

CITY OF SEVERY

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

DECEMBER 4, 2023

7:00 P.M. AT CITY HALL, SEVERY KS

Present: Council Members Lyle Riggs, Marc Warren, Rodger Kraft & Ron Robert, Clerk Tessa Riggs, Water Superintendent Paul Schmidt and City Attorney Alleen VanBebber (via zoom)

Absent: Mayor Donna Wiss, Councilman Kevin Klepper and Treasurer Casandra Myers

Guest: Ed Cornett, Teresa Kelly, Melody Billings & Ronald Billings

Council President Warren called the regular business meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and roll was called.

Riggs moved to approve the November 2023 minutes. Kraft 2nd. Motion passed 4-0.

Robert moved to approve the November 2023 bills. Riggs 2nd. Motion passed 4-0.

Riggs moved to approve the November 2023 Treasurer's Report as presented. Kraft 2nd. Motion passed 4-0.

Robert moved to have Clerk Riggs contact the accountants regarding. Riggs 2nd. Motion passed 4-0.

Water Superintendent Schmidt reported that the rejuvenator for the roads will be delivered this week. Part time employee Plonka has done an excellent job of trimming trees and brush at the cemetery. The concrete company will be coming in a couple of weeks for the water plant. Schmidt stated that the lake levels came up 2-3 inches and the lake is still holding on and hopefully will until Spring. The water hose on the dispenser will need repaired. Schmidt also noted the tether ball is ready to be installed come Spring. Council suggested Schmidt contact Myron at B3 Sales to schedule getting the lawn mower in for repair.

Robert moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes with City Attorney VanBebber to discuss non-elected personnel. Riggs 2nd. Motion passed 4-0.

The meeting came back into session. Warren reported that no action was taken in the Executive Session.

Old Business. The city has two current ongoing violations. The property at 106 N. Severy Avenue still has time to request a hearing. The owner of the properties at 515 N. Severy Avenue, 519 N. Severy Avenue and the corner lot of Water Street and Mill Street has requested a hearing and has obtained an attorney. The Council will contact the City Clerk with available dates for the special hearing request.

New Business. Robert moved to pass the draft amended cemetery ordinance as it was presented. Kraft 2nd. Motion passed. 4-0.

The family of Peggy VanderMeyden sent a note along with a donation for the services Schmidt provided during a weekend burial. The donation will be put into the accounting fund for cemetery donations.

Clerk Riggs stated January 1st, 2024, and September 2, 2024, are federal holidays and asked if the monthly regular council meetings could be moved to later in the week. Kraft moved to change the dates to January 4, 2024, and September 5, 2024. Riggs 2nd. Motion passed 4-0.

The Council requested Clerk Riggs to consult with the City's accountants and review the service fees charged by other cities, to assist the Council in deciding service fees to budget for reasonable anticipated costs of long-term maintenance and repair of the current wastewater systems.

Council President Warren asked if there was any public comment. No comment was given.

Robert moved to approve a 3% hourly raise for full-time employees' a \$100 Christmas bonus for full-time employees and a \$50 Christmas bonus for part-time employees who work at least 20 hours per week. Kraft 2nd. Motion passed 3-0. Councilman Riggs recused himself.

Kraft moved to go into executive session for 15 minutes with City Attorney VanBebber for privileged contract matters. Riggs 2nd. Motion passed 4-0.

The meeting came back into session. Warren reported that no action was taken during the Executive Session.

Clerk Riggs stated that the Small Town Water and Sewer Infrastructure Assistance Grant she applied for in August was denied. There are a couple of new water project grants the City may be able to apply for, but they are due December 29, 2023. Robert moved to allow the Clerk to proceed to move forward for applying for the water projects fund grants. Kraft 2nd. Motion passed 4-0.

Robert moved to allow three bereavement days for full-time employees upon the death of a parent, spouse, child, sibling, or grandparent. Kraft 2nd. Motion passed 4-0.

Kraft moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Robert 2nd. Motion passed 4-0.