

**CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF PRAIRIE VILLAGE**

**November 6, 2017**

The City Council of Prairie Village, Kansas, met in regular session on Monday, November 6, 2017 at 7:30 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: Chad Herring, Jori Nelson, 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, Public Works Director; Katie Logan, City Attorney; Wes Jordan, City Administrator; Lisa Santa Maria, Finance Director; Alley Williams, Assistant to the City Administrator and Joyce Hagen Mundy, City Clerk. Teen Council member present: Daniel Long, Jack Mikkelson

**INTRODUCTION OF STUDENTS & SCOUTS**

Mayor Wassmer welcomed four high school students were in attendance for their American Government class.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

With no one present to address the City Council public participation was closed at 7:35 p.m.

## CONSENT AGENDA

Dan Runion asked for clarification on the area of work covered in the channel repair project at Corinth Elementary. Keith Bredehoeft confirmed the north corner was not being addressed as this time.

Jori Nelson moved for the approval of the Consent Agenda for Monday, November 6, 2017 as presented:

1. Approval of the regular City Council meeting minutes - October 16, 2017
2. Approval of the purchase of two replacement pickup trucks with equipment from Shawnee Mission Ford for \$68,964 and the disposal of Assets #5036 and #5045 by auction
3. Approval of service agreement with Shawnee Mission School District for joint channel repair project at Corinth Elementary
4. Approval of the Interlocal Agreement between the City of Prairie Village and Johnson County Park and Recreation for the use of City facilities for 50+ programming in 2018

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

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

**COU2017-45 Consider approval of the design agreement with Affinis Corporation for the design of the 2018 CARS Projects: Mission Road, 85<sup>th</sup> Street to 95<sup>th</sup> Street and Roe Avenue, 67<sup>th</sup> Street to 75<sup>th</sup> Street**

Steve Noll moved the City Council authorize the Mayor to execute the Design Agreement with Affinis Corporation for the design of the 2018 CARS Projects: Mission Road, 85<sup>th</sup> Street to 95<sup>th</sup> Street and Roe Avenue, 67<sup>th</sup> Street to 75<sup>th</sup> Street. The motion was seconded by Shelia Myers and passed unanimously.

**COU2017-46 Consider approval of agreement with BHC Rhodes for Storm Water Services**

Serena Schermoly moved the City Council authorize the Mayor to execute the Agreement with BHC Rhodes for Stormwater Professional Services in the amount of \$108,000. The motion was seconded by Steve Noll and passed unanimously.

**COU2017-47 Consider approval of Agreement with TranSystems Corporation for traffic engineering services for the 2018 City Wide Traffic Study**

Terrence Gallagher moved the City Council authorize the Mayor to execute the Agreement with TranSystems Corporation for traffic engineering services for the 2018 City Wide Traffic Study at a cost of \$74,934. The motion was seconded by Sheila Myers and passed unanimously.

**Consider Electric Vehicle Charging Stations**

Mayor Wassmer noted that this was discussed in the earlier committee meeting and she would entertain action on the motion made at that meeting.

Jori Nelson moved that staff coordinate with KCP&L the acquisition of available charging station(s) and work for placement in the most beneficial locations in both the public and private sector. The motion was seconded by Eric Mikkelson.

Ted Odell stated that he would be abstaining from voting due to a professional conflict of interest.

Andrew Wang stated that he does not feel there is a reason to have electric vehicle charging stations in a small residential community. The motion was voted on and passed by a vote of 10 to 1 with Mr. Wang voting in opposition and Mr. Odell abstaining.

## **Finance Committee**

Eric Mikkelson noted that no additional meetings have been held, but that the minutes of the September 18<sup>th</sup> meeting were included in the council packet as requested. The Mayor and staff have communicated to First Washington that the city would not be moving forward with the original plan and request presented, but would be open to discussing other options. They were advised of the city's concerns with the three story parking structure and desire to maintain some of the structural character of the Mission Road Antique Mall building. It was agreed that additional public input was needed, particularly for Ward 5 residents and they are planning to do one or two public meetings.

Mayor Wassmer stated she made it clear what the community would be supportive of and suggested that they use the meetings to gather information on what the residents would like to see in this area. First Washington believes their plan is good for the community and will be presenting it for resident input. They are hoping to hold those meetings by the end of the year.

Dan Runion stated he felt the public information meetings would be focused strongly on marketing their plan and questioned what they would bring back to the City for approval. Mayor Wassmer stated that she felt that regardless of the input of the meeting she felt they would be bringing their plan back to the Council possibly with minor changes even if the input from residents is not favorable.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Wassmer noted that she recently drove down "main street/Mission Road" and was thrilled with how great the sidewalks and landscaping look and is excited for the

flags to be added. She thanked Keith Bredehoeft and the public works staff for their work on this project.

