

**AMENDED
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING HELD AUGUST 16, 2006**

The governing body met in regular session on August 16, 2006 at 5:30 p.m. in the City Commission Room in the City Hall, the following members being present and participating, to wit: Commissioners Hosie, Jindra, Johnson and Gilliland.

Absent: Commissioner Strecker.

Other Officers: City Manager Paine, Deputy City Clerk Deneault and City Attorney Uri.

The Mayor declared that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order.

Visitors: Jessica LeDuc, Larry Remmenga, Toby Nosker, Larry Eubanks, Pastor Cory Shipley, Ima Jean Chavey, Ron Deal, Steve Dailey, Renee Hubert, Darrell Kearns, Robert Burns, Eric Johnson, Melvin Kennedy, Gary Reynolds, Rex Gerard, Pat Gerard, Ted Collins, Lois Tracy, Richard Stutsman, Danny Parker, Troy Willoughby, Jeff Thoman, Don Dean, Tim Menard, Vicki Menard, Don & Cheryl Lanoue, Robin & Annette Hood, LaVern C. Robbins, Greg Hattan, John Hood, Marvin Copple, Larry Bergstrom and Kirk Lowell.

Pastor Cory Shipley, Victory Faith Assembly of God Church, provided the invocation before the city commission meeting.

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 15

APPROVED

Commissioner Hosie moved to approve Appropriation Ordinance No. 15. Commissioner Gilliland seconded. Motion carried.

PROCLAMATION –
NATIONAL ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTION RECOVERY MONTH

Mayor Pro Tem Gilliland read a proclamation and declared September as National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bob Burns, a former city employee, was present to voice his concern over the termination of the City Clerk Cheryl Lanoue, who had worked for the city for seventeen years. Cheryl was highly skilled and had a good attitude about her job. She made personal sacrifices of family and time for her job. What happened to Cheryl is going to be a detriment to the city and the community. Bob said he had visited with Cheryl just a few days before she was fired and found out she had turned down an assistant manager's job in LaVista, Nebraska, making almost twice the money. Bob's question to the commission was if Cheryl Lanoue was so incompetent why would a city like LaVista, Nebraska see Cheryl as a person of value, of talent, the right attitude, having the right skills and the right education, because she is very educated. Bob stated that from his own experience this was not a performance problem but a personal problem. Someone has an axe to grind and the city can not run its departments with an axe to grind.

Ima Jean Chavey representing herself wanted to know what went wrong from the time that Cheryl Lanoue was acting city manager until now. Joe Strecker was one of the commissioners that was responsible for hiring Cheryl as acting city manager. The City of Concordia had a lot invested in Cheryl's training and schooling and now that investment is lost. Ima Jean said she wondered if it had anything to do with the funds from the police department that showed up on the June 30th quarterly report and how those funds were handled.

City Attorney Larry Uri stated that he had researched the police department money issue and found no state statute that says the money at the police department had to be put into the general fund. He also said he had visited with Doug Glenn who prepares the city audit and Doug told him that he did not know of any state statute requiring that money be put into the general fund. Larry stated it was a relatively small amount of money and it was spent on police department items.

Gary Reynolds addressed the commission with his concerns about medicine prescriptions under Medicare and how it affects the pharmacies. He felt the people should contact their congressmen and representatives about this issue.

**AMENDED
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Mike Lamm was present and wanted to say that reducing the mill levy is a good thing and thanked the commission for doing so, he said it was a positive thing and the property owners like to see lower taxes.

PUBLIC HEARING – 2007 BUDGET

HELD

Mayor Pro Tem Gilliland opened the public hearing and thanked the city manager and department heads for all of their work on the 2007 budget. City Manager Larry Paine gave a power point presentation on the 2007 budget which gave an overview of how this budget was prepared and how it would meet the objectives of the city commission and staff.

