

CITY OF OSAGE CITY

COUNCIL MEETING

November 23, 2021

ROLL CALL: Now on this 23rd day of November 2021 the Governing Body of the City of Osage City, Kansas, met at the Osage City Council Chamber in said City. The following members being present and participating to wit were: Mayor: Becky Brewer. Council Members: Jim Peterson, Bruce Schoepflin, Karey Heiserman, Dale Schwieger, Mike Gilliland, Jeanette Swarts, Cathryn Houghton and Sharon Larson. Officials present: Rick Godderz, City Attorney; Rod Willis, City Manager and Katie Hodge, Deputy City Manager/City Treasurer; Terri Fultz, City Clerk and Sadie Boos, Deputy City Clerk. Others present: Police Chief Fred Nech, Doty Nech, Justin Davis, Brenda Dorsey, Tom Harm, John Rice, Kevin Stromgren, Brian Stromgren, Jeff Tice and Eric Tincher.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Motion made by Schwieger, second by Schoepflin to approve the amended agenda. The motion was declared carried.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: None

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Approval of November 9, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes.**
- 2. Approval of Quintin Robert of QRC to represent Asset LifeCycle as their representative to the Industrial Committee as requested by Beverly Drew.**

Motion made by Schoepflin, second by Houghton to approve the consent agenda. The motion was declared carried.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE COUNCIL:

- 1. Presentation of Certificates of Appreciation from the League of Kansas Municipalities to Power Plant Superintendent John Rice for 35 years, Custodian Brenda Dorsey for 25 years, Chief of Police Fred Nech for 25 years, City Clerk Terri Fultz for 20 years, and Streets and Sanitation Equipment Operator Gary Stromgren for 10 years of service to the City of Osage City:**

City Manager Rod Willis presented the League of Kansas Municipalities (LKM) Certificates for Years of Service with the City of Osage City to employees John Rice, Brenda Dorsey, Fred Nech, Terri Fultz. Employee Gary Stromgren was not present to receive his certificate in person.

- 2. Staff Retention Committee update – Mayor Becky Brewer:**

Mayor Brewer presented copies of a summary of what had been discussed at the meetings and the purpose of the Staff Retention Committee. Highest priorities for employees are wages and benefits, followed by location and flexibility. Mayor Brewer said there would be no more

meetings before the holidays, but encouraged City Council, city staff and employees to continue to move forward on addressing wage increases and restructuring the matrix.

3. Discussion on paying 100% of Single Employee Health Insurance by the City vs current plan coverages paid – Deputy City Manager/City Treasurer Katie Hodge:

Deputy City Manager/City Treasurer Katie Hodge provided a sheet showing the costs to the City for coverage for paying 100% of single employee coverage for all plans. This sheet laid out current coverage percentages paid by the City per plan and also 2022 coverages if 100% of the employee single plan cost were paid by the City per plan. Katie explained that 100% of a single employee paid cost for all plans would be feasible.

Motion made by Heiserman, second by Gilliland to pay 100% of single employee coverage for all plans beginning as of January 1, 2022, subject to review each year. The motion was declared carried.

4. Discussion on Basic Benefits Package for Full-time City of Osage City Employees including life insurance coverages – City Clerk Terri Fultz:

City Clerk Terri Fultz provided a prepared sheet showing a summary of all the paid benefits by the City for each eligible employee. This Basic Benefits Package for Full-time City Employees summarizes coverage for health, dental and vision insurance, life insurance, retirement, City paid holidays, schedule of earned vacation, sick leave and personnel leave and optional benefits that can be taken by employees and paid through payroll deduction. This Basic Benefit Summary can also be provided during interviews for applicants for employment with the City, to take for review once the interview is completed.

5. Discussion on the Police Department precautionary period of one year be changed to six months to match precautionary period of other City departments – Police Officer Adam Cronk representing the Police Department:

This was a question brought up requesting whether the precautionary period of one year could be changed to six months. At this time the Personnel Manual states that the Police Department has a precautionary period of one year and cannot take any of their earned leave until their one year precautionary time has been completed. This matter will be discussed with Chief Nech and brought back to the City Council, so Chief Nech can attend the meeting for his input.

6. Approval of Phase 2 Sanitary Sewer Improvements Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$32,112.00 for bid quantities for unpaved, paved, and gravel linear feet over ductile iron and PVC pipe – Prepared by Waldo Margheim, P.E. of Burns & McDonnell:

Motion made by Schwieger, second by Schoepflin to approve Change Order No. 1 for the Phase 2 Sanitary Sewer Improvements in the amount of \$32,112.00 for bid quantities for unpaved, paved, and gravel linear feet over ductile iron and PVC pipe and authorize the City Manager to sign the change order. The motion was declared carried.

- 7. Approval of Letter of Intent to Purchase 800 MHz Motorola Radios for the Osage City Police Department in the amount not-to-exceed \$51,627.00 due to the Osage County Sheriff's Department going to 800 MHz radios County wide, requiring Police Departments, EMS, Fire Departments, USD 420 to participate or lose communication ability with other agencies – Chief of Police Fred Nech:**

Motion made by Gilliland, second by Schwieger to approve the Letter of Intent to purchase the 800 MHz Motorola Radios for the Osage City Police Department in the amount not to exceed \$51,627.00. The motion was declared carried.

- 8. Authorize Mayor Brewer to sign a letter of support for a newly announced Historic Economic Asset Lifeline (HEAL) grant program for the Star Block building owned by Nathan Willis. The City does not have any financial obligations to the HEAL grant with grant awards up to \$75,000.00:**

Motion made by Larson, second by Schoepflin to authorize the Mayor to sign a Letter of Support from the City of Osage City supporting the Star Block Building owner, Nathan Willis to apply for the Historic Economic Asset Lifeline (HEAL) grant. The motion was declared carried.

- 9. Discussion on the appointment to City Council vacancy on Ward 1 due to Linda Fancher declining write-in election to the position – City Attorney Rick Godderz:**

City Attorney Rick Godderz explained that the write-in elected position for City Council Member for Ward 1 was declined by Linda Fancher. This position would then need to be someone appointed by the City Council for Ward 1 in January 2022.

- 10. Appointment for President of the City Council due to the pending resignation of Council Member Dale Schwieger to become the new Utilities Director on December 13th. The new President will become the Mayor on Monday January 10, 2022 to serve the two year term until the next election. Information from the League of Kansas Municipalities and K.S.A. 14-204 & K.S.A. 14-308 – City Attorney Rick Godderz;**

City Attorney Rick Godderz explained that the City Council would need to appoint a new President of City Council at the next council meeting on December 14th. The newly appointed President of City Council would take the Mayor position in January 2022 to fill the 2 year term.

- 11. Discussion on the appointment to City Council vacancy on Ward 4 due to pending resignation of Council Member Dale Schwieger effective the end of this City Council meeting. Expression of Interest Forms have been received from Brian Stromgren of 406 Van Buren Street and Jeff Tice of 1121 Schenk Street – City Attorney Rick Godderz:**

City Attorney Rick Godderz advised the City Council to wait until the January 10, 2022 meeting to appoint the replacement for the Ward 4 position. Both Brian Stromgren and Jeff Tice have presented an Expression of Interest Form and also spoke of their interest to the position for Council Member in Ward 4.

