

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING HELD OCTOBER 5, 2011

The governing body met in regular session on October 5, 2011, at 5:30 p.m. in the City Commission Room at City Hall, with the following members being present: Commissioners Wentz, Pounds, Johnson, Parker, and Fraser.

Absent: None.

Other Officers: City Manager Uri, Finance Director Farha, and City Clerk Crum.

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

Visitors: Jessica LeDuc, Toby Nosker, Melina Hemphill, Cameron Thurner, Joe Sinnett, Tom Tuggle. Staff present: Chad Buckley, Director of Public Utilities; Ron Copple, Director of Public Works; Larry Eubanks, Fire Chief; Bruno Rehbein, Building Inspector; and Chris Edin, Police Chief.

There was no invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

APPROVED

Commissioner Johnson moved to approve the minutes of the September 21, 2011, meeting. Commissioner Pounds seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE #18

APPROVED

Commissioner Parker asked about the library payment. Finance Director Farha explained it was payment for the tax appropriation.

Commissioner Johnson inquired about the KLA payment, and wanted an update on the south development project. City Manager Uri said KLA is still on schedule and should be bringing us a design and price tag in the next few months.

Commissioner Pounds moved to approve appropriation ordinance #18. Commissioner Fraser seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Melina Hemphill spoke concerning the City's policy on adjustments for water leaks. She just paid a large bill, and said a leak had never been found on her side, but the usage is back to normal. Discussion included who's responsibility it is for leaks, and if the policy should be changed. Current policy states that any excessive usage created by a leak on the homeowner side will get an adjustment of half the actual water usage. Commissioner Johnson said if there was no proof where the water went, the homeowner shouldn't be responsible for the bill.

Commissioner Johnson moved to readjust her bill to an average bill. Commissioner Pounds seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

PROCLAMATIONS:

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Cameron Thurner introduced the proclamation and read it. Mayor Wentz declared October 2011 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

NEW BUSINESS:

KANSAS GAS SERVICE FRANCHISE

City Manager Uri presented the existing franchise, which was a 20 year franchise and is expiring. The old franchise required Kansas Gas Service to not only carry their own product to their customers, but gas sold by other companies. No franchise fee was charged to these other companies. The new franchise agreement allows for a 5% franchise fee for these companies, the same as Kansas Gas Service has been paying for many years.

Joe Sinnett, community relations manager of Kansas Gas Service, presented the new franchise agreement, which will be for only 10 years, with a 5 year renewal.

ORDINANCES:

2011-3024 KANSAS GAS SERVICE

PASSED

Thereupon, there was presented an ordinance entitled:

AN ORDINANCE, GRANTING TO KANSAS GAS SERVICE, A DIVISION OF ONEOK, INC., ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, A NATURAL GAS FRANCHISE, PRESCRIBING THE TERMS THEREOF AND RELATING THERETO, AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES INCONSISTENT WITH OR IN CONFLICT WITH THE TERMS HEREOF.

Thereupon, Commissioner Johnson moved that said ordinance be passed. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Fraser. 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 governing body, the vote being as follows:

Aye: Commissioners Wentz, Pounds, Johnson, Parker, and Fraser.

Nay: None.

Thereupon, the Mayor declared said ordinance duly passed and the ordinance was then duly numbered Ordinance No. 2011-3024 and was signed by the Mayor and the signature attested by the City Clerk.

RESOLUTIONS:

2011-1912 PRAIRIE LAND ANNEXATION

PASSED

Prairie Land's original franchise agreement states that a new substation would be erected, in the City limits. A new substation was built on their property west of town, rather than the north development as originally intended, as a satisfactory site could not be acquired. The resolution asks the County to allow the island annexation.

Thereupon, there was presented to the City Commission a Resolution entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF CONCORDIA, KANSAS, REQUESTING THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CLOUD COUNTY MAKE CERTAIN FINDINGS REGARDING THE ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY PURSUANT TO K.S.A. 12-520C.

The Resolution was considered and discussed; and thereupon on motion of Commissioner Parker, seconded by Mayor Wentz, the Resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Commissioners Wentz, Pounds, Johnson, Parker, and Fraser.

Nay: None.

Thereupon, the Mayor declared said Resolution duly passed and the Resolution was then duly numbered Resolution No. 2011-1912 was signed and approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Uri said a meeting was held earlier in the day with Spirit Industries, better known as "Project Bird" for the last several months. Representatives of the company offered advice on how to be better prepared for the next company who may want to come to Concordia. Concordia lost the new business to Chanute.

