

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

April 15, 2025

CITY HALL

121 S. MERIDIAN

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

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Kyle Fiedler, Community Development Director  
Rodney Eggleston, Public Works Director  
Neal Owings, Parks and Public Building Director  
Gage Scheer, City Engineer  
Clint Miller, Finance Director  
Kristi Carrithers, City Clerk/HR Director  
Barry Arbuckle, City Attorney  
Brent Clark, City Administrator

Press present: Ark Valley News

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA -**

Wilson made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Anderson seconded the motion. Vote: Aye Unanimous Motion carried.

**ADMINISTRATION AGENDA –**

**APRIL 1, 2025, CITY COUNCIL MINUTES-**

Bass moved to approve the minutes of April 1, 2025, City Council meeting as presented, seconded by Anderson. Vote Aye: Unanimous. Motion Carried.

**PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS –**

**A. THE INSURANCE GUYS – EMC DIVIDEND CHECK PRESENTATION**

Marsha Tormey with The Insurance Guys presented a dividend check from EMC in the amount of \$18,121.31.

**B. PUBLIC SERVICES RECOGNITION WEEK PROCLAMATION**

Mayor Truman read a Proclamation declaring May 4-10, 2025, Public Service Recognition Week.in the City of Valley Center.

**PUBLIC FORUM – None**

**APPOINTMENTS –**

**A. PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD**

Mayor Truman requested Council approve re-appointment of Gary Janzen to term ending April 2028. Kerstetter moved to approve re-appointment of Gary Janzen as recommended. Bass seconded the motion. Vote Aye: Unanimous. Motion carried.

Mayor Truman requested Council approve the re-appointment of Scot Philips to term ending April 2028. Bass moved to approve re-appointment of Scot Philips as recommended. Gregory seconded the motion. Vote Aye: Unanimous. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS –**

**A. ORDINANCE 1422-25: RE-ZONE 135 N ASH**

Community Development Director Fiedler presented Ordinance 1422-25 for second reading. Kerstetter noted that he is usually not in favor of multifamily housing, but because this already has other multifamily housing across the street, he might support the re-zoning. Lengthy discussion followed with

Council members raising concerns about parking, the R4 designation for high density zone, the veto of a recent re-zone request and not having plans come back before either Planning and Zoning Board or Council for final approval. Anderson and Gregory both said that they would consider re-zoning to R2 but felt that R4 wasn't warranted.

Gregory made motion to approve for 2nd reading Ordinance 1422-25 which re-zones property located at 135 N Ash Ave. from R-1B to R-4 for 2nd reading. Motion seconded by Wilson. Vote Aye: Colbert, Opposed: Wilson, Bass, Anderson, Gregory, Kerstetter, Evans and Stamm Motion did not pass.

#### **B. REQUEST FOR FUNDING FROM VALLEY CENTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

As this request was tabled from the April 1<sup>st</sup>. Council meeting, Finance Director Miller presented recommendation to re-allocate budgeted funds from Community Development. A \$3000.00 donation to the Historical Society could be given by lowering the KPTS and billboard advertising by \$1500.00 each. Lori Sherrill, Valley Center Historical Society President reported to Council that they have begun getting quotes on replacement windows. Initial quotes are \$1800.00 per window so they will set a much larger goal of perhaps \$50,000.00. Council members gave them several sources for window replacement. Kerstetter moved to approve 2025 donation to the Valley Center Historical Society in the amount of \$3000.00. Motion seconded by Anderson. Vote Aye: Unanimous. Motion carried.

#### **NEW BUSINESS-**

##### **A. REQUEST FOR SIGN WAIVER VALLEY CENTER SWIM CLUB**

Kristina House, with the Valley Center Purple Wave Swim Team requested a waiver to place signs in the right-of-way for 2 weeks prior to their registration event on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Stamm confirmed that staff would not remove signs.

Bass moved to approve waiver for the placement in public right-of way sign regulations for the Valley Center Purple Wave Swim Club for two weeks prior to April 27<sup>th</sup>. Motion seconded by Anderson. Vote Aye: Unanimous. Motion carried.