She attended the Shawnee Mission Center of Education grand opening and noted the building provides amazing educational experiences for students exploring engineering, medical and food services careers. She encouraged Council members to visit the “Broadmoor Bistro”. Mayor Wassmer congratulated council members Chad Herring and Jori Nelson on their successful Ward 1 meeting and thanked city staff for their participation. She encouraged other council members to consider hosting a ward meeting as an opportunity to both inform residents of what is happening but to also get their feedback.

She attended the Corinth Hills Homes Association meeting where she was able to share what’s happening in PV with residents; attended the Northeast Johnson County Mayor’s meeting where the mayors heard from Jerry Stogsdill and other legislators regarding the upcoming session. The message sent by the mayors was the desire to have local control returned to the cities. While there is not a lot of optimism for possible rollbacks of past legislation, the legislators are trying to tweak wherever possible parts of the restrictive legislation. The number one priority of the session will be the budget and noted that the legislators have stated that they welcome public input on proposed actions.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **Public Safety**

- Chief Schwartzkopf announced the upcoming “Coffee with a Cop” on Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 9 a.m. at Paneras
- Chief reported on the installation of blue lights at the traffic signals at 75<sup>th</sup> and Mission Road and 75<sup>th</sup> and Roe. These are red light confirmation lights that assist with the enforcement. These lights were funded by the State through funds

received from the "Click it or Ticket" program. The blue light comes on when the traffic signal is red allowing an officer to determine when a violation has occurred.

Mayor Wassmer asked that this information be publicized to residents.

- The Police Dispatch recently won an award from MARC for the accuracy of their 9-1-1 communications based on valid error reports per call percentage.
- Chief commended detective staff on their recent work resulting in the arrest of an individual for the aggravated burglary in Prairie Village last month.

### **Public Works**

- Keith Bredehoeft announced that next Tuesday and Thursday public information meetings would be held for community input on the Village Square concept in the community center from 5 to 7.
- RFP's have been received for the city's "Park Consultant" and interviews will be taking place within the month with plans to have a selection and contract to bring before the city council at the second meeting in December. Then meetings can be held regarding the development of North Park.
- The demolition contract for demolition of the church is being prepared. Demolition is planned for the end of January.
- In-house training has been occurring in preparation for winter. Crews have been driving snow plow routes.

Jori Nelson asked for a timeline for when Ward 1 residents can give input to the development of North Park. Mr. Bredehoeft replied that after the Park Consultant is hired in December, they will host public information meetings in January. Ms. Nelson asked if there would be more than one meeting. Mr. Bredehoeft replied that has not been determined at this time. Sheila Myers clarified that the information meetings were for all residents, not only for Ward 1 residents. Mr. Bredehoeft noted the initial meeting will be simply to gather input on what they want to see or not see in the park. No plans will be presented. From that meeting plans will be developed and another meeting will be held probably in the spring for comments on the proposed plans.

Brooke Morehead asked if a budget would be discussed during the discovery process. Mr. Bredehoeft replied that the budget in the CIP for the project has not changed. If a plan can be developed for less than the budget meeting the desires of the

residents it will be; if costs are greater, the Council will need to decide how to proceed. This has been budgeted at approximately one million dollars.

Dan Runion stated he has been asked by residents if the city would be saving some of the stained glass from the church. Mr. Bredehoeft responded that the church looked into doing that and was told that due to the method of installation of the stained glass they would not be able to save any measurable pieces.

Eric Mikkelson asked for a timeline for completion of the park. Mr. Bredehoeft stated he expected it to be completed by fall (September/October). Mr. Mikkelson asked if the public meetings would be discussing the naming of the park noting that he would like to suggest "Faith Park". Wes Jordan stated that the City has a Council Policy addressing the naming of parks which recognizes sitting Mayors after four years of service.

#### **Administration**

- Lisa Santa Maria noted the 2018 budget books had been distributed on the Council dais.
- The 2018 mill levy has been set by the County at 19.311. The city had requested 19.471.
- The city again received the GFOA Award of Excellence for its 2017 Popular Annual Report and 2017 CAFR.
- The latest issue of the Village Voice includes an insert on the 2018 budget.
- Discussion on the 2019 budget will begin shortly after the new year.
- Wes Jordan noted that the November Plan of Action lists design adjustments for Kansas City Christian School. These will be appearing before the Planning Commission in December. After bidding of the proposed plan, it was discovered the plan was significantly over budget and it was necessary to create a new plan. The footprint of the building will not change. The new plans will be presented to the neighboring residents in an information meeting prior to appearance before the Planning Commission.