City Manager Uri said the City is acquiring lots due to homeowners forfeiting their property rather than adding the demo costs onto the property taxes and said there might be discussion on what to do with these properties.

City Manager Uri said he has completed the necessary paperwork to start proceeding with junk vehicle nuisances.

City Manager Uri said we had received a negative report from the State at the animal shelter. If repairs aren't made, or at least started, within 30 days, it must be shut down or suffer stiff penalties. City Manager Uri requested funds be taken from the animal shelter fund, and repairs begun immediately without the usual sealed bids process, due to time constraints.

Mayor Wentz moved to allow the City Manager to spend appropriate funds to bring the animal shelter up to code. Commissioner Pounds seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

City Manager Uri explained the possibility of purchasing new meters immediately to allow the entire city to be read remotely. At present, about one-quarter of all the City's meters have already been replaced. Doing this would save the City about \$41,000 a year in wages and benefits by not employing a meter reader, which would pay for the new meters in a matter of years. With bond interest at an all-time low, it was suggested this would be a good time to complete this project, rather than purchasing the meters gradually over a period of years. Commissioner Fraser requested a spreadsheet on the costs and savings before making a decision.

STAFF COMMENTS

Chris Edin introduced representatives from Huber & Associates, who presented a power point on their CAD system, to be used in the police department. He alerted everyone that a person is currently impersonating an undercover officer and this is being investigated. Mr. Edin also announced he is currently looking for another police officer.

Larry Eubanks gave an update on the number of fire calls for the month of September.

Ron Copple said the dirt work was done at Rasure Field. He invited the commission to the cemetery for a ceremony by the Lions Club, which is donating trees.

MAYOR/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Commissioner Pounds asked who swaths the grass by the college. It was answered Danny Marcotte. Commissioner Pounds received information about campground policies, which states how long someone can stay. Commissioner Pounds said the thirteen greyhound dogs had been moved out of the City limits.

ADJOURN

Mayor Wentz announced there would be a study session following the adjournment of the meeting.

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

(Seal)



Stacey Crum
City Clerk

CITY OF CONCORDIA

PROCLAMATION BY THE MAYOR

WHEREAS, domestic violence is an intolerable violent crime with public health implications for every person in **Concordia** as a victim/survivor or as a family member, significant other, neighbor or co-worker of a victim/survivor; and

WHEREAS, no one person, organization, agency or community can eliminate domestic violence on their own—we must work together to educate our entire population about what can be done to prevent domestic violence, support victim/survivors and their significant others, and increase support for agencies providing services to victim/survivors; and

WHEREAS, **The Domestic Violence Association of Central Kansas** has led the way in **Concordia** in addressing domestic violence assault by providing 24-hour hotline services to victim/survivors and their significant others, responding to emergency calls, offering support and comfort to those impacted by domestic violence during medical exams, criminal proceedings, and empowering those impacted by domestic violence to chart their own course for healing; and

WHEREAS, ending domestic violence in **Concordia** must include active public and private efforts to End Domestic Violence in collaboration with **The Domestic Violence Association of Central Kansas**, including conversation about what domestic violence is, how to prevent it, how to help survivors connect with crucial counseling and other support services, and how every segment of our society can work together to better address domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, staff and volunteers of domestic violence programs in **Concordia** work year round to encourage every person in **Concordia** to End Domestic Violence and to support survivors by providing prevention education and survivor empowerment information to schools, churches, civic organizations, as well as medical, mental health, law enforcement, education, and criminal justice personnel regarding domestic violence issues;

WHEREAS, **The Domestic Violence Association of Central Kansas** has set an important example of how forging collaborative relationships between service agencies and organizations serves to improve the quality of service for those most profoundly and directly impacted by domestic violence, thus setting an important example for how the rest of the community might work together to speak out and find solutions to domestic violence;

WHEREAS **The Domestic Violence Association of Central Kansas** requests public support and assistance as it continues its effort to bring real hope for freeing **Concordia** from the tragedy of domestic violence to create a future where all women, men and children can live free from violence and exploitation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I **Marsha Wentz**, Mayor of **Concordia, Kansas** do hereby proclaim the month of October 2011 as

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

In **Concordia** and I commend this observance to all citizens.

Marsha L. Wentz

Mayor's Signature

10-5-11

Date