

**CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF PRAIRIE VILLAGE**

June 5, 2017

The City Council of Prairie Village, Kansas, met in regular session on Monday, June 5, 2017 at 7:35 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Building, 7700 Mission Road, Prairie Village, Kansas.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Laura Wassmer called the meeting to order and roll call was taken with the following Council members present: Serena Schermoly, Steve Noll, Eric Mikkelson, Andrew Wang, Sheila Myers, Brooke Morehead, Dan Runion, Courtney McFadden, Ted Odell and Terrence Gallagher.

Staff present: Tim Schwartzkopf, Chief of Police; Keith Bredehoeft, Director of Public Works; Melissa Prenger, Senior Project Manager; Katie Logan, City Attorney; Quinn Bennion, City Administrator; Wes Jordan, Assistant City Administrator; Lisa Santa Maria, Finance Director, Alley Williams, Assistant to the City Administrator and Meghan Buum, Deputy City Clerk.

INTRODUCTION OF STUDENTS & SCOUTS

One Boy Scout from Troop 98 was in attendance.

PRESENTATIONS

Recognition of Ashley Weaver

Mayor Laura Wassmer presented Ashley Weaver a proclamation and plaque recognizing her five years of service on the City Council.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Brad Johnson, Mission Hills, KS, stated that he was inspired to donate a piece of art to the City following the reconstruction of Mission Road. Having lived around the world, he recognizes the unique amenities and tradition in Prairie Village. He referenced Vail, CO's efforts to create walkable, beautiful spaces and would like to see those efforts continue here. He selected a statue featuring a child on a bicycle to be emblematic of the safe, family centered community that Prairie Village is. He hopes his donation is a model for other residents to do the same.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dan Runion noted a correction to the Council Committee of the Whole minutes.

Ted Odell moved the approval of the Consent Agenda June 5, 2017 as presented:

1. Approval of the regular City Council meeting minutes - May 15, 2017
2. Adopt Resolution 2017-01 amending 2017 Salary Ranges

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Council Committee of the Whole
COU2017-22 Approve revisions to Council Policy 001 entitled "City Committees"

Eric Mikkelson noted that the memo had a strike through "all applications will be sent to the City Council" which should be added back to the policy.

Eric Mikkelson moved the City Council approved revisions to Council Policy 001 entitled “City Committees” with the noted correction. The motion was seconded by Ted Odell and passed unanimously.

COU2017-22 Approve revisions to Council Policy 029 entitled “President of the Council”

Ted Odell asked for clarification on the length of the term for the current council president. Eric Mikkelson stated that when the election was held, it was under the previous policy with the expectation that the term would be shortened to align with the new election cycle.

Eric Mikkelson moved the City Council approved revisions to Council Policy 029 entitled “President of the Council” changing the starting date from the first meeting in May to the first meeting in February. The motion was seconded by Ted Odell and passed unanimously.

COU2017-22 Adopt Ordinance 2361 amending Section 1-803 entitles “Park and Recreation Committee; membership, duties and meeting”

Serena Schermoly asked to include the requirement of 6 meetings per year as recommended by the governing body. Mayor Wassmer clarified that was included in the Council Policy on committees rather than in the Ordinance. Terrence Gallagher stated that if it was included in the ordinance, it would be law to have the meeting regardless of a quorum or lack of agenda items. Discretion should be left to the committee chair.

Terrence Gallagher moved the City Council adopt Ordinance 2361 amending Chapter 1 entitled “Administration” of the Prairie Village Municipal Code by amending Section 1-803 entitled “Park and Recreation Committee; Membership, Duties and Meetings”. The motion was seconded by Dan Runion.

A roll call vote was taken with the following members voting “aye”: Noll, Mikkelson, Wang, Myers, Morehead, Runion, McFadden, Odell and Gallagher. The following member voted “nay”: Schermoly.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Wassmer addressed the council about an item that had been weighing on her mind. It is her belief that the governing body has struggled to maintain impartiality and instead are only representing like minded constituents. She believes there is a difference in informing residents of their right to appear before the council versus recruiting residents to attend to persuade the governing body. She believes responsible government should be resident led and the recruiting approach is disrespectful to the 22,000 other citizens whose views aren’t being represented. It is the role of the governing body to represent all the residents, not just those who agree with our views. She welcomed conversation from the Council.