Sheila Myers asked if a date had been set for the Council Retreat. Brooke Morehead suggested staff send out a Google calendar of potential meeting dates soon.

- Wes Jordan reported that the initial meeting on Phase II Building Guidelines will be held on Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. Five area architects have agreed to serve on this committee. It is a work session and not an open meeting.

## OLD BUSINESS

Dan Runion noted a primary goal of the City is to be transparent. He would like to improve transparency on Village Square based on comments that he has heard from residents who are confused by the communication put out by the city.

First, when the city refers to a concept, that it do so consistently. Village Square is found on the city's Project Page on the website and referred to as a project confusing residents. He does not view project and concept as interchangeable. Also the information posted on the website he feels extends beyond factual into advocacy. For example, the memo mentions massive improvements to other city parks and appears to compare those to Village Square. Those improvements occurred over the past six to seven years at cost is far less than the \$5.2M projected cost for Village Square.

Secondly, in the information on the website, the projected cost of Village Square is not displayed with the same prominence as other information. It is buried a link at the bottom of the information. Cost is a significant factor to be considered and should be prominently displayed.

Third, the comments made a presumptive that all of Village Square will be done. What is in the current parks master plan to be done costs \$480,000 (less than 10% of the proposed total cost of Village Square).

His goal for more transparency on Village Square by 1) stop referring to it as a project; 2) prominently disclose the cost in the information presented on the website and 3) that the information given not lead to a presumptive conclusion that this is a done deal approved by the City Council.

Brooke Morehead responded that she was fine with the use of the term "concept" instead of "project" moving forward. However, she strongly disagreed with Mr. Runion's



statement that the city has not been transparent. Efforts to publicize the Village Square idea and notice of the public information meetings were designed to increase participation and feedback. The city hired BBN for \$50,000 to put together a plan to best utilize Harmon/Santa Fe Parks that coordinates its growth and development fitting all the moving pieces together. What feature is done will be impacted by the cost and the desires of the public. The plan shows residents the potential pieces and gathers their input on what they would like to see or not see. The estimated costs will be shown. The plan allows for items to be done over an extended period of time. This is a vision of what can be done. Mrs. Morehead noted the plan has been complicated by the purchase of land by the fire station impacting the amount of land available for the park.

Mrs. Morehead stated she does not see the construction of the full plan as proposed at a cost of \$5M happening, especially at one time. This is a vision for the future. This is a plan for the potential development of property already owned in the heart of the city. It is important that the residents have an opportunity to express their thoughts on a proposed vision that has been worked on by several individuals over the course of the past year for the city if residents want it. This is a possibility. The objective and desire of the committee is to let as many people as possible know about the vision and have the opportunity to voice their opinion, so signs have been placed throughout the city, mailings have been sent and information is available through social media with the intention of being transparent.

Eric Mikkelson stated that he also has concerns on the message that has been disseminated by the city on Village Square. The motion to move forward was clearly stated as not to be presented as a recommendation for approval by residents. This has

become like a runaway train. The pictures presented and message given comes across as this is something that the city wants to or will be doing.

He has not heard that this is something the residents want. He is concerned with the tacky billboards strewn throughout our parks. He is concerned that the \$5.2M estimated cost is low, noting that it does not include the cost of the traffic signal or potential financing costs.

He feels the city needs to be honest with the people that this has not been approved to be done and provide them a realistic price tag including, he believes, upcoming costs for the maintenance of the city's existing pool complex in the next few years. He does not feel the message presented was as accurate and informative as it should have been.

Sheila Myers questioned Mr. Mikkelson's statement that the city has not decided to do anything. The skate park must be redone and new playground equipment for Harmon Park with funds that were carried over will be done. The directive that was given was to get the word out about the public information meeting to as many people and residents as possible so that as much information as to what is wanted in Harmon Park can be received. She supports the vigorous communication that has taken place through the use of billboards in the parks, mailings, Village Voice and social media. Mr. Mikkelson stated he does not like the signs in the park. Mrs. Meyers responded that it is the input from people who use park facilities that is being sought.

Mr. Mikkelson stated that he does not view the statement that Harmon Park is underutilized as accurate and that the skate park needs to be fixed, but it does not need to be moved. He is ok with what is proposed for the existing items, but is concerned with the new items and changes.

Jori Nelson noted that the city's website lists Village Square as the very first item on the project page followed by the bike/pedestrian trail, which has not come back to the Council for approval. Yet this page has nothing about North Park that has already been approved. She has residents asking where they can find information about North Park. She feels the website needs to be cleaned up and that it is misleading in the information it is presenting.

