Sumner County Economic Development Commission (SCEDC) Director Stacy Davis informed the Council that she is preparing her next year's budget and she explained her formula for funding: population and assessed valuation. She is requesting funding of \$42,000 from the City of Wellington. Council member Wetta asked what the City of Mulvane was contributing. Director Davis replied that based on the population of their Sumner County side of 983, they put in \$2,700, last year they paid \$5,000, and the year prior they paid \$15,000. She verified that the SCEDC Board approved vacating the normal formula, which would allow the City to counter with a different number and then she would take that number back to her Board. She explained that because the City of Wellington is part of the original founding, they are willing to look at a flat rate as well. Council member Korte asked if all the other cities in the County were paying in, too, and Director Davis confirmed saying the only cities that do not pay, based on their formula, are cities like Mayfield, Perth, Milan and Geuda Springs. Director Davis also shared that she went to the County Commissioners this year and requested \$150,000 which was more than they have been giving them in the past: last year the County Commissioners cut their budget more than 48% so they only received \$58,000 from them. She has not heard what they have approved this year. City Manager Eckert asked if the Commissioners were happy that the City of Wellington was back in and Director Davis confirmed that they were thrilled. She was given three goals for this year: bring the City of Wellington back on board, increase population and jobs. She said the population will get there and as far as jobs, her organization was instrumental in bringing in the high speed rail-shuttle grain storage and loading facility in Milan and that is a \$75,000,000 operation. They will break ground on May 27<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Hansel complimented Director Davis regarding her work to try to unify the cities in Sumner County. She asked Director Davis to share her idea about an ambassador program. Director Davis informed the Council that she feels like we need to organize ourselves to be a positive promotion for every community, knowing facts and strengths about each town to discuss, work together and grow. She also shared preliminary ideas about a secret shopper program throughout the county that would infuse revenue into communities and provide valuable feedback about shopping experiences.

*Crestview Development.* Finance Director Shane Shields explained that 39 lots remained and were going to a tax sale on May 24th. He asked for Council direction and consensus on whether or not they wished to bid on any of those lots. Director Shield said to purchase all 39 lots, the estimated total would be \$57,044. He told that of the first 25 lots, 14 are already sold to private individuals, so 11 of the

first 25 are what is for sale. The special assessment taxes are also due, but the City would not have to pay these. He also explained the County has received a few phone calls so we know there are some parties that may be interested in purchasing as well. The bid for the Ad Valorem and specials is approximately \$11,200 for 11 developed lots. These lots would need to be maintained and mowed. Council member Etter asked about pros and cons of buying the 11 lots and options for the proposed land bank. There was discussion. Director Shields reminded that the current lots in Settler’s Creek are not all sold. The County is hoping the City will buy these so they are not stuck with the properties. Attorney Brown recommended the Council sleep on the facts shared with them in this meeting and added to the regular Council meeting as an agenda item, if needed.

*Letter of Engagement for Audit Services.* Director Shields informed the Council that the Letter of Engagement for Audit Services is on tomorrow’s agenda and wanted to discuss a few items prior, in case he was not able to make it. However, Lonnie Cooper will be onsite at Council meeting to discuss. A few points of discussion: this is the letter he updates every year to the original contract. There are some items that are no longer required. Director Shields recommends the Council approve the addendum.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Council member Etter moved that Council and Mayor Hansel move into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel. Council member Wetta seconded.

After one hour, Mayor Hansel brought the Council back in session and informed that no binding action was taken in the discussion of Personnel. The meeting was adjourned.

Approved and filed this 7<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2016.

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Mayor

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City Clerk