Eric Mikkelson responded that he generally agreed but respectfully disagreed that the residents who show up at the meetings are not representative of the city as a whole. He stated that he believes, as in any democracy, if you don’t participate in the process, you don’t get to complain. He encourages all residents to participate in their local governments.

Mayor Wassmer responded that she wants residents to participate because they want to. She believes it is a fine line to walk to encourage some participation but not others. The governing body should represent everyone regardless of their comfort speaking publicly. Just because someone doesn’t choose to speak publically doesn’t

mean the governing body shouldn't solicit more feedback. She is personally uncomfortable with the direction the council is heading.

Ted Odell stated that the governing body might not always agree on every topic, he would like to see more respect from council member to council member, and resident to resident. He believes we have a tremendous City, and all members of the governing body have the same goal for its success.

Eric Mikkelson asked how to amend Council Committee of the Whole minutes. He doesn't recall stating at the last meeting that "government can never be too transparent." He clarified his belief that the city doesn't need to be transparent on items protected by KOMA, but on the public portion, when minimal expense is required, he doesn't think there is a thing as too transparent. Live streaming is a way to reach more residents who can't attend meetings. Mayor Wassmer clarified that her statement was not about live streaming, and she has yet to share her views publically on that item.

STAFF REPORTS

Public Safety

- Chief Tim Schwartzkopf reported that the department is hosting Cookie with a Cop on Thursday, July 8 at Great Harvest Bread Company.
- The new bike unit uniforms and bicycles are in. The officers will be undergoing training in Emporia soon. The unit will debut at VillageFest.
- The department is purchasing a Polaris Ranger to use in the parks and at special events. They had previously borrowed a gator from Public Works when needed.

Public Works

- Keith Bredehoeft noted that KCP&L will be replacing lines at 95th and Roe. It will not completely close traffic on Roe but will cause congestion in the area.
- A public meeting related to the bike/pedestrian plan will be held next Thursday, June 15 from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. at the Community Center.
- A city-wide traffic study will be conducted soon. A request for proposals will go out on Tuesday, June 6.
- LED streetlight installation continues. 586 have been installed thus far. Public Works has received just one complaint and they will evaluate adjusting the head.
- A traffic signal will be removed at 84th and Mission Road. It was no longer warranted after the school closed.

Administration

- Quinn Bennion introduced Gabe Altenbernd, the city's summer intern. He was a part of the inaugural teen council.
- First Washington initiated a public input process for a new piece of art work at the shopping center during the art fair. Mayor and Council expressed that they were unable to find the voting location. Staff will find out the voting process.
- Johnson County Park and Recreation is in the process of soliciting bids for the destination playground at Meadowbrook. Around \$850,000 is budgeted for the playground. The committee will present 2-4 concepts for a public vote at VillageFest.
- After visiting with Mayor and Staff, the July 3 Council Meeting will be cancelled.

OLD BUSINESS

Shelia Myers wanted to follow up on an item previously discussed by Andrew Wang related to quantifying the standards for implementing traffic calming measures. She would like to add that to the Council priority list. Keith Bredehoeft stated that there is a complete traffic calming program that he can provide her to review. Eric Mikkelson stated that he has reviewed the program extensively and it is very comprehensive.

Brooke Morehead stated her desire to see every vote listed by name in the minutes. Staff believed that to be the current practice.

Terrence Gallagher asked about the status of the Prairie Baptist parking lot. Quinn stated that Melissa Prenger did a comprehensive evaluation and determined that the soil in the area failed as a result of their parking lot construction decades ago. The next step for Prairie Baptist would be to hire an engineer. Keith Bredehoeft stated that the city has committed to reconstructing the driveway approach on 75th Street.

NEW BUSINESS

2018 Budget - Final Capital Improvement Plan

Keith Bredehoeft continued the CIP budget discussion from the Council Committee of the Whole meeting.

