

**COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA  
CITY OF PRAIRIE VILLAGE  
Tuesday, January 2, 2007  
7:30 p.m.**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER**
- II. **ROLL CALL**
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- IV. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
- V. **CONSENT AGENDA**

All items listed below are considered to be routine by the Governing Body and will be enacted by one motion (Roll Call Vote). There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the regular agenda.

**By Staff:**

- 1. Approve Regular Council Meeting Minutes – December 18, 2006.
- 2. Approve a three year contract with AT&T for long distance services.
- 3. Approve a three year contract with Keller Fire Safety for fire extinguisher services.
- 4. Approve a three year contract with Northeast Painting Co. for painting services (buildings, park furnishings and swimming pool buildings and equipment).
- 5. Approve a three year contract with VanBooven for tree planting services.

**VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Council Committee of the Whole – David Belz**

Consider Special Use Permit for Communications Antenna at 7700 Mission Road

**Selection Committee Report – Ruth Hopkins**

**Community Center Report – David Belz**

- VII. **OLD BUSINESS**
- VIII. **NEW BUSINESS**
- IX. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- X. **ADJOURNMENT**

If any individual requires special accommodations -- for example, qualified interpreter, large print, reader, hearing assistance -- in order to attend the meeting, please notify the City Clerk at 381-6464, Extension 4616, no later than 48 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

If you are unable to attend this meeting, comments may be received by e-mail at [cityclerk@PVKANSAS.COM](mailto:cityclerk@PVKANSAS.COM)

**CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF PRAIRIE VILLAGE  
JANUARY 2, 2007**

The City Council of Prairie Village, Kansas, met in regular session on Tuesday, January 2, 2007, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

**ROLL CALL**

Mayor Ron Shaffer called the meeting to order and roll call was taken with the following Council members present: Al Herrera, Ruth Hopkins, David Voysey, Michael Kelly, Andrew Wang, Laura Wassmer, Charles Clark, Wayne Vennard, Diana Ewy Sharp and David Belz.

Also present were: Barbara Vernon, City Administrator; Charles Wetzler, City Attorney; Charles Grover, Chief of Police; Bob Pryzby, Public Works Director; Doug Luther, Assistant City Administrator; and Jeanne Koontz, Administrative Support Specialist.

Mayor Shaffer led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**OATH OF OFFICE**

Mayor Shaffer administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Judge M. Bradley Watson.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No one was present to address the Council.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

David Belz moved the approval of the Consent Agenda for Tuesday, January 2, 2007:

1. Approve Regular Council Meeting Minutes - December 18, 2006.
2. Approve a three year contract with AT&T for long distance services.
3. Approve a three year contract with Keller Fire Safety for fire extinguisher services.
4. Approve a three year contract with northeast Painting Co. for painting services (buildings, park furnishings and swimming pool buildings and equipment).
5. Approve a three year contract with VanBooven for tree planting services.

A roll call vote was taken with the following members voting "aye": Herrera, Hopkins, Voysey, Kelly, Wang, Wassmer, Clark, Vennard, Sharp and Belz.

Mayor Shaffer asked Charles Wetzler for advice on abstaining from items on the consent agenda. He asked whether a council member could abstain from the consent agenda if they only

have a problem with one item but did not wish to remove the item from the agenda to consider it separately.

Mr. Wetzler replied there must be seven "aye" votes for the consent agenda to pass. It is not a problem for a council member to abstain as long as there are seven "aye" votes.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

#### **Consider Special Use Permit for Communications Antenna at 7700 Mission Road**

David Belz stated the Council Committee of the Whole decided to remove this item from the agenda pending further information from staff and legal counsel.

### **Selection Committee Report**

Ruth Hopkins reported the Selection Committee received proposals from seven firms, interviewed three firms by phone (Bennett Yarger, The PAR Group, and The Mercer Group), and selected The Mercer Group.

Laura Wassmer asked what the company is doing for the money. Ruth replied they will come to the City, create a profile, talk to elected officials about what they want in a candidate, conduct a nationwide search, narrow the list down according to Council's wishes, present a final list and help facilitate the interview process and contract. She stated if Council decides the person selected does not work out, Mercer will conduct the search again charging only the cost of direct expenses.

Mayor Shaffer said Mercer will work with the City for all three searches. Ruth Hopkins said the search for the Police Chief will most likely be completed by April; the committee wanted to proceed at full speed.