##### **B. REQUEST FOR SIGN WAIVER VALLEY CENTER CHAMBER GARAGE SALES**

Allison Clubb, VCCC Executive Director requested a waiver to allow participants in the city-wide garage sales to place signs in ROW on April 24<sup>th</sup> thru April 27<sup>th</sup>.

Bass moved to approve waiver for the placement in public right-of way sign regulations for the Valley Center Chamber of Commerce Spring Garage Sales on April 24<sup>th</sup> through April 27<sup>th</sup>. Motion seconded by Colbert. Vote Aye: Unanimous. Motion carried.

##### **C. APPROVAL OF HORNET HUSTLE RACE**

Sam Clubb, member of the Hornet Hustle committee requested staff assistance with the VC elementary schools and Intermediate schools annual Hornet Hustle race. This activity is one of the PTO's main fundraisers. Although no streets will be closed, assistance with stopping traffic as runners cross Meridian and 5<sup>th</sup> street is needed.

Kerstetter moved to approve staff assistance for the Hornet Hustle on September 6, 2025. Motion seconded by Evans. Vote Aye: unanimous. Motion carried.

##### **D. ACCEPTANCE OF AWARD FOR VEHICLE PURCHASE FOR SENIOR AND DISABLED INDIVIDUALS**

Senior Coordinator, Scharlene Porchia-Washington presented Notice of award for the purchase of vehicle to be used by Valley Center Seniors and Disabled Individuals. The Federal Award is \$107,678.00 with the City required match of \$19,002.60. She explained the process of the award and how the van will be used by the senior for activities. She will be the driver and use the 15-passenger van to transport seniors to planned senior activities outside of Valley Center. It will be parked in the Public Works yard. Finance Director stated that funding of the project can be used from the vehicle fleet fund, but the ability to acquire this type of vehicle for a match of \$19,002.60, is such a great opportunity the funds will be found. Evans moved to accept award and approval of matching funds to purchase the vehicle in the amount of \$19,002.60. Second by Kerstetter. Vote Aye: unanimous. Motion carried.

##### **E. ORDINANCE 1423-25; ANNEX 8.68 ACRES 85<sup>TH</sup> & HOOVER**

Community Development Director Fiedler presented Ordinance 1423-25 for 1<sup>st</sup> reading. A request to annex approximately 8.68 acres southeast of the 85th and Hoover intersection was received. Sedgwick County approved the City of Valley Center request for island annexation at the April 2, 2025, meeting. Fiedler explained there are no plans for sewer or water, but it would be on city trash and stormwater. Sedgwick County would still have road maintenance. Neighbors would not be notified until a re-zone or plat change is requested. Kerstetter noted he would like to have criteria on minimum acreage for annexations. Truman stated he also would hesitate to approve annexation of smaller areas. Numerous residents spoke in opposition to the ordinance to annex the property. Most addressed the desire to retain the open large lots they expected when they purchased property. Many could not see any benefit to the City if that parcel was annexed. Another concern was the possibility of a venue being developed that would bring in traffic and noise. The property owner stated they have plans to build a homestead family compound and a youth center venue. They felt their plans would not be disruptive to the area.

Further discussion from Council was held.

Bass moved to approve 1<sup>st</sup> reading of Ordinance 1423-25 regarding annexation of approximately 8.68 acres southeast of the 85<sup>th</sup> and Hoover intersection. Motion seconded by Gregory. Vote Aye: Colbert. Opposed: Wilson, Bass, Anderson, Gregory, Kerstetter, Evans and Stamm. Motion did not pass.

#### **F. APPROVAL OF BID – MOWING SERVICES**

Parks and Public Buildings Director Owings presented proposals received for 2025 Mowing Services. Three bids were submitted for all properties with the lowest qualified bid from Cut Rates Lawn Care. Owings stated that having outside contract for mowing and the Turf, Tree and Vegetation Mgt. allows his staff to prioritize other tasks necessary. Owings requested authorization of \$68,200.00 for selected specific properties. Kerstetter noted the difference in the bid and the contract amount. Owings explained that the bid was for all areas within the City, his crew will maintain some parks and other areas. Bass moved to accept bid for 2025 mowing services from Cut Rates Lawn Services and authorize \$68,200.00 for selected specific properties. Motion seconded by Anderson. Vote Aye: Unanimous. Motion carried.

#### **G. APPROVAL OF BID – TURF, TREE AND VEGETATION MGT. SERVICES**

Parks and Public Buildings Director Owings presented proposals received for 2025 Turf, Tree and Vegetation Mgt. Services. Four bids were submitted with the lowest qualified bid from Dragonfly Lawn & Tree in the amount of \$25,020.75. Councilmember Stamm questioned whether the bid from Dragonfly is a reputable bid as it is considerably lower than the others. Owings said they currently have been doing the management services and are very good and easy to work with. Anderson stated that this contract is even more necessary as an outside company has the right equipment and experience to deal with chemicals.

Evans moved to accept the bid for 2025 Turf, Tree and Vegetation Mgt. services from Dragonfly Lawn & Tree Care in the amount of \$25,020.75. Second by Kerstetter. Vote Aye: Unanimous. Motion carried.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE – APRIL 15, 2025**
- B. SPECIAL USE PARK REQUEST – VC LIBRARY- JUNE 11, 2025**
- C. TREASURER REPORT -DECEMBER 2024**
- D. CHECK RECONCILIATION- DECEMBER 2024**
- E. REVENUE AND EXPENSE REPORT – DECEMBER 2024**
- F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD MINUTES – APRIL 2, 2025**
- G. PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD MINUTES – MARCH 25, 2025**
- H. VALLEY CENTER PUBLIC LIBRARY REPORTS – 1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER 2025**

Stamm moved, second by Evans, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Vote Aye: unanimous. Motion carried.

### **STAFF REPORTS**

#### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR FIEDLER**

Fiedler reminded Council Sedgwick County will host 2 meetings regarding floodplain mapping changes. Meeting #1 will be held April 21<sup>st</sup> from 2:00-6:30pm in the Sedgwick County Public Works training room. The second meeting will be held April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 2:00-6:30pm at Bentley City Hall. Fiedler announced that the opening of Farmer's Market is May 1<sup>st</sup> from 4:00-7:30. They will be held the first and third Thursday of each month through the summer.

#### PARKS AND PUBLIC BUILDING DIRECTOR OWINGS

Announced that all trees have been planted for the North Meridian Project. The Parks department has provided property owners with notices regarding the maintenance of the trees, although the department will watch to make sure they are being cared for.

The Public Library and Lions Club event will take place this Saturday in Lions Park.

#### PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR EGGLESTON

Gave a report for South Meridian. Pending weather delays, the roundabout is on schedule.

The base on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street has been poured. All of Ash street has been milled in preparation to be poured.

#### CITY ENGINEER SCHEER

Preliminary plans for Seneca are finished so bidding should be at the end of summer. Councilmember Wilson inquired whether the timing will be coordinated with the opening of the new school.

#### FINANCE DIRECTOR MILLER

Reported that accounts are now fully integrated with People's Bank. All automated systems and drafts are working as they should. He was also pleased that we are getting the rates promised.

#### **GOVERNING BODY REPORTS-**

##### MAYOR TRUMAN

Recognized the work on the streets here in town.

##### COUNCILMEMBER COLBERT

Thanked the public works department for the sidewalks. Has heard from residents how much they appreciate them.

##### COUNCILMEMBER BASS

Announced that he will be moving at the end of May.

##### COUNCILMEMBER GREGORY

Urged everyone to support the Farmer's Market on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

##### COUNCILMEMBER STAMM

Urged the Ark Valley News to report on Council correctly as people do closely read the stories. Noted that in the April 3 edition, it failed to note that Kerstetter was absent from the meeting.

Stamm moved to adjourn, second by Kerstetter. Vote Aye: Unanimous.

#### **ADJOURN -**

**The meeting adjourned at 8:36 PM.**

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**Kristi Carrithers, City Clerk/HR Director**