

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
JANUARY 14, 2014
7:00 P.M.

A. CALL TO ORDER:

ROLL CALL: Members present were Councilmembers Irlan Fullbright, Kathy Hines, Alan Brauer, Rick Wilson and Mayor Frank Koelsch. Councilmember Kirk Clawson was absent. Also present was Mary Jo Cunningham and Karen LaPierre, representing the Ellinwood Leader and the Great Bend Tribune.

- C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion was made by Councilmember Rick Wilson to approve minutes for the December 10, 2013 and December 11, 2013 council meetings, seconded by Councilmember Irlan Fullbright. Motion carried. All present voting in favor.

Councilmember Kirk Clawson arrived at 7:05 p.m.

- D. APPROPRIATIONS:** A motion was made by Councilmember Irlan Fullbright to authorize payment of bills and claims processed, seconded by Councilmember Rick Wilson. Motion carried. All voting in favor.

E. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

- F. VISITORS:** Ron and Mary Jo Cunningham, Ken Lebbin, Donita Goosen, Larry Clair, Art Keffer, Kevin Clair, Rob Fisher, Mark and Cassie Batchman, Ryan Robl, Nancy Baird, Chris Komarek, Karen LaPierre and Chris McCord.

Rob Fisher was present to provide council with an update on the Recreation Commission.

G. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Service Award: A service award was presented to Cody Waite for his 5 years of service to the Ellinwood Fire Department.
2. City Audit – Waiver of GAAP Reporting: The City is required to conduct an audit each year in accordance with state statute. State statute specifies that audits are to be conducted according to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

State statute authorizes a municipality to pass a resolution to adopt the cash basis method of accounting and audit control. A motion was made by Councilmember Kirk Clawson to adopt Resolution 11414-A authorizing the cash basis audit for 2014, seconded by Councilmember Irlan Fullbright. Motion carried. All voting in favor.

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3. Electric Reserve Fund Resolution: Presented to council was Resolution 11414-B, a resolution requesting a \$50,000 transfer of funds from the Electric Equipment Reserve Fund back to the Electric Fund from which they came pursuant to K.S.A. 12-1,117(c).

A motion was made by Councilmember Alan Brauer to approve Resolution 11414-B, seconded by Councilmember Kathy Hines. Motion carried. All voting in favor.

The City currently transfers .4% of the KWH's billed each month from the Electric Fund to the Electric Reserve Fund. Staff requests council to consider suspending this transfer for five months from February through June to build up the Electric Fund cash balance.

A motion was made by Councilmember Kathy Hines to approve suspending the transfer from the Electric Fund to the Electric Reserve Fund for five months from February through June. Motion seconded by Councilmember Irlan Fullbright. Motion carried. All voting in favor.

4. Main Street Buildings: Staff reported deeds have now been received on the Main Street property purchased at the County tax sale. City staff has secured each of the buildings and placed black plastic in the windows of the property. Presented to council for their consideration was a letter from an individual, who requested to be anonymous, regarding the preservation of the two buildings at 100 N Main.

Robert Peter, city administrator, distributed pictures of the property, both inside and outside, to the council for their review. He expressed concern in regard to the connecting wall between this property and the Batchman property and suggested having an engineer examine the south wall of the Batchman property to make sure it will not collapse upon demolition of the two buildings. After much discussion, it was decided that Robert Peter would contact Nelson Stone of Stone Sand Company and set up a meeting with him and Mark Batchman to survey the property and discuss the concerns noted above.

Chris McCord was present at the meeting to request council to consider allowing him to remove ceiling tiles from the property to be used in the restoration of Wolf Hotel. It was also noted that 2 other individuals had expressed interest in items housed in the property. Staff explained this has been a common request before buildings are demolished. Discussion then ensued regarding safety issues when individuals are allowed in these properties. Mr. McCord explained he would provide his own scaffolding and help and would be willing to sign a waiver. It was then suggested to

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have Nelson Stone express his opinion as to the safety of the property when he comes over to review the concerns of the connecting wall of the properties before allowing any individuals access into the property for removal of items.

5. Solid Waste Truck: The engine on the 2007 Peterbilt side loader solid waste truck suffered a major breakdown. The problem is a severe coolant contamination and the engine cannot be repaired. The estimated cost of a long block rebuilt engine is \$28,000 - \$30,000 which includes labor. The entire unit was purchased new in 2006 at a cost of \$149,376. The truck portion of the cost was \$72,276. The estimated cost of a new truck is \$105,000 with an additional cost of \$7,500 - \$9,000 for installation of the box. Staff has also requested an analysis of the fluids from the engine and the transmission. This item was tabled awaiting the results of the analysis.
6. Benesch Contract Proposal: This item was moved to the end of the agenda.
7. Recycle Truck: The recycle truck, donated to the City from HazMat, is a 1989 F350 Ford van with a panel box on the back which is ideal for towing the recycle trailer to Great Bend. In October, the transmission on the truck needed repaired at a cost of \$934. In December, the engine threw a piston and cannot be repaired. A long block engine can be acquired and installed for an estimated cost of \$3,500 - \$4,000. Another option would be to utilize the old community bus.

After some discussion, a motion was made by Councilmember Irlan Fullbright to approve the repair of the van at an estimated cost of \$3,500 - \$4,000, seconded by Councilmember Kathy Hines. Motion carried. All voting in favor.

8. Employee Salaries: The budget for 2014 allowed for a 3% increase in employee's wages. It was recommended to not approve a raise for 2014 because of the unknown costs related to the flood study. A motion was made by Councilmember Kathy Hines to not approve a raise at this time, but to re-visit the issue at the June, 2014 meeting, seconded by Councilmember Irlan Fullbright. Motion carried. Councilmembers Kathy Hines, Irlan Fullbright, and Alan Brauer voting aye and Councilmembers Rick Wilson and Kirk Clawson voting nay.

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9. Benesch Contract Proposal: Presented to council for approval was the proposal from Alfred Benesch & Company for phase 1 of the flood control study in the amount of \$43,351.03. An executive session is requested for discussion of contract negotiations with Alfred Benesch & Company Engineering firm. A motion was made by Councilmember Kirk Clawson to go into executive session for twenty (20) minutes for discussion of contract negotiations with Alfred Benesch & Company Engineering firm and that the council meeting will reconvene in the council chambers, seconded by Councilmember Rick Wilson. Motion carried. All voting in favor. The governing body recessed into executive session at 9:10 p.m. No action taken.

Meeting reconvened into regular session at 9:30 p.m. A motion was made by Councilmember Alan Brauer to adjourn back into executive session for an additional twenty (20) minutes for discussion of contract negotiations with Alfred Benesch & Company Engineering firm and that the council meeting will reconvene in the council chambers, seconded by Councilmember Kathy Hines. Motion carried. All voting in favor.

Meeting reconvened at 9:50 p.m. No action taken. A motion was made by Kathy Hines to authorize the execution of the contract with Alfred Benesch & Company for phase 1 of the flood control study in the amount of \$43,351.03, subject to the proposed changes in the legal language. Motion seconded by Councilmember Rick Wilson. Motion carried. All voting in favor.

REPORTS:

1. Municipal Court Report: Presented to Council was the Municipal Court Report for December, 2013.
2. Utilities Production Report: Presented to Council was the Utilities Production Report.
3. Staff Reports:
 - a) Staff reported the deed has been received on the 3rd & Wieland property.
 - b) Staff reported the city employees have been cleaning out the Reser property. Staff has also been working on testing water meters and painting well houses.
 - c) The deadline for filing for City Council is noon on January 21st. Three council positions are available.

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- d) Staff reported Christmas lights will be picked up from the Grandon's and will be stored in the storage room at the bandshell.
- e) Staff reported officer Renfro will be attending a 4 day interview and interrogation class.
- f) Staff reported he will attend KMU Capitol Day in Topeka on January 22nd.
- g) Staff reported there are maintenance issues with the grader.

I. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business at this time, a motion was made by Councilmember Kathy Hines that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Councilmember Irlan Fullbright. Motion carried. All voting in favor.

Frank Koelsch, Mayor

Kim Schartz, City Clerk