

City of Severy February 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

CITY OF SEVERY

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

FEBRUARY 6, 2023

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

Present: Mayor Donna Wiss, Council President Marc Warren, Council Members Lyle Riggs, Rodger Kraft, Ron Robert & Kevin Klepper, Clerk Tessa Riggs and City Attorney Alleen VanBebber (via zoom)

Absent: Treasurer Casandra Myers & Water Superintendent Paul Schmidt

Guest: Ed Cornett, Tim Moore, Kay Brown & Robin Wunderlich

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

Councilman Riggs moved to approve the January 2, 2023 minutes. Kraft 2nd. Motion passed 4-0 (Robert abstained do to being gone in January).

Robert moved to approve the January 2023 bills. Warren 2nd. Motion passed 5-0.

Clerk Riggs presented the Treasurer's Report. Income for January 2023 totaled \$93,575.27. Clerk Riggs explained that on the Greenwood County Treasurer's payment the city received for Ad Valorem taxes there was a line item for special water in the amount of \$888.95 from two property owners. Riggs reminded the council in the fall of 2022 she submitted \$6,712.10 to the county to be assessed on taxes due to delinquent utility bills. Klepper moved to approve the January 2023 Treasurer's Report as presented. Riggs 2nd. Motion passed. 5-0. Councilman Riggs commented on how nice it is to have all the financial reports done properly so the council know where they stand.

Under old business, the utility rate was discussed if the citizens understood why the city is having to increase the rates. Warren moved to ratify the rate increases as agreed to at the January 2, 2023 meeting after review with legal counsel. Riggs 2nd. Motion passed 5-0.

Under new business, Guest Tim Moore appeared before the council explaining he had a copy of July 6, 2021, council meeting minutes regarding a ditch that was to be fixed by the Severy Station and 1 1/2 years later and it has not been taken care of. Moore explained when the water comes down off the road there is no ditch on the south going west and it is higher than the road. After much discussion, Mr. Moore was explained the city now has a work order system for employees and this will be taken care of.

Guest Kay Brown asked the council if the city had any job positions open. Mayor Wiss stated that the city does not have full time positions available, but there are times the city could use some part time help. Councilman Riggs explained that the part time position does not hurt the city, but when it becomes full time, then the city is required to pay benefits. Robert mentioned there are possibilities the city could use some help during the holidays, weekends, mowings and maybe reading water meters. Riggs mentioned in the past the city has had up to 5 part time employees and is not opposed to having a couple of part time employees to back others up. Mrs. Brown handed in a completed job application and resume to keep on file.

City Attorney VanBebber explained to the council the GAAP Waiver. Robert moved to approve Resolution 2023-3 waiving the GAAP accountant procedure. Warren 2nd. Motion passed 5-0.

Clerk Riggs mentioned that back in 2022 the city had a small bank account that hasn't had any activity in the last five years and when she reconciles the books each month there is just \$.09 interest. The council approved to close this account, but the minutes need to reflect the motions. Clerk Riggs also stated that the safety deposit boxes that contain old abstracts in them, the same protocol will need followed.

Robert moved to close the small bank account ending in account #9921 at Home Bank & Trust Co in Eureka and deposit the money into the general/activity fund. Kraft 2nd. Motion passed 5-0.

Kraft moved to close safety deposit boxes at Home Bank & Trust Co in Eureka and bring all inventory back to store in the city's own secure boxes. Klepper 2nd. Motion passed 5-0.

Next on the agenda, Clerk Riggs shared the city had received two after-prom party donation letters, one from West Elk Jr/Sr High School and the other from Eureka Jr/Sr High School. Robert explained the reason there are two because Severy has students that attend both schools. In the past the city has donated \$100. Warren moved to donate \$100 to each school for their after-prom party. Riggs 2nd. Motion passed 5-0.

Clerk Riggs scheduled that Jarred, Gilmore & Phillips, PA will do the audit on February 27, 2023 at city hall.

The Kansas Rural Water Association conferences will be held the end of March and Clerk Riggs stated she will not be attending this year, but Schmidt will need to attend to maintain his credits for water. Since Schmidt is absent, this will be tabled until the March 6th meeting.

Clerk Riggs addressed the council about Kansas Department of Health & Environment water samples that Schmidt is required to send in. Riggs mentioned Schmidt usually performs his water test late afternoon due to the local post office closing at 11:30 each day and the samples are time sensitive. After testing, Schmidt packs the water samples with ice packs in a styrofoam cooler. Schmidt takes the samples to Eureka Post office, where they will sit in a climate-controlled building and then by the time the mail system gets them to Topeka, sometimes the samples must be redone due to temperature. Riggs reached out to another small town to see how they handle water samples. She received feedback that they also were having issues at one point with abnormal water results. They informed Riggs now a courier service comes thru to pick their up theirs. Riggs checked on what it would take for Severy to be on the list for a pickup. Within a few weeks, Riggs was notified that KDHE approved Severy to be on the route for pick up. This will be no charge to the city. Schmidt will have to have his test done and ready for pickup when the courier comes.

Robert stated the township graded the entire road from the corner of West Main to the end of the city limits. The next time it needs done, they city will be responsible.

Warren moved to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. Robert 2nd. Motion passed 5-0.

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