

CITY OF SEVERY
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
FEBRUARY 5, 2024
7:00 P.M. AT CITY HALL, SEVERY KS

Present: Mayor Donna Wiss, Council Members Marc Warren, Lyle Riggs, Rodger Kraft, Kevin Klepper, Ron Robert (via zoom), Clerk Tessa Riggs, Treasurer Casandra Myers, Treasurer William McClendon and City Attorney Alleen VanBebber (via zoom)

Absent: Councilman Kevin Klepper

Guest: Robin Wunderlich, Mila Whittaker and Herschel West

Mayor Wiss called the regular business meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and roll was called.

Herschel West, manager of Waste Connections thanked the City for the business in the past 15 years and asked the council if there was anything they would like to see different with the refuse service Waste Connections is providing. Mr. West plans to submit a bid for the contract that will be coming up for renewal. At this time, the Council did not have any suggestions.

Kraft moved to approve the January 2024 minutes. Warren 2nd. Motion passed 4-0.

Warren moved to approve the January 2024 bills. Kraft 2nd. Motion passed 4-0.

Riggs moved to approve the January 2024 treasurer's report as presented. Kraft 2nd. Motion passed 4-0.

Warren moved to go into executive session for 5 minutes to consult with attorney for the City on matters subject to the attorney-client privilege and include Code Enforcement Officer Ken Kierl. Kraft 2nd. Motion passed 4-0.

Regular meeting was reconvened. No action taken.

Code Enforcement Officer Kierl addressed two items that will need revisited. 106 N. Severy Avenue was cited by registered mail in late November. No progress has been made and would like to proceed on to the next step. Kierl also stated that 401 N. Hobart Avenue has had numerous verbal complaints. Kierl's reported homeowner has been cited before on a past property address and the current property has several fire & health hazards. Warren moved to enter into the public record statement of code enforcement officer Ken Kierl as presented. Kraft 2nd. Motion passed 4-0.

Kraft moved to approve Kierl's report at 401 N. Hobart Avenue regarding Ordinance 431. Warren 2nd. Motion passed 4-0.

Riggs moved to approve to proceed with step one of the statement of the public officer and the violation of Ordinance 431 and for a motion for a resolution. Warren 2nd. Motion passed 4-0.

Water Superintendent Schmidt reported the rain has played a major factor in the roads being washed out, but the employees will get back on them. Schmidt also needs to order cold patch for the roads. Employee Plonka has been doing a lot of tree trimming around town. The whistle on the west side of the lake will need to be replaced as it has become smashed. The water plant has been having several issues. The foundation has been poured under the filter area. Councilman Robert explained that when something like this happens it needs fixed correctly so there will not be issues later.

Clerk Riggs needs to verify with the accountants the amount that was put in the 2024 budget prior to purchasing a new mower. Mayor Wiss is concerned about all the roads being in horrible shape. Councilman Riggs would like to have the employees use the roller to smooth out the spots. Warren stated the cold patch has to have tac oil in it or the City is wasting time and money.

Old Business. Clerk Riggs also stated that she has not heard from the Kansas Water Office regarding the status of the two grants she applied for. According to the KWO's website, their plans are to release the information in the first quarter of 2024. VanBebber mentioned that the City should go ahead and pay for the December invoice from APAC since it has been 30 days.

Mayor Wiss recommended the Council to hire William McClendon for the treasurer's position to replace Casandra Myers. McClendon introduced himself. McClendon just recently graduated law school and has a business finance degree from the University of Oklahoma. He took several accounting classes and keeps up with accounting in his day-to-day law firm and this position should be a simple task for him. Warren moved to hire William McClendon as treasurer. Riggs 2nd. Motion passed 4-0. Clerk Riggs will need to get McClendon added to the bank accounts and remove Casandra Myers. Myers offered to assist McClendon when needed.

New Business. Mila Whittaker, requested to address the Council. Whittaker questioned Ordinance 436 pertaining to water supply and sanitary sewer systems. Whittaker stated her rental home was not livable. Council members explained that according to the ordinance that set minimum monthly fees and charges for access to water and wastewater/sewer services will not be waived when water service is

discontinued, either at the request of the owner(s) of record or on the City's own volition.

Kraft moved to approve Jarred, Gilmore & Phillips to continue to serve as the City's accountants for the 2025 budget. Robert 2nd. Motion passed 4-0.

A special meeting has been set for Thursday, March 7th, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. for the council to review the refuse sealed bids.

Warren moved to donate \$100 for the West Elk after prom. Kraft 2nd. Motion passed 4-0.

Riggs moved to approve a vacant property owned by Jessica Vela to have an address of 304 North Mill for utility purposes. City Attorney VanBebber will need to complete legal paperwork. Warren 2nd. Motion passed 4-0.

Clerk Riggs mentioned January 15th was a federal holiday and the office was closed. Mayor Wiss had Clerk Riggs order a box that will attach to the door under the payment drop box. The box will hold self-adhesive envelopes the public can use to put their utility bill payment in. The council tabled this item until the March regular council meeting.

Warren requested Schmidt to get a culvert installed on North Park Ave and 15th St. due to being plugged.

Warren moved to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Kraft 2nd. Motion passed 4-0.