

Smith Center City Council Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2024

I. Call to Order

Mayor Bryce Wiehl opened the meeting at 6pm on Monday, March 25, 2024, at the Srader Building.

II. Attendance

Council members: Don Wick, Brady Peterson, and Chris Cole. Absent: Dave Mace and Tracy Kingsbury.

Others: Nick Rhodes, Aurielle Hughes, Tabitha Owen, Jason McCartney, Kenton Freeborn, Don Gardner, Rick Hileman, Jamie Marshall, and Jill Conaway.

III. Consent Agenda

Motion by Wick, seconded by Peterson, to approve the previous meeting and special meeting minutes, vouchers, and receipts. Motion carried.

IV. Previous/Ongoing Business

- a) Property & Liability Insurances-Following review, a motion was made by Peterson, seconded by Wick, to approve Resolution 2024-4 authorizing the mayor to sign the interlocal agreement and bylaws to participate in the pool formed as KCAMP. Motion carried. Optional additions to the airport coverage provided by Starr Indemnity were reviewed. It was the consensus of the council to deny the optional coverages.

V. New Business

- a) Wagner Park Updates-Conaway presented two estimates to upgrade the DVRs for the security systems throughout the park. A motion was made by Peterson, seconded by Wick, to approve the estimates of \$650 per DVR. Motion carried.

VI. Department Reports/Committee & Board Reports

- a) Economic Development-Nick Rhodes presented for the department. A motion was made by Cole, seconded by Wick, to approve a commercial property revitalization grant of up to \$5,000 to Gene's Heartland Foods for an expansion of facilities. Motion carried. Motion by Peterson, seconded by Wick, to approve a \$5,000 jump start grant to Cross-Eyed Crickett Coffee Shop & Bakery, to be dispersed in 12 installments. Motion carried. Following discussion, a motion was made by Wick, seconded by Peterson, to approve a \$90,000 business expansion and development revolving loan with a 10-year term to K Dawg's, Kenton Freeborn, to assist in the acquisition and expansion of Arlwin Manufacturing. The city will take a second position mortgage on the real estate. Motion carried.

Rhodes shared that the board has decided to advertise for a staff position instead of a director position; allowing the possibility to gauge a good fit for a position based on qualification.

- b) Golf Course-Conaway shared the minutes from the advisory board meeting, reminding the public that the course is open from sunrise to sunset, not after sunset. Haven will order signs for the course. Hileman reported that the well pump has been rebuilt, with installation to take place when the weather permits.
- c) Police Department-Chief Marshall reported on recent police officer application and interest activity. Cole asked Marshall to share that a more favorable wage is in the works, when talking with candidates.
- d) Hileman-The county has agreed to remove the old runway at the airport and retain the millings for the work. The city will supply the water needed for the process.
- e) Clerk-Conaway updated the council on the K204 engineering fees and payments to date.

VII. Governing Body Reports

Wick-Inquired on the number of lifeguard applications received.

Cole-The fire department held their annual pancake feed the previous Saturday, with a great turnout. Cole expressed the department's gratitude to the community for their support.

VIII. Pay Scale

The governing body reviewed various pay scale options built on percentage increases. With two members absent, the pay scale will be added to the next council meeting agenda.

IX. Adjournment

Motion by Wick, seconded by Peterson, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm.