

**CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF PRAIRIE VILLAGE  
August 4, 2014**

The City Council of Prairie Village, Kansas, met in regular session on Monday, August 4, 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: Jori Nelson, Ruth Hopkins, Steve Noll, 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 and Joyce Hagen Mundy, City Clerk.

Mayor Shaffer led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC HEARING - 2015 BUDGET HEARING**

**Adoption of the 2015 Budget for the City of Prairie Village**

Finance Director Lisa Santa Maria reviewed the process followed in the preparation of the City's 2015 budget. The proposed budget of \$28,127,241 reflects the following goals: 1) maintain high quality services and programs, 2) maintain quality streets, parks and infrastructure, 3) continue strong financial condition, 4) maintain AAA

bond rating, 5) increase financial transparency and 6) Increase citizen participation in budget issues.

The 2015 budget is balanced with the existing mill levy rate of 19.490 and maintains the same level of services with enhancements to 1) Capital Infrastructure Program to \$3.1 million; 2) Increased Parks & Grounds fund by \$10,000 for tree removal and maintenance; 3) Increased funding to address Emerald Ash Borer infestation to \$100,000 and 4) Added part-time Codes Enforcement Officer. There is a nominal overall increase in the 2015 General Fund department budgets of 2.1%.

The stormwater utility fee rate remains at the current rate of \$0.040/square foot of impervious area and the annual household assessment for Solid Waste Management services remains the same at \$174.00. A 10% increase for health insurance has been budgeted as well as a 0.9% increase in the city's required contribution to KPERS and a 3.5% employee merit pool. The anticipated ending fund balance is 25% with a general contingency fund of \$500,000.

The 2015 budget includes a transfer of \$3.1 million from the General Fund to the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The total CIP budget for 2015 is \$7,958,386.

Mayor Shaffer opened the public hearing for comments. No one was present to address the Council on the proposed 2015 budget. Mayor Shaffer closed the public hearing at 7:42 p.m.

Laura Wassmer noted the average Prairie Village homeowner pays only \$500 for all the services provided by the City.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Kyle Baker, 8235 Linden Drive, a student from Shawnee Mission East working on his Eagle Badge was in attendance.

John Anderson, 4402 West 63<sup>rd</sup> Terrace, expressed his disappointment with the lack of resident participation and attendance at City Council meetings and encourages the council members to seek more involvement from residents.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Andrew Wang moved the approval of the Consent Agenda for Monday, August 1, 2014:

1. Approve Regular Council Meeting Minutes - July 21, 2014
2. Approve Construction Change Order #1 (Final) with Kansas Heavy Construction, LLC for the 2014 Concrete Repair Program in the amount of \$12,611.13
3. Approve the School Crossing Guard Agreement with Securities Security Services USA Inc. for the 2014-2015 school year

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

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Shaffer reported he represented the City at the following events during the past weeks: Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce/Northeast Johnson County Chamber debate for Johnson County Commission Chairman candidates, employee appreciation event at the Royals and the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Prairie Village Police Department Golf Tournament benefitting Special Olympics. .

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Council Committee of the Whole**

COU2014-29 Consider approval of a Construction Administration Agreement with TranSystems for the 2014 Construction Projects

On behalf of the Council Committee of the Whole, Acting Council President Andrew Wang moved the City Council approve the Construction Administration Agreement with TranSystems for 2014 Construction Projects at a cost of \$103,160.00. The motion was seconded by Laura Wassmer and passed unanimously.

COU2014-30 Consider approval of an Additional Construction Inspection FTE for the Public Works Department

On behalf of the Council Committee of the Whole, Acting Council President Andrew Wang moved the City Council approve the addition of an additional construction inspector FTE for the Public Works Department. The motion was seconded by Laura Wassmer and passed unanimously.

COU2014-31 Consider approval of a construction contract for the 2014 Parks Projects

On behalf of the Council Committee of the Whole, Acting Council President Andrew Wang moved the City Council authorize the Mayor to execute the Construction Contract with Cobra Contractors, LLC for the 2014 Parks Projects in the amount of \$249,555. The motion was seconded by Laura Wassmer and passed unanimously.

COU2014-32 Consider approval of Emerald Ash Tree (EBA) Removal Plan for 2014

On behalf of the Council Committee of the Whole Acting Council President Andrew Wang moved the City Council approve the Emerald Ash Tree (EBA) removal plan for 2014. The motion was seconded by Jori Nelson and passed unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS

**Public Safety**

- Chief Jordan reported that Officer Kyle Shipps is retiring later this month.
- The Citizens' Police Academy will begin September 10<sup>th</sup>. He had applications available for the academy.

- Department staff will be meeting with all the area school principals regarding opening day procedures and related traffic concerns. Officers will be on hand the first few days of school to assist with traffic and pedestrian/school crossings.
- Councilman Noll commended the Department on their handling of an incident the past weekend with a visiting couple from out of the area.

### **Public Works**

- The Harmon Park Tennis Court rehabilitation project has begun.
- Keith Bredehoeft provided a brief update on the Rock Creek Watershed Study

### **Administration**

- Lisa Santa Maria distributed and briefly reviewed the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Financial Report. She noted as of 6/30/2014, revenues are at 59% of projections, while expenditures are at 37.1% of appropriations. She highlighted key variances from 2014 revenue & expenditures.
- Mrs. Santa Maria provided an update on the SEC continuing disclosure initiative. The city has completed its self report and found no significant findings to report.
- Kate Gunja announced that Mission Lane Improvements are on schedule for mid-August completion.
- The 911 Memorial discussed at a previous meeting was discussed by the Arts Council at its last meeting with concerns expressed with the costs of transporting the memorial, installation and maintenance costs, lack of an identified location. The Arts Council does not have funds to pursue this opportunity.
- Mrs. Gunja reported on her attendance at a pre-application workshop for the MARC Sustainable Places Grant which is due on August 27<sup>th</sup>. The grant requires a 20% match of funds with work beginning in 2015 and completed in 2016. Staff has discussed the grant and does not have an identified project to submit for funding.

Courtney McFadden suggested that a potential project would be the creation of a comprehensive plan for bike and pedestrian routes within Prairie Village similar to those done by the cities of Overland Park and Leawood. It was noted that some initial research has already been done and the grant proposal could use some of the information already obtained. Staff noted the application requests specific project information. Mayor Shaffer questioned if this could be done by August 27<sup>th</sup> with current staffing limitations. Mr. Bennion stated that usually a project has been identified as a priority in the CIP and a plan is in place with grant funds allowing its completion to be

done earlier. Kate Gunja noted the more information that can be provided in the application, the better the chances are for securing funding.

Courtney McFadden moved the City Council direct staff to prepare a Sustainable Places Grant application for submittal for the creation of a bike path & pedestrian path master plan for the city of Prairie Village. The motion was seconded by Jori Nelson.

Laura Wassmer would like the potential funding level to be higher. Mrs. McFadden pointed out this plan would provide the city with professional direction and would involve community input. Terrence Gallagher noted this be an opportunity to begin community dialogue on this issue. Brooke Morehead questioned creating a master plan for something that may not have the necessary support to implement. Ms. Wassmer agreed that the city has spent a lot of money for plans that have gone nowhere. Ted Odell stated he is not opposed to seeking grant funds, but feels there has to be a specific plan in place - not a concept.

Laura Wassmer suggested that perhaps a study could be done regarding Mission Road from four lanes to three lanes north of 75<sup>th</sup> Street allowing for the creation of a trail connecting the city from Prairie Village Shopping to Corinth Shopping center following up on earlier discussion of creating a “main street” for Prairie Village. This would have a large impact on the community as a whole. Mr. Bredehoeft noted this would involve a traffic study. He noted that Mission Road is scheduled for work in five years.

Mrs. McFadden noted the proposed project would affect everyone and get widespread citizen involvement.

Brooke Morehead suggested an outdoor amphitheatre for Harmon Park. Mrs. Gunja state such a project would not meet the grant requirement of connectivity.

Laura Wassmer noted the city already has a trail plan that was done in conjunction with the Parks Master Plan. She stated she could not support submitting an application without a specific plan.

Ted Odell noted the required 20% match and questioned where funding would come from noting funds are not included in the proposed 2015 budget. Quinn Bennion stated that if the grant were awarded, the City could amend the budget.

The motion was reread and voted on with the following votes cast: “aye” Nelson, Hopkins, Runion, McFadden and Gallagher; “nay” Noll, Wang, Wassmer, Morehead and Odell. Mayor Shaffer voted in support of the motion which then passed by a vote of 6 to 5.

- The deadline for State of the Arts entries is Friday, August 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Building Official Jim Brown has accepted a position as Building Official for the City of Salina. There will be a reception for him from 1 to 2 p.m. on Friday.
- Quinn Bennion announced that he received word from the Dorr family that they will not be putting up the Holiday display this year. The City is appreciative of their efforts over the past few years hosting their holiday display at City Hall.
- Mr. Bennion confirmed that the research requested of staff on proposed changes to the structure of the municipal foundation will be brought back to the committee structure committee.
- The KCADC reception location will be changed updated information will be sent out.
- Prairie Village has been ranked #1 as the safest city in Kansas by a real estate group.
- Staff will be conducting interviews this week for the Assistant to the City Administrator and Deputy City Clerk/Public Information Officer position.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Jori Nelson asked on the status of research on teleconferencing. Mayor Shaffer responded that further research is on hold until the vacant staff positions have been filled.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

There was No New Business to come before the City Council.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

Planning Commission	08/05/2014	7:00 p.m.
Tree Board	08/06/2014	6:00 p.m.
Sister City Committee	08/11/2014	7:00 p.m.
JazzFest Committee	08/13/2014	7:00 p.m.
Council Committee of the Whole	08/19/2014	6:00 p.m.
City Council	08/19/2014	7:30 p.m.

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The Prairie Village Arts Council is pleased to a pastel exhibit by Randy Kronblad Council as the August exhibit in the R. G. Endres Gallery. The artist reception will be Friday, August 8, from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Recreation memberships are on sale through the City Clerk's Office.

Mayor Shaffer reminded everyone to vote in tomorrow's primary election.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Andrew Wang 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 and City Attorney. The motion was seconded by Ruth Hopkins and passed unanimously.

Mayor Shaffer reconvened the City Council meeting at 9:45 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the City Council the meeting was adjourned at 9:46 p.m.

Joyce Hagen Mundy  
City Clerk