Dan Runion questioned that the objective of getting the word out to everyone is met when the communication that is being disseminated does not include a very important piece of information - the cost. If you want to get the message out, get the full message out including the price tag, even if it is only an estimate. It's hard to believe that it wasn't a conscious decision to omit the cost. Mayor Wassmer replied there was not a conspiracy to omit the cost.

Mr. Runion stated that making several statements that are presumptive that this concept is going forward and not clearly showing the project cost is wrong, Mr. Runion stated that at the information meetings, the cost must be clearly indicated to residents.

Courtney McFadden noted at the committee meetings the understanding has been that the concept will be presented and residents asked for feedback, what they like, what they don't like. She does not feel it is a good idea to push the full price with everything included in the proposal. Residents will decide what items they value enough to be placed in the city's budget and how they would support the financing of the items. Mr. Runion disagreed and was concerned that the website did not clearly note the cost.

Mayor Wassmer acknowledged Mr. Runion's comments and assured him there was no conscious effort to omit information or mislead individuals. The meetings will

seek feedback on what residents like and don't like and what they would be willing to pay for with their tax dollars. The cost of the project is an important factor to communicate.

Sheila Myers noted that the items on the project page appear to be listed in order of the public date of discussion or action. There is no action upcoming on the bike/pedestrian plan as consultants are revising plans. With the upcoming meetings on Village Square, they are listed first. With no meetings scheduled on North Park it is not yet listed.

Eric Mikkelson stated that he felt there should have already been public information meetings for North Park. Mayor Wassmer noted that the city did not own the land until earlier this week and the consultant that will coordinate the design and work has yet to be selected.

Mr. Mikkelson asked what the next step is on the bike/pedestrian plan. Mr. Bredehoeft stated he recently reported that the consultants were making changes based on the last public meeting. He received those changes last week and has not had an opportunity to review them yet. He will review them and schedule a committee meeting and final public information meeting. He anticipates that it will be a couple months before the plan comes before the city council.

Brooke Morehead noted that many of the elements of Village Square are included in other projects. The bike/path connects and dissects Village Square. There have been several moving parts with infrastructure changes such as those caused by the purchase of land by the fire district. The disk golf course will need to be reconfigured. Harmon Park is not underutilized; however, is it best utilized. Is the city getting the best use from this investment?

**NEW BUSINESS**

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

JazzFest Committee	11/07/2017	5:30 p.m.
Board of Zoning Appeals	11/07/2017	6:30 p.m.
Planning Commission	11/07/2017	7:00 p.m.
Prairie Village Arts Council	11/08/2017	5:30 p.m.
Park & Recreation Committee	11/08/2017	6:30 p.m.
Environment/Recycle committee on Education	11/09/2017	5:30 p.m.
Council Committee of the Whole	11/20/2017	6:00 p.m.
City Council	11/20/2017	7:30 p.m.

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The Prairie Village Arts Council is pleased to feature the work of Shelley Preston & Gary Beaumont in the R.G. Endres Gallery during the month of November. The artist reception will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, November 10th.

THANKS to all who participated in Peanut Butter Week, especially Jennifer Vermillion for her coordination of the event. The 2017 drive collected 483 more pounds of peanut butter than last year for a total of 3,960 pounds providing 3299 meals. Special congratulations to Briarwood Elementary who collected 1034 pounds!!!

The City will be hosting two open houses from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. on November 14 and 16 in the Prairie Village Community Center to solicit feedback from the community on the conceptual plan for park improvements at Harmon and Santa Fe Parks

The National League of Cities Conference is November 15-18, 2017 in Charlotte, NC.

The Annual NEJC Chamber Gala will be held on Saturday, November 18 at the Overland Park Marriott.

Republic Services observes the Thanksgiving Holiday with trash services scheduled for Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> and Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup> being delayed one day.

City offices will be closed on Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> and Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup> in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Mark your calendars for the Annual Mayor’s Holiday Tree Lighting on Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 7 p.m. at Corinth Square.

Mark your calendars for the Annual Gingerbread House decorating event on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:30 p.m. at Briarwood Elementary School.

Save the Date for the 2017 Council of Mayors Holiday Social at 5:30 p.m. at the Lake Quivira Clubhouse. Please rsvp to Meghan by November 15<sup>th</sup> if you will be attending.

## ADJOURNMENT

Sheila Myers moved that the City Council meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Andrew Wang and passed unanimously. With no further business to come before the City Council the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Joyce Hagen Mundy  
City Clerk