

Westmoreland City Council
July 13, 2023 minutes

The Westmoreland City Council met on July 13, 2023 at the Westmoreland Community Center for its monthly meeting.

Governing Body members present: Mayor, Mark S. Jack; Councilmembers, Jim Smith, Waide Purvis and Bruce Meininger.

Governing Body member absent: Councilmembers John Coleman and Ashley Rice

City Staff present: Maintenance Supervisor, Robert Krohn; City Treasurer, Amanda (Mandi) Reese; and City Clerk, Julie Wren

Others present: Residents; Michelle Campbell, John Grub, Chamber Members; Natha Manges Burns and Pat Burns, Rock Creek Endowment; Kristi Timm and Reporter of The Times; Cale Prater.

There being a quorum present, Mayor Jack called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Agenda: Councilmember Purvis asked to change Michele Johnson to Pat and Natha Manges Burns presenting on behalf of Chamber. Councilmember Purvis moved to approve the agenda with additions. Councilmember Meininger seconded the motion. The motion passed three (3) ayes to zero (0) nay with Councilmembers Coleman and Rice being absent.

Consent Items: There being no corrections or discussion, Councilmember Smith moved to approve the consent items. Councilmember Purvis seconded the motion. The motion passed three (3) ayes to zero (0) nay with Councilmembers Coleman and Rice being absent.

Public comments on non-agenda items:

John Grub, Resident of Westmoreland, presented to the Council statistics of kids 16 years and younger being involved in accidents per year while riding a quad. John made the comment that he sees so many kids, adults and kids together, riding these 4 wheelers and UTVs down the alley, which he lives off of, at high rate of speed he's worried he's going to witness not only an accident, but possibly a death. Because of these drivers the alley, which he must use as an entrance to his home, is full of potholes and is dangerous. John asked if there's anything the Council could do with these people and kids on these 4 wheelers, UTV's and dirt bikes and such going down his alley, on city streets and highways. Mayor stated since we do not have a city police department, unfortunately there's not much the city can do. He encourages residents to call the Pottawatomie County Sheriff's Office when this is seen being done. Councilmember

Purvis agreed, call the Sheriff's Office and try to get evidence. If there's evidence of the UTV or ATV not being tagged with the City, we then can prosecute, but we must have evidence of this.

Michelle Campbell, Resident of Westmoreland, wanted to personally thank the City Attorney and Clerk for their efforts of a recent court case that took place. Since then she has not seen loose dogs in her neighborhood and the noise nuisance is very minimal.

Kristi Timm, speaking for the Rock Creek Endowment, requesting a donation. This is the 3rd Fundraising event in support of Rock Creek (grants for classrooms). This event will take place September 30th at the Divine Vineyard. Councilmember Purvis motioned to donate a 2024 Season Pool Party- 2 Hours- to the Rock Creek Endowment for the auction. Councilmember Meininger seconded the motion. The motion passed three (3) ayes to zero (0) nay with Councilmembers Coleman and Rice being absent.

(Kristi & John exited at 6:50 PM)

Pat & Natha Manges Burns of Westmoreland Area Chamber, event in September:

Pat presented to the council that the chamber is putting on a cornhole tournament September 16th. They would like to block Main Street off from 2nd Street to 4th Street from 10:00 AM to 11:00 PM. There will be food trucks, a street dance, and a beer tent. Councilmember Smith motioned to allow the Westmoreland Chamber to hold their cornhole tournament on September 16, 10:00 AM to 11:00 PM with blocking Main Street off at 2nd and 4th Street. Councilmember Purvis seconded the motion. The motion passed three (3) ayes to zero (0) nay with Councilmembers Coleman and Rice being absent.

Approval of City Property Use Form: With knowing there was going to be a request for an event to occur in our town, City Maintenance Supervisor & City Clerk discussed how to make it so a city employee doesn't have to be clocked in for the entire day for the event due to setting up and tearing down the road blocks. Attorney Dierks reviewed the form and said it looked good. Mayor asked to add that it is the organization/individual's responsibility to contact the Pottawatomie Sherriff's Office about the roads being blocked off. Councilmember Purvis moved to approve the City property use form once amended with organization/individual's responsibility to contact the Pottawatomie Sherriff's Office about the roads being blocked off. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed three (3) ayes to zero (0) nay with Councilmembers Coleman and Rice being absent.

Westmoreland Area Chamber- what council can do to assist with billboards:

Attorney Dierks couldn't find any stipulations about donating to the Chamber. Councilmember Purvis ask that Rita and/or Kaylene attend next month's meeting to discuss the donation and due to not having a quorum again (with Councilmember Meininger excluding himself), there couldn't be a vote at this time.

Budget Hearing Date, Approval of Revenue Neutral Rate (RNR) with VonFeldt, Bauer & VonFeldt: Houston Pierce with VonFeldt, Bauer & VonFeldt Chtd sent a proposed 2024 Budget to look over and to vote to exceed the revenue neutral rate and report to the County. At this time there were no changes to the breakout of fund expenses. Councilmember Purvis moved to submit notice to county clerk of exceeding the revenue neutral rate. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed three (3) ayes to zero (0) nay with Councilmembers Coleman and Rice being absent.

Discuss dates to go over pool manual: Due to Councilmember Rice not there, Council asked that they pick a date when she's there.

Future agenda items: Discuss dates to go over pool manual, discussion on donation to Chamber once a member can attend a meeting.

Reports:

Treasurer: Treasurer informed council that the city paid off the Lease for the Mini Excavator & city employees health insurance auto renewed with a 38% decrease in the premium. The treasurer told council that the sales tax income had Increased since this time last year.

Maintenance Report:

UTILITIES

- Completed 8 work orders for water meter read in/turn on and/or read out/shut off.
- Sent June drinking water samples to KDHE. Samples came back negative for E.coli and/or coliform.
- Completed 10 Kansas One Call locate tickets.
- Unