

**CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF PRAIRIE VILLAGE  
May 5, 2014**

The City Council of Prairie Village, Kansas, met in regular session on Monday, May 5, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Building, 7700 Mission Road, Prairie Village, Kansas.

**ROLL CALL**

Mayor Ron Shaffer called the meeting to order and roll call was taken with the following Council members present: Ashley Weaver, Jori Nelson, Ruth Hopkins, Steve Noll, Eric Mikkelson, Andrew Wang, Laura Wassmer, Brooke Morehead, Dan Runion, Courtney McFadden, Ted Odell and Terrence Gallagher.

Also present were: Wes Jordan, Chief of Police; Keith Bredehoeft, Director of Public Works; Katie Logan, City Attorney; Quinn Bennion, City Administrator; Kate Gunja, Assistant City Administrator; Lisa Santa Maria, Finance Director; Danielle Dulin, Assistant to the City Administrator; Nic Sanders, Human Resources Manager and Joyce Hagen Mundy, City Clerk.

Mayor Shaffer led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

New Business owner Brian Murray appeared before the Council. He opened Fountain City Properties approximately 8 months ago, focusing on home renovations. His first project is a home in Prairie Village near HyVee and Weltner Park.

Mayor Shaffer recognized a boy scout from Troop 98 present to earn his "Citizenship in the Community" badge.

## CONSENT AGENDA

Brooke Morehead requested that item #1 & #5 be removed from the Consent Agenda. Ashley Weaver moved the approval of the Consent Agenda for Monday, May 5, 2014 with the removal of #1 & #5:

1. Removed - Approve Regular Council Meeting Minutes - April 21, 2014
2. Approve Claims Ordinance 2917
3. Approve Villagefest contracts with Omni Entertainment for the Headlining Band and Clement McCrae Puppets for puppet shows in the amount of \$2,615.00
4. Approve Villagefest contracts with Sister Act Face Painting and the Photo Bus in the amount of \$3,440.00
5. Removed - Approve the purchase of two 2014 Harley Davidson Road King motorcycles for \$7,322.42 per unit from Worth Harley Davidson
6. Authorize the Mayor to execute a proclamation recognizing May 11 - 17 as "National Police Week"
7. Authorize the Mayor to execute a proclamation recognizing May 4 - 10 as "Municipal Clerk's Week"
8. Approve the purchase of a replacement drainage camera system at a cost of \$94,050 from Key Equipment and Supply Company and the disposal of assets #1262 and #474 with a trade-in value of \$15,000 bringing the purchase cost to \$79,050

A roll call vote was taken with the following members voting "aye": Weaver, Nelson, Hopkins, Noll, Mikkelson, Wang, Wassmer, Morehead, Runion, McFadden, Odell and Gallagher.

Brooke Morehead noted a misspelling of her name on the first page of the minutes. The minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of April 21, 2014 were approved as corrected.

Mrs. Morehead asked for further information on item #5. Chief Jordan noted that four bids were received with Worth Harley Davidson submitting the lowest bid. The department typically rotates the motorcycle fleet every two years keeping the maintenance costs down and trade-in values high. He noted since the current cycles were received late in the year these units were kept for an additional year resulting in

lower trade-in value and a higher cost for the new model year cycle. The additional costs will be absorbed in the 2014 Public Safety Budget.

Laura Wassmer moved the City Council approve the purchase of two 2014 Harley Davidson Road King motorcycles for \$7,322.42 per unit from Worth Harley Davidson. The motion was seconded by Brooke Morehead and passed unanimously.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Shaffer reported he represented the City at several events during the past weeks including MARC Board meeting, Five year anniversary of the Research Triangle, Overland Park Mayors' Prayer Breakfast, Ribbon Cutting and dedication of the "Prairie Evolution" art sculpture at the Corinth Shopping Center, Granthurst Homes Association revitalization meeting, Johnson County Museum Foundation annual dinner, League of Women's voters legislative session on the status of the Kansas Budget and League of Women's presentation of the "Making Democracy Work" award to Johnson County Election Commissioner Brian Newby, UCS Board meeting and the Westwood Hills Homes Tour celebrating the recent designation as a National Historic District.