Al Herrera asked if in-house candidates will be considered. Ruth Hopkins replied they will be considered; this was something the committee specifically discussed with the company.

Andrew Wang asked if there is a time when the council will be able to discuss with Mercer what they want. Ruth Hopkins said the council will have that opportunity on Mercer's first visit. Mr. Wang asked when council members would be able to evaluate the final candidates on paper or in person. Ms. Hopkins said council members will be able to participate in that process; the committee

discussed doing this in executive session. Charles Clark said part of the process will involve scripted questions and the council will get to see the final candidates.

David Belz asked if the timetable has been pushed back a little bit. Ruth Hopkins said the timetable provided is very preliminary and barring approval of the contract Mercer could be here as early as next week.

Laura Wassmer asked why the selection committee picked Mercer. Ruth Hopkins responded Mercer is up to date on the area, especially Johnson County, and he had incredible recommendations. Wayne Vennard said his telephone interview was excellent. Michael Kelly stated he gave his opinion but also acknowledged he was interested in the City's opinion; he also uses technology efficiently and has videoconferencing capabilities.

On behalf of the Selection Committee, Ruth Hopkins moved the City Council approve the agreement with The Mercer Group to provide executive search services for the positions of Chief of Police, City Administrator and Director of Public Works per the proposal submitted subject to the approval of the City Attorney. The motion was seconded by David Voysey and passed unanimously.

### **Community Center Report**

David Belz reported on behalf of the Community Center Study Committee. Mr. Belz said the committee decided it would be best to hire a consultant who would conduct surveys to gather information about the inventory in and around Prairie Village to determine whether the City needs a Community Center.

On behalf of the Community Center Study Committee, David Belz moved the City Council approve an agreement with Olsson associates to conduct a community asset inventory at a cost not to exceed \$10,000 with funding from the 2007 General Fund Contingency. Charles Clark seconded the motion.

Mayor Shaffer asked if there was discussion on the issue.

Al Herrera stated he does not want to spend \$10,000 for this purpose. He said the Powell Center is close and Overland Park just built a new center. He does not see Prairie Village supporting a community center. He suggested the YMCA renovate their place. David Belz said originally the

committee was looking at partnering with the YMCA; this inventory would help us decide if we even want to take that step.

Ruth Hopkins said a list of all the available recreation facilities will not do us any good if we do not know how often they are used. David Belz said the consulting firm is going to work with us to get the information we want. Doug Luther said the consultants would be conducting a survey that has not yet been written in order to determine the market. He stated one of the questions that will be asked is how much a center is utilized.

Wayne Vennard stated he does not think we will build a community center that will cost \$10 - \$20 million. He asked if the information will do any good if we do not build a community center. David Belz responded at some point down the line constituents are going to say they would like a community center in Prairie Village. If the City has the information from a consultant, the public can see that the data points one way or the other.

Andrew Wang proposed a committee could come together and construct their own survey which could be conducted with the help of volunteers; this would create the data without the cost. David Belz said this idea came up at the committee meeting and there are still members who prefer it. He stated he feels it will be perceived as purer data if the City does not have their hands in developing it.

Diana Ewy Sharp said part of the Park and Recreation plan is to explore the feasibility of a community center. She said she agrees that it needs to be done by an outside source. She feels there is a premeditated answer by the Council that we cannot afford a community center; she asked the Council to look at this with an open mind.

Al Herrera said it would be nice to have a community center but asked if we were going to spend \$10,000 on everything listed in the Village Vision. He stated this is at the bottom of his priorities; he would rather revitalize Mission Road, 75<sup>th</sup> Street and State Line Road than build a community center. He says he has talked with many Prairie Village residents who use the Powell Center and they do not have a problem going there. He suggested letting the YMCA lead the venture. David Belz said the inventory is part of the process with the YMCA. The committee viewed

a YMCA community center in Platte County where the County paid for the building and the YMCA did the staffing and programming.

Michael Kelly said he is in favor of getting this process going. He said if one of the City's missions is to attract families to Prairie Village, we need to stay competitive. Ruth Hopkins said she would like to see the results of the survey on the Village Vision priorities to see how the community center ranks with all the council members before proceeding. Michael Kelly said he feels the council should be able to answer the question of whether a community center is needed.