Shelia Meyers thanked Mr. Johnson for his art donation to the city. While she doesn't have a problem with the donation, she has a problem setting a precedent for donations that require additional funding from the city. She stated that donations for the parks have been turned down in the past. She also stated that girls ride bikes, and the statue doesn't have to be a boy. She reminded the council that a young boy was killed after being hit by a car in Prairie Village and doesn't want to hit a raw nerve with residents. Ms. Myers recognizes that Mr. Mikkelson spent a significant amount of time on this project, but would have liked to see this come before the council at an earlier time to gauge support.

Dan Runion stated his belief that a donation of art is a great problem to have. He hopes this does illicit more donations moving forward, and the city could develop a policy moving forward. The city is donating a small fraction of the total value. He is supportive of the project.

Ted Odell thanked Mr. Johnson for his donation. He wants to foster the desire for future donations and the city could address potential concerns. He wondered if there should be an ongoing budget item in the future in case similar opportunities arise. He asked about setting a standard for minimum donation thresholds, or standards for the percentage the city commits.

Eric Mikkelson stated that approving the line item will just allow the concept to move forward, with future approval on details and expenditures. This donation is a much higher price point than a bench or a tree. If the city can leverage a \$25,000 donation into a \$250,000 investment, he encourages it.

Terrence Gallagher stated he would rather see \$30,000 put into parks programming. He also stated that criteria and guidelines need to be set. There has been money in the foundation donated but never used.

Mr. Runion stated that he doesn't believe this sets a precedent. Establishing donation guidelines is unnecessarily bureaucratic. The governing body changes from term to term and judgments can be left to future councils. This allocation is a speck in the entire budget.

Ms. Myers stated that she would welcome a \$25,000 donation, but this is more than just a simple donation since it entails a \$30,000 expense.

Courtney McFadden stated that she welcomed setting a precedent of public art donations in the city.

Andrew Wang stated that this project brings a lot of value added to the city in an area that certainly needs it.

Serena Schermoly brought up other cities support of the arts and would like to establish protocol for future donations.

Terrence Gallagher moved to approve up to \$30,000 towards the installation of the donated statuary after exploring further donations to offset the cost. Serena Schermoly seconded the motion. The motion passed with Morehead and Myers voting nay.

Mr. Bredehoeft that \$50,000 from the streetlight maintenance program would be moved into the paving program. Mr. Odell asked if the funds could be used to paint poles. Mr. Bredehoeft stated that there are funds in the streetlight maintenance program to paint the poles outside of the \$50,000.

2018 Budget - Economic Development Fund recommendations

Lisa Santa Maria provided an overview of decision points left to be made for the 2018 budget, including elections, teen council, legal expenses, resident survey, and streetlight banners.

Eric Mikkelson moved to delete the \$63,000 allocated for elections to be reallocated at a future date. Serena Schermoly seconded the motion.

Dan Runion didn't understand why council members were opposed to a reduction in the mill rate. He is shocked the city is able to spend all the money in the budget. Eric stated that his next motion would be to lower the mill levy based on the outcome of this vote.

Courtney stated her opposition to this motion and to a future motion to reduce the mill levy as she perceives it to be purely symbolic and the funds could be spent for road improvements.

Eric Mikkelson stated that whatever the city doesn't spend goes to road improvements. He believes this is arguably the biggest boom year in Prairie Village history with a 12% increase in property taxes. The needs of the city can still be met even with a reduction in the mill levy. It is not sound fiscal policy to continue to build expenses. He believes that when an inevitable recession occurs, increased expenses will become an issue.

Ms. McFadden stated that when we cycle back to a depressed economy, the city will be in better shape by doing preventative road maintenance now. The city's bond rating has been rock solid which shows that our way of budgeting has been spot on, and she disagrees with Mr. Mikkelson's assessment that there hasn't been sound fiscal policy

in the city. She believes that lowering the mill is symbolic and intended to create a splashy headline.

Mr. Runion doesn't agree with the notion that this motion was made for a splashy headline, rather, it is a gesture that demonstrates a government that isn't spending every last nickel. He stated his concern that the city spends what it brings in as well as the fund balance.

Mayor Wassmer directed discussion back to the original motion. Ms. Schermoly clarified that she seconded the motion to remove the election item from the budget, not the reduction in the mill levy.