Greg Hattan was present and had some questions and concerns with the new budget. Greg questioned how the money from the Police Department was handled and why we didn't follow the auditor's advice. Next Greg asked what steps were being taken to correct a very obvious shortfall in the water/sewer fund. It shows that the cash balance in this fund would be very low at the end of 2007. He didn't know if this was acceptable or was anybody concerned about this given the situation on water these days. Next Greg wanted to know how you could decrease the employee benefit fund by half when those costs keep going up. Greg's final question was why are we transferring money from the general fund to TIF. Also in regard to TIF, Greg said that the original concept of TIF was to improve infrastructure and it seems like now we are using it to develop the land for private business. He had concerns whether there would be enough funds available to do everything.

Phil Gilliland said that the current commission has shifted some of its focus from infrastructure improvements to land development but they felt like advancing economic development would increase property tax revenues.

Ima Jean Chavey stated she had attended all six budget study sessions and was disappointed in the commission. She felt the commissioners needed to participate more in the budget process, as a taxpayer she wanted her money to be looked at very closely. Ima Jean pointed out what she thought were errors in the budget. Larry Paine said he would recheck some of those figures and make any corrections if necessary. He also said he would be willing to set down with Ima Jean and go over any questions she had concerning the budget.

Richard Stutsman with the Fraternal Order of Police asked if the employees were getting a cost of living increase. Larry Paine stated that the city employees would be getting a three (3) percent cost of living increase. Mr. Stutsman asked if that was on the current salary and Larry Paine answered yes.

There being no further comments, Mayor Pro Tem Gilliland closed the public hearing.

ORDINANCE NO. 2006-2922 -
ADOPTION OF 2007 BUDGET

Thereupon there was presented an Ordinance entitled:

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING, ADOPTED AND APPROPRIATING BY FUND THE
CITY OF CONCORDIA FOR THE YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2007, BE IT
ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF CONCORDIA, KANSAS.

Thereupon, Commissioner Jindra moved that said Ordinance be passed. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gilliland. Said Ordinance was duly read and considered, and upon being put, the motion for the passage of said Ordinance was carried by the vote of the City Commission, the vote being as follows:

Yea: Commissioners Hosie, Gilliland, Johnson and Jindra.

Nay: None.

Thereupon, the Mayor Pro Tem declared said Ordinance duly passed and the Ordinance was then duly numbered Ordinance No. 2006-2922 was signed and approved by the Mayor Pro Tem and attested by the Deputy Clerk.

REPORT FROM CAMPBELL & JOHNSON:
ENGINEERING AND INSPECTION SERVICES

ERIC JOHNSON

Eric Johnson representing Campbell & Johnson Engineering was present and gave information on all of their services from start to finish. He stated that they usually put more hours in than they get paid. At the previous commission meeting Commissioner Johnson had some questions concerning their services and how they were paid. Eric said they would be willing to provide them with anything that would help and their door was always open, "come over any time". Mr. Johnson stated he did not have a problem with their services but a detailed statement would help.

AMENDED

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING HELD AUGUST 16, 2006, contd.

ADOPT WELLHEAD PROTECTION PLAN

LARRY REMMENGA

Larry Remmenga, Director of Utilities, gave a presentation on a wellhead protection plan for the City. This plan would help protect the city's water supply. This plan would also have a backup water supply plan in the case of an emergency. Commissioner Hosie moved to adopt the wellhead protection plan. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

AUTHORIZE SUBMISSION OF E911 GRANT

DANNY PARKER

Police Chief Danny Parker updated the commission on the grant being submitted for 911 enhancements. This grant is an extension of the grant submitted in 2005. \$73,000.00 is being requested for computer equipment for the new 911 system. Commissioner Gilliland moved to authorize the city manager to draft a document for the mayor to sign for the submission of the E911 Grant. Commissioner Jindra seconded motion. Motion carried.

MAYOR/COMMISSIONER
COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Commissioner Hosie thanked the city manager and department heads for all of their time spent preparing the 2007 budget.

Commissioner Johnson requested an Executive Session at the September 6, 2006 meeting to discuss Cheryl Lanoue's termination.

STAFF COMMENTS

City Manager Paine informed the commission that the state might bring back the Local Ad Valorem Tax Reduction. The League of Kansas Municipalities has been trying to get this reinstated. If this would happen cities could see some additional revenues.

There being no further business, Commissioner Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Hosie seconded. Motion carried.



Phil H. Deneault
Deputy City Clerk

(Seal)