

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
January 3, 2023  
CITY HALL  
121 S. MERIDIAN

Mayor Cicirello called the regular council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Matt Stamm, Chris Evans, Clint Bass, Ben Anderson, Gina Gregory, Dale Kerstetter, Robert Wilson, and Ronald Colbert.

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Barry Arbuckle, City Attorney  
Lloyd Newman, Public Safety Director  
Ryan Shrack, Community Development Director  
Rodney Eggleston, Public Works Director  
Neal Owings, Parks and Public Building Director  
Gage Scheer, City Engineer  
Barry Smith, Asst. City Administrator  
Brent Clark, City Administrator  
Kristi Carrithers, City Clerk

Press present: Ark Valley News

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Gregory moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Evans. Vote yea: unanimous. Motion carried.

**ADMINISTRATION AGENDA –**

**DECEMBER 20, 2022, REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES-**

Evans to approve the minutes of the December 20, 2022, regular City Council meeting as presented, seconded by Bass. Vote yea: Unanimous Motion carried.

**PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS – None**

**PUBLIC FORUM – None.**

**APPOINTMENTS – None**

**OLD BUSINESS – None**

**NEW BUSINESS-**

**A. ORDINANCE 1384-23; LONGEVITY**

Asst. City Administrator of Smith presented Ordinance 1384-23 regarding Longevity years of service pay increase. Longevity pay increases are set by Ordinance and with approval of employee personnel manual effective 01/01/2023 an update is needed.

Colbert moved to approve Ordinance 1384-22 regarding longevity pay for 1<sup>st</sup> reading. Motion seconded by Evans. Vote yea: Unanimous Motion carried.

**B. APPROVAL OF FOOD FOR FINES PROGRAM**

Public Safety Director Newman asked for approval of the Food for Fines program. If approved, it will be run February 1st thru March 31st. All food is donated to the Ministerial Alliance to help the local community.

Anderson moved to approve Food for Fines program and set the amount per can/food item at \$5.00 with a maximum amount of \$50.00. Motion seconded by Kerstetter. Vote Yea: unanimous. Motion carried.

#### C. 2023 WATER RATE APPROVAL

Asst. City Administrator Smith presented a request for approval of 2023 City of Valley Center water rates. These are adjusted annually based on City of Wichita rate increases. Smith explained that the proposal holds the increase as low as possible. To offset the increase from City of Wichita, the proposal turns the convenience fees for use of debit/credit cards and the fee for online payments. These fees were waived at the start of the Covid pandemic. He stressed that no fee is incurred by the customer if paid with check, cash, or bank draft. Smith stated that holding the rate increase to 4% doesn't penalize those residents that pay with those methods. If approved increase would go into effect on March bills.

Stamm made motion to approve proposed 2023 water rates for the City of Valley Center.

- Increase sewer rates by the standard 2.5%
- Increase water rates for tier 1, 2, and 3 by 4%
- Turn on convenience fees for any utility payment made with a debit/credit card at 2.5%
- Turn on convenience fees for online and IVR payments charged by Incode (\$1.25)

Motion seconded by Anderson. Vote Yea: unanimous. Motion carried.

#### D. FEE SCHEDULE DISCUSSION

Asst. City Administrator Smith led discussion regarding update to formal fee schedule. He explained that staff had reviewed all fees including old or outdated fees in Ordinances. Following discussion, Smith will finalize fee schedule and seek final approval at the January 17th meeting. Kerstetter asked if business license fees are listed on this schedule. Smith stated they will be added to the schedule for approval.

#### E. ACCEPTANCE OF BID FOR DUMP TRUCK

Parks and Public Buildings Director Owings reported that one bid was received for the 1999 GMC dump truck. He stated that it was a fair and competitive bid in the amount of \$15,750.00, and recommended acceptance of the bid.

Evans moved to accept bid from Kurt Bachman in the amount of \$15,750.00 for the 1999 GMC 1ton dump truck. Motion seconded by Anderson. Vote Yea: unanimous. Motion carried.

#### F. APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH PEC FOR WATER MASTER PLAN

City Engineer Gage Scheer presented agreement with PEC for the water master plan and water model analysis. He explained that it will evaluate the system for current and future growth of Valley Center. Gregory questioned the words "choose an item" that was listed throughout the document. Clark recommended tabling approval of the agreement until it can be reviewed and re-written.

Kerstetter moved to table the approval of agreement with PEC until the January 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. Gregory seconded the motion. Vote Yea. unanimous. Motion carried.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### A. APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE – JANUARY 3, 2023

Wilson moved, seconded by Colbert to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Vote Yea: Unanimous. Motion carried.

### **STAFF REPORTS**

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR SHRACK

Main Street Valley Center will have their annual meeting beginning at 6:00pm at LeVenue, January 12, 2023. The Home Show in Wichita will be held in March this year. Shrack will have dates and volunteer sign-up sheet soon.

**PARKS AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS DIRECTOR OWINGS**

Reminded everyone that drop off for recycling of live Christmas trees is located in Veterans Park until January 20<sup>th</sup>.

**PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR EGGLESTON**

Eggleson updated Council on projects throughout the city.

**GOVERNING BODY REPORTS –**

**COUNCILMEMBER GREGORY**

There will be a SCAC meeting on January 14<sup>th</sup> beginning at 8:30am.

**COUNCILMEMBER COLBERT**

Distributed information regarding upcoming topics for discussion at legislative sessions. Stated that he had been contacted regarding trash issues from residents, however, it was determined they do not reside within the city limits of Valley Center.

Colbert moved to adjourn, second by Kerstetter. Vote Yea: Unanimous.

**ADJOURN -**

**Meeting adjourned at 7:39pm.**

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**Kristi Carrithers, City Clerk**