Mr. Mikkelson stated that he feels like he has been disrespected by Ms. McFadden's assertion that he made the motion for a splashy headline. He made the motion because he believes it is in the best interest of Prairie Village. Ms. McFadden apologized for her comment.

Terrence Gallagher clarified that the \$63,000 would be removed from the elections line and used elsewhere. Mr. Mikkelson said the use would be determined at a later time.

Sheila Myers stated that item was not for elections, it was for council and mayor pay. Mr. Mikkelson stated that he isn't opposed to council and mayor pay if it was done under the right conditions, after everyone has been up for reelection.

A vote was taken with the following members voting "aye": Schermoly, Mikkelson, Wang, Myers, Runion, Gallagher and the following members voting "nay": Noll, Morehead, McFadden, Odell. The motion passed.

Sheila Myers moved to earmark \$63,000 for mayor and council pay. The motion was seconded by Brooke Morehead.

Terrence Gallagher stated that he cannot support that right now. He would rather use that money towards parks and recreation programming.

Andrew Wang stated he is not comfortable with the governing body voting to pay itself. Ms. Myers stated that it is earmarked for possible pay after further discussion.

Mr. Mikkelson stated that he is voting against the motion. He would approve under the condition that each of the 13 members has been up for reelection. All members of the governing body should stand before the voters.

Mayor Wassmer suggested including the question about pay in a resident survey.

Ted Odell clarified that just because there is a line in the budget, doesn't mean the money is required to be spent. Having the line item just keeps the conversation open in the future. Mayor stated that if the money goes unused, it could be put to the street repairs.

Mr. Gallagher asked if the item could be put on the fall ballot. Quinn Bennion stated that cities cannot put advisory items on the ballot.

Mr. Runion stated that he doesn't think council pay is possible for 2018 and agrees that everyone should be subject to reelection before being paid.

Ms. Myers called the question. A vote was taken with the following members voting "aye": Noll, Myers, Morehead, McFadden, Odell; and the following members voting "nay": Schermoly, Mikkelson, Wang, Runion, Gallagher. Mayor Wassmer voted "aye" to break the tie. The motion passed.

Mr. Runion asked if the resident survey is binding. Mr. Bennion responded that it is not. Mr. Runion asked if responses could be broken down by ward. Mr. Bennion stated that it could be a question on the survey. Ms. Morehead asked who determines the survey questions. Mr. Bennion responded the governing body determines the questions.

Eric Mikkelson moved to reduce the mill levy by 2/10. The motion was seconded by Dan Runion.

Lisa Santa Maria stated that the current mill levy is 19.471 and the motion would reduce the mill levy to approximately 19.271, around \$50,000. That amount would be removed from street improvements.

Andrew Wang asked Ms. Santa Maria to estimate what that would mean per household. Ms. Santa Maria estimated it to be between \$2-\$5 per year.

Mr. Runion stated his concern about the minimalist approach to the proposed reduction and concern about decreasing the fund balance. Mr. Bennion stated that whatever isn't spent in the year moves into the fund balance. That means we've spent less than anticipated or bringing in more than anticipated, which are both good things.

Serena Schermoly asked Ms. Santa Maria her thoughts on reducing the mill levy. Ms. Santa Maria does not recommend it.

Eric Mikkelson restated his motion to decrease the mill by 2/10. A vote was taken with the following members voting "aye": Mikkelson; and the following members voting "nay": Schermoly, Noll, Wang, Myers, Morehead, McFadden, Odell, Gallagher. Mr. Runion abstained. The motion failed.

Ms. Santa Maria continued her presentation on the 2018 budget. She shared information on the outside agency funding. Mr. Mikkelson asked about the \$0 allocated to sister city. Mr. Bennion stated that the sister city committee dissolved itself but the city still has a sister city agreement with Dolyna, Ukraine. It is not dependent on the Sister City International membership dues.

Ted Odell expressed his opinion that as Jazz Fest continues to grow financially, it becomes more difficult to support the city's contribution. Brooke Morehead responded that the support for the event benefits many thousands of residents.