Laura Wassmer stated she agrees completely with Mr. Herrera and Ms. Hopkins. She said the Council keeps spending \$10,000 here and there and the money is going everywhere except in a prioritized place. She said she would rather stop the flow of money to see if the Council can agree on one direction. Ms. Wassmer stated it is much easier to look at funding the fun projects than to really take a look at the difficult issues, such as increasing revenues. She said in the end no matter what the survey says we do not have the money to fund a community center.

Diana Ewy Sharp made a motion to call the question. The motion was seconded by Ruth Hopkins and passed unanimously.

David Belz reread the motion. The motion failed by a vote of 6 to 4 with Michael Kelly, David Belz, Diana Ewy Sharp, and Charles Clark voting "aye".

David Belz said the committee will meet and decide where to go from here.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Bob Pryzby reported back on the status of the sculpture with the City of Leawood. He contacted their Public Works Director who said the lighting proposed is internal only and the sign in question is a plaque which will say "Dedicated by Leawood Arts Council".

David Belz commented the plaques should have Prairie Village listed somewhere since it is our property. Bob Pryzby suggested the City Attorney could negotiate that. Mayor Shaffer asked Mr. Wetzler if the City of Leawood had come to terms with a 50 year agreement. Mr. Wetzler said the 50 years is okay. He advised that the Council wait to approve it until the City of Leawood's Council approves it. He said he will ask if the plaque could say "in cooperation with the City of Prairie Village".

Mayor Shaffer asked Mr. Pryzby about the bumps in the road at Somerset and Mission Road. Mr. Pryzby responded that he is having experts analyze the problem and is still waiting for an answer.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business before the Council.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Al Herrera stated after having a bad experience with the emergency response in Kansas City, MO, he realizes how lucky Prairie Village is to have emergency staff that will respond in 2 ½ minutes. He commended the Prairie Village and Johnson County emergency staff.

Mayor Shaffer noted the retirement celebration that took place for Frank Bardwell last Saturday afternoon. All past Mayors from Prairie Village were there and Mayor Shaffer presented him with a proclamation and a key to the City.

Mayor Shaffer highlighted the upcoming Northeast Johnson County Chamber dinner on January 12<sup>th</sup>, City Hall day at the Capital on January 25<sup>th</sup>, the Johnson County Convener Reception Thursday January 4<sup>th</sup> from 5-7 pm at the Universal Underwriters Group, the LNE reception on January 24<sup>th</sup> from 5-7 pm at Outback Steakhouse and the First Suburbs Committee meeting at Gladstone from 8-10 am on January 26<sup>th</sup>. He also noted City offices will be closed January 15<sup>th</sup> in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day so the next Council meeting will be on the 16<sup>th</sup>. He also noted Holiday Tree Donations are still being accepted.

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

|  |            |           |
|--|------------|-----------|
| Municipal Foundation                                 | 01/08/2007 | 5:30 p.m. |
| Sister City  | 01/08/2007 | 7:00 p.m. |
| Park and Recreation Committee                        | 01/10/2007 | 7:00 p.m. |
| Smoke Free Workplace Taskforce<br>(Community Center) | 01/10/2007 | 7:00 p.m. |
| Council Committee of the Whole (Tuesday)             | 01/16/2007 | 6:00 p.m. |
| City Council (Tuesday)                               | 01/16/2007 | 7:30 p.m. |
| =====  |            |           |

The Prairie Village Arts Council is pleased to feature a watercolor on cloth exhibit by Rebecca Darrah in the R.G. Endres Gallery during the month of January. The opening reception will be held on January 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The Northeast Johnson County Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner is January 12<sup>th</sup> at the Lake Quivira Country Club.

The city offices will be closed January 15<sup>th</sup> in observance of Martin Luther King Day. Deffenbaugh also observes this holiday and trash pickup will be delayed a day.

City Hall Day at the Capital is January 25<sup>th</sup>.

Donations to the Holiday Tree fund are still being accepted. The funds will be used to assist Prairie Village families and Senior Citizens needing help to pay their heating and electric bills during the cold winter months, as well as with home maintenance throughout the year. Your tax-deductible contributions are appreciated.

**Prairie Village Gift Cards are on sale at the Municipal Building.** This is a great way to encourage others to "Shop Prairie Village."

The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary books, Prairie Village Our Story, are being sold to the public.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at

8:30 p.m.

Jeanne Koontz  
Administrative Support Specialist