

City Council Meeting Minutes
City of Larned
Council Chambers
October 4th, 2021
6:30 PM

Mayor William Nusser called the regular session to order with the following Councilmembers present: Councilmember Terry Clark, Councilmember George Elmore, Councilmember Carroll Bennett, Councilmember Gary Rainbolt, Councilmember Dennis Wilson, Councilmember Sharon McGinness and Councilmember Jason Murray.

Councilmember Kim Barnes was absent.

City Manager Bradley Eilts, Finance Director Monica Steiner, City Clerk Kara Rath and were also present.

City Attorney Ron Smith was absent.

Visitors: Judi Tabler, Dale Vanderhoof, Kevin Cook, Mike Gilmore, Kerry Nicholson, Jason Zink, Leonard Herrman

Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Murray motioned to approve the agenda, Councilmember Rainbolt seconded.

Approval of Consent Agenda

City Manager Brad Eilts asked that the appointment of James Armijo to the Planning Commission be added as item C. to the consent agenda. Councilmember Murray motioned to approve the consent agenda with added item C; Councilmember Clark seconded.

Motion passed.

Appropriation Ordinance #9

Finance Director, Monica Steiner reported on the expenses listed on the financial report. On a motion by Councilmember Elmore and seconded by Councilmember Rainbolt and carried for Appropriation Ordinance #9 in the amount of \$1,167,355.99 and transfers more or less were approved for payment.

Motion passed.

Public Comments

None

New Business

Sale of City Property

Kerry Nicholson purchased property on 14th Street between State and College Street and plans to construct and operate a mini-storage business. The property is located in C-1 (Highway Business District) and this use requires a Conditional Use Permit. After he made

application for the Conditional Use, the Board of Zoning Appeals requested that Mr. Nicholson work with the City to sell the City-owned property just to the north of his property. This property is approximately two-thirds of an acre.

A Survey was conducted to possibly sub-divide the City property in allowance for Mr. Nicholson to purchase. The survey divided the property into two tracts:

Tract One is the location of the existing substation and old power plant. It is 75.30 feet by 118 feet or 8,885 sq ft.

Tract Two is roughly 20,532 sq ft. and similar in size to Mr. Nicholson's property to the south.

Mr. Nicholson is interested in purchasing Tract Two from the City in order to satisfy the recommendation of the BOZA which allows enough room for the storage units with deterring traffic discernibility.

Mr. Nicholson's offer is \$11,557. This is approximately 60% of the County's appraisal for the real property (\$13,860) which is \$8,316, plus half the costs of the survey (\$3,241). Councilmember Wilson motioned to sell Mr. Nicholson Tract Two of City Property at 14th Street between College and State streets. Councilmember McGinness seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

CCLIP Engineering Agreement

In July 2021, the City was awarded \$300,000 KDOT FY 2023 CCLIP grant for a surface preservation project on South Broadway between the railroad tracks at 3rd Street to the South City limits. KDOT will pay 95% of the costs for construction and construction engineering, while design costs or preliminary engineering costs are not included in the match.

The estimated costs for this project are \$296,451.50 and the City's share is \$35,594.00. The cost for preliminary engineering is \$21,865.00.

Councilmember Elmore motioned to approve the preliminary engineering agreement between the City and Benesch for the FY 2023 CCLIP grant from KDOT at a cost of \$21,865. Councilmember Rainbolt seconded.

Motion passed.

Refinancing of KDHE Loans

Clayton Kelly with Piper Sandler worked with the City to refund our Series 2013 General Obligation Bonds resulting in \$50,000 of net savings. Mr. Kelly is proposing that the City Council consider explore refinancing the City's two KDHE Loans for construction of the Wastewater Plants and for Water system improvements.

The refinancing will require the adoption of a Charter Ordinance which exempts the City from the provisions of K.S.A. 12-617 et seq. This allows the City to refinance the bonds with lower interest rates. The potential net savings to the City could be significant (100,000+) depending on the market.

Councilmember Bennett motioned to approve the Charter Ordinance, the timeline of events and the excerpt of City Council meeting minutes of October 4, 2021. Councilmember Rainbolt seconded the motion.

On a roll call vote 7 aye, 0 nay.

Motion passed.

Ordinance Regarding Certain Fires and Burning

In February the previous Fire Chief and TJ Hearn requested that the Council consider the addition of some standards related to Recreational Fires, Bonfires, and Open Fires. The current Fire Chief, Leonard Herrman, and TJ Hearn have worked with the City Attorney to create an Ordinance that clarifies violations, fire hazards, and guidelines/restrictions as well as addresses concerns on access and enforcement.

Jason Zink spoke regarding the Ordinance and his disapproval of it.

Councilmember Rainbolt motioned to adopt the Ordinance as written, Councilmember McGinness seconded the motion.

On a roll call vote 7 aye, 0 nay.

Motion passed.

Ordinance Regarding Compensation for Firefighters

The Larned Fire Department is all volunteers, personnel are paid a minimal amount as set by City Code, Section 2.16.020 (Members-Meetings) and 2.16.030 (Compensation).

Acting Chief Herrman reviewed the compensation schedules and notes that they were set in 2009. He suggests a \$5.00 increase across the board to aid in recruiting and retention. He also suggests increasing the fire school daily compensation to \$80.00 which is a little over \$5 per-hour for an 8-hour training. He feels that this could encourage attendance of firefighters and not be as punitive financially for them taking off work.

Councilmember Elmore motioned to approve the changes to the Members-Meeting section of the City Code and the rate of compensation for Firefighters. Councilmember McGinness seconded the motion.

On a roll call vote 7 aye, 0 nay.

Motion passed.

Reformation of the Larned Tree Board

City Ordinance 12.08 covers Street Trees. This Ordinance provides “for the planting, location, protection, maintenance, and removal of trees and shrubbery within the City of Larned, to establish a Tree Board, and to define offenses and prescribe penalties” according to Section 12.08.030. Subsequent Ordinances guide the actions of the Board, regulations and guidelines for trees and shrubbery in the City limits, and other related matters.

City Manager Eilts and Code Enforcement officer Tice request that the Tree Board be reactivated and appointments made to the Board. The Mayor has asked that the Council confirm appointments of the following people for the 2021 Tree Board:

Denise Sellers
Brian Stahlecker
Allen Taylor
Josh Kraisinger
Linda Haynes
Kyle Grant
Will Tice

Councilmember Wilson motioned to approve the Tree Board appointments and councilmember Elmore seconded.

Motion passed.

Scheduling of a Work Session

The Mayor asked that the Council set a Work Session to discuss: Electrical Distribution, the Larned Fire Station, off-season improvements to the Swimming Pool, Prairie Vista, Recycling, water perfection, Waste Water building, Winter Gas prices.

Councilmember Elmore motioned that the Council set the Work Session for October 18th at 6:30 PM in the Council Chambers. Councilmember Rainbolt seconded the motion.

Motion passed.


Staff Presentation

Dale Vanderhoof was presented the Aqua Aerobics Outstanding Aqua SBR Plant Performance plaque for the second year in a row (2020 & 2021).

Adjournment



City Clerk, Kara Rath



Mayor, William Nusser