2018 Budget - Parks & Recreation Position

Alley Williams introduced potential job duties and cost estimates for adding a parks coordinator into the 2018 budget. There have been a number of suggestions on what this new position's job responsibilities would be, including special events such as Jazz Fest and Village Fest, additional parks programming (such as Teen Council recommendation list), events associated with a potential amphitheater at Harmon Park/Village Square, management of the pool and supervision of pool manager, staff support for one or more of the City's Committees (Arts Council, Jazz Fest, Village Fest, Parks & Recreation), facilitate the Prairie Village Foundation and grant writing.

The new position will not feasibly and realistically be able to take on all of the above responsibilities. Therefore, staff would advise assigning the Parks Coordinator the responsibility of managing the pool and taking over the City's Jazz Fest and Village Fest events, as well as implementing some of the additional programming recommended by Teen Council.

There are multiple positives to hiring this position including lessening high workload on current staff, additional programming at the pool and parks and potential new amphitheater.

Staff researched salary ranges for equivalent positions to a parks coordinator in neighboring cities and recommends a salary range of \$42,980-\$64,460 with a total budget need of \$125,000 to cover salary, benefits, vehicle, and programming costs. Options for funding this position include: raising the mill levy, reducing the Capital

Improvement Program's street paving program, or cut other programs or costs included in the 2018 budget.

If this position and range is approved in the budget, there would need to be much more discussion about responsibilities, office location, potential revenue, supervisor, and goals for the parks programming efforts.

Sheila Myers asked if the position could be part time until the future of Village Square is determined and if the programming could be done by an outside partner like KC Crew. Quinn Bennion stated that it could be part time dependent on the job description. If only doing programming or working with contractors, it could be a part time position.

Eric Mikkelson stated his support of parks programming but would like to see this on the resident survey. He believes Village Square is years down the road, and believes adding this to the 2018 budget is premature. Ted Odell agreed that this is premature for 2018. He likes the idea but doesn't believe the timing is right.

Terrence Gallagher stated that he and others on the Parks and Recreation Committee are getting increased feedback from residents desiring more programming.

Serena Schermoly stated that when the topic is revisited, she would like to see increased tennis programming due to the funds invested in renovating tennis courts.

Brooke Morehead moved to further research and discuss hiring a parks coordinator unrelated to the 2018 budget. Eric Mikkelson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Eric Mikkelson stated that in light of recent federal cuts to environmental issues, he suggests the governing body invite the Environmental Committee to make recommendations to decrease carbon emissions in Prairie Village, LEED certifications,

smart vehicles, etc. He doesn't want this to be a political statement, rather a way to improve Prairie Village. Ted Odell agreed that progress can be made if politics are put to the side. Steve Noll recalled early recycling efforts in Prairie Village and expressed his support. Mr. Mikkelson moved to invite the Environmental Committee to make recommendations to the governing body. Steve Noll seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Committee meetings scheduled for the next two weeks:

Planning Commission	06/06/2017	7:00 p.m.
Tree Board	06/07/2017	6:00 p.m.
Environment/Recycle Committee on Education	06/08/2017	5:30 p.m.
JazzFest Committee	06/12/2017	5:30 p.m.
Council Committee of the Whole	06/19/2017	6:00 p.m.
City Council	06/19/2017	7:30 p.m.

=====

The Prairie Village Arts Council is pleased to feature the work of Jean Wender and Janey Greene in the R.G. Endres Gallery during the month of June. The artist reception will be held on Friday, June 9th.

2017 Recreation and Team Memberships are now on sale.

Mark your calendar for the 21st Annual MARC Regional Assembly on Friday, June 9th from 11:30 to 1:30 at the Westin Crown Center.

Pool closure -The slides and diving well will close at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, June 6th for a dive meet; the pool complex will close at 5 p.m. on Thursday, June 8th to host a swim meet.

The first Moonlight Swim of the season will be Friday, June 6th with the pool remaining open until 10 p.m.

Save the Date for the Annual National League of Cities Conference in Charlotte, November 15-18, 2017. Early Bird registration is available through June 30th

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the City Council the meeting was adjourned
at 9:50 p.m.

Meghan Buom
Deputy City Clerk