### **Update from Northeast Johnson County Chamber of Commerce**

Mayor Shaffer called upon Deb Settles, President of the Northeast Johnson County Chamber of Commerce to update the Council on Chamber events. Ms Settles reviewed the purpose of the chamber and highlighted chamber activities and events. There are 51 Prairie Village businesses that participate in the chamber. She noted the new chamber website provides a direct link to each of the participating cities websites. The chamber is also a partner in the Kansas City Area Development Council (KCADC).

She invited and urged council members to participate in any of the Northeast Johnson County Chamber or KCADC events.

Mayor Shaffer reviewed the 2014 edition of the Kansas Tax Rate & Fiscal Data Book published in the March issue of the Kansas Government Journal. He pointed out that the City of Prairie Village has the second lowest indebtedness at \$7,200,000 and the second lowest mill levy at 19.49 of all first class cities in the state of Kansas. It is also one of very few cities with an Aaa bond rating.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Council Committee of the Whole**

**COU2014-12 Consider Easement Acquisition Services Agreement with Skeen Consulting Services, Inc. for Project 75ST0001 - 75th Street from State Line Road to Mission Road**

On behalf of the Council Committee of the Whole, Council President Ashley Weaver moved the City Council approve an agreement with Skeens Consulting Services, Inc. for Project 75ST0001: 75th Street Rehabilitation from State Line Road to Mission Road in the amount of \$28,975.00. The motion was seconded by Andrew Wang and passed unanimously.

**COU2014-13 Consider authorizing the Public Works Director to acquire easements for Project 75ST0001: 75th Street from State Line Road to Mission Road**

On behalf of the Council Committee of the Whole, Council President Ashley Weaver moved the City Council authorize the Public Works Director to acquire easements for 61 tracts of land valued at \$162,869 and the ability to negotiate 20% over this amount up to a total of \$196,000. The motion was seconded by Andrew Wang and passed unanimously.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **Public Safety**

- Chief Jordan noted his presentation and the tactical squad demonstration at the Northeast Leadership Program.
- Plans are being made for the 2014 Police Citizens Academy to be held this fall. Council members were encouraged to participate.
- Chief Jordan reviewed the 2014 first quarter crime statistics noting an exceptional first quarter compared to past years at the last meeting and confirmed that the statistics for the City of Mission Hills were exceptional as well.

### **Public Works**

- Keith Bredehoeft reported the city received an Award of Merit from the Kansas City Area Historical Trails Association for its assistance with the trail designation at Weltner Park.
- The flashing crosswalk for Weltner Park is working well.
- Mr. Bredehoeft provided a brief update on infrastructure projects.

### **Administration**

- Kate Gunja announced that an offer has been made for a new Court Administrator.
- The RV work group will meet this Wednesday. Jori Nelson stated she knew of residents that wanted to attend that meeting.
- Danielle Dulin announced that all pool management positions have been filled, lifeguards are in training and memberships are being sold.
- The Legislative session is over and Ms Dulin will be distributing a summary of the session to council members.
- Quinn Bennion announced that the third council orientation session will be later in the week.
- Staff continues to have dialog with Google but has not received any firm commitment to when they will be moving forward in Prairie Village.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Ted Odell moved to remove from the table consideration of the ratification of the Mayor's reappointment of the following individuals: James Dinesen, Richard Webber, Dick Kaufman, John Wilinski, Michael Arrandale-Arnold, Susan Giffin, Karin McAdams, Benjamin Claypool, Penny Mahon, Diane Mares, Lindsay Ridder, T. Truss Tyson, Robert Glywa, Peter Jarosewycz, Ivan Novikov, Greg VanBooven and Deborah Nixon.

The motion was seconded by Terrence Gallagher and past by a vote of 11 to 1 with Ruth Hopkins voting in opposition.

Mr. Odell stated he supports taking action on the reappointments of all the committee members except that of the Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals.

Mayor Shaffer noted the discussion at the last meeting was regarding reappointments as a whole with the desire for term limits, getting new individuals on committees and the reappointment process. He questioned why he was wanting to move forward now with reappointments except for two individuals.

Mr. Odell responded that he felt the Planning Commission should be looked at individually. Ashley Weaver added that the Commission has the power to make decisions without oversight by the City Council and some Council members feel they should have more say in who is appointed to the Commission. Jori Nelson felt this should be looked at separately because of the number of individuals seeking to be on the Commission and that new members should be brought onto the Commission.

Mayor Shaffer asked if she wanted new members on all committees or just the Planning Commission. Ms. Nelson responded that there should be review of a different process for reappointment and how people are appointed to other boards as well. It should not be automatic. Mayor Shaffer responded it is not automatic.

Ruth Hopkins stated the Council has not determined what process it wants to follow and the committee members are still acting on their respective committees. She believes the Council needs to decide what it is doing before taking action.

Ted Odell noted the process will not happen overnight. These committee members may lose interest in volunteering if not reappointed. Ruth Hopkins responded

that is how she felt at the last meeting when the Council failed to act on the reappointments. The damage has been done.

Terrence Gallagher noted the committees with reappointments being proposed do not have the significant impact on the City that the Planning Commission has. The process needs to be reviewed and we do not know how long it will take. These committee members can be reappointed for a three year term and when their term is over the new process will be in place. It is about process not individuals.

Mayor Shaffer stated at the last meeting several council members stated that they wanted to "shake things up" that they wanted new blood on committees that changes need to be made.

Laura Wassmer agrees that the decisions made by the tree board and park & recreation committee are very different decisions than those made by the Planning Commission. She is bringing new people on the Park & Recreation committee. As Park Chair, she has reviewed and interviewed all eligible volunteers wanting to serve on the parks committee. She noted because of ward restrictions many of them are not eligible. If the Planning Commission is the main committee that is causing the concern she does not see the need to hold up the other reappointments. She asked the committee on committees to consider removing the ward restrictions that are preventing people from serving on the park committee.

Mayor Shaffer asked if the Council was wanting to take action on all the reappointments except the two Planning Commission members.

Ted Odell stated the Council could vote on each committee reappointment individually.

Eric Mikkelson stated the committee on committees is in the process of looking at all committees, not just the Planning Commission. It is looking at consolidating committees, changing committee structure and other options. He feels no action should be taken on reappointments until decisions on committees has been made. He agrees that the Planning Commission has different power and character but believes that all committees should be treated the same. He does not see any harm in not taking action now as the committee members are still allowed to serve.

Andrew Wang would prefer to take action on the reappointments and then move forward on discussions of process and structure.

Jori Nelson stated the reappointment could be made with the understanding that committee structure may change and if the volunteers don't like it they can resign.

Ted Odell noted the discussion is about streamlining committees. He does not want to deter people from volunteering. He does not want people to be in limbo.

Eric Mikkelson noted that some of the reappointments have been on committees for more than 20 years and there are people seeking a position on that committee. This is causing inadequate consideration to be given to new applicants.

Mayor Shaffer asked what happens for future appointments or reappointments. Ted Odell responded until the process is changed the existing process if followed with the Mayor making appointment with the ratification of the Council.

Ted Odell moved the City Council ratify the following Mayor's reappointments:

Animal Control Board	James Dinesen	04/2016
Animal Control Board	Richard Webber	04/2016
Communications Committee	John Wilinski	04/2017
Communications Committee	Michael Arrandale-Arnold	04/2017
Communications Committee	Susan Giffin	04/2017
Environment/Recycle Committee	Karin McAdams	04/2017
Environment/Recycle Committee	Benjamin Claypool	04/2017



Environment/Recycle Committee	Penny Mahon	04/2017
Park & Recreation Committee	Diane Mares	04/2017
Prairie Village Arts Council	Lindsay Ridder	04/2017
Prairie Village Arts Council	T. Truss Tyson	04/2017
Sister City Committee	Robert Glywa	04/2017
Sister City Committee	Peter Jarosewycz	04/2017
Sister City Committee	Ivan Novikov	04/2017
Tree Board	Greg VanBooven	04/2017
Tree Board	Deborah Nixon	04/2017

The motion was seconded by Laura Wassmer.

Courtney McFadden asked why this can't wait. Eric Mikkelson stated he is uncomfortable treating the Planning Commission differently and does not feel action needs to be taken now.

Brooke Morehead stated the Committee on committees is looking at changing the process, if committee's are beneficial to the City and if the committees are involved.

Laura Wassmer questioned if she could move forward on appointments prior to changes being made. She was advised that appointments could be made following the process in place.

Steve Noll questioned ratifying reappointments if committees are going to be removed. Ted Odell stated the committee is looking at streamlining the process. It is not discussing terminating committees. Mayor Shaffer asked what he meant by "streamlining". Mr. Odell responded they are looking at ways to reduce staff time involved in committees and noted that no changes may come out of the discussion.

Eric Mikkelson stated by reappointing these individuals who have kept those committee positions occupied preventing individuals wanting to become involved and serve on the committees from doing so.

Andrew Wang confirmed that if no action is taken on the reappointments the members may continue to serve on the committees.

The motion was voted on and passed by a 9 to 3 vote with Noll, Mikkelson and McFadden voting in opposition.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Ward Meeting**

Jori Nelson requested funds to hold a Ward 1 meetings. Quinn Bennion noted that there is funding in place in the 2014 budget for possibly two Ward meetings. However, he noted there is no process in place to determine how the funds are distributed.

Andrew Wang requested that if funds were distributed for a Ward meeting he would like to receive a report on how the funds were used, how many people attended the meeting, etc.

Laura Wassmer stated Ward 4 would also like to have funds for a ward meeting.

It was the consensus of the Council that Ward 1 and 4 receive funding to hold Ward meetings with a report on the use of funds and the meeting given to the City Council after the event.

### **Donation**

Jori Nelson asked that the City support the Shawnee Mission East Graduation Night Alcohol Free Party with a donation of \$1000. She sees this as a culmination of the city's support of drug free/alcohol free programs such as DARE.

Laura Wassmer noted this was funded in the past and that she personally supports the event, but noted difficulties in determining who receives funding and who does not.

Jori Nelson noted that are only two high schools in the City. The city could start by supporting SME this year.

Ruth Hopkins noted the city in the past received several requests for support of school functions. Courtney McFadden noted the Shawnee Mission East Robotics team needs money.

Laura Wassmer stated that although she supports the event, should the city be using taxpayer money from her retired neighbors to support a high school party. Ms. Nelson asked then why is it used for private city parties.

Andrew Wang noted a number of Prairie Village families have students who do not attend Shawnee Mission East and he feels this is totally a parent responsibility and does not support public funding from the City.

Jori Nelson moved the City Council approve a donation of \$1,000 to the Shawnee Mission East Graduation Night Event. The motion was seconded by Ashley Weaver and failed by a vote of 3 to 9.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Committee meetings scheduled for the next two weeks include:**

Planning Commission	05/06/2014	7:00 p.m.
Tree Board	05/07/2014	6:00 p.m.
Sister City Committee	05/12/2014	7:00 p.m.
Parks & Recreation Committee	05/14/2014	7:00 p.m.
Council Committee of the Whole	05/19/2014	6:00 p.m.
City Council	05/19/2014	7:30 p.m.

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The Prairie Village Arts Council is pleased to present an oil and acrylic exhibit by Wayne Wilkes as the May exhibit in the R. G. Enders Gallery. The artist reception will be Friday, May 9th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Recreation memberships are on sale through the City Clerk's Office. The pool opens on Saturday, May 24th at 11 a.m.

City offices will be closed Monday, May 26th in observance of the Memorial Day holiday. Deffenbaugh also observes this holiday so trash pick-up will be delayed one day.

The Prairie Village Art Fair will be May 30th through June 1st.

Ted Odell noted KCDAC will be holding a meeting on May 8th at 7:30 a.m. at the Overland Park Convention Center and encouraged council members to attend if possible.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Ashley Weaver moved pursuant to KSA 75-4319 (b) (1) that the Governing Body recess into Executive Session in the Multi-Purpose Room for a period not to exceed 15 minutes for the purpose of consulting with the City Attorney on matters of pending litigation. Present will be the Mayor, City Council, City Administrator, City Attorney and Chief of Police. The motion was seconded by Ruth Hopkins and passed unanimously.

Mayor Shaffer reconvened the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Ashley Weaver moved pursuant to KSA 75-4319 (b) (6) that the Governing Body, recess into Executive Session in the Multi-Purpose Room for a period not to exceed 40 minutes for the purpose of discussing possible acquisition of property. Present will be the Mayor, City Council, City Administrator, Assistant to the City Administrator and City Attorney. The motion was seconded by Courtney McFadden and passed unanimously.

Mayor Shaffer reconvened the City Council meeting at 10:20 p.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the City Council the meeting was adjourned at 10:21 p.m.

Joyce Hagen Mundy  
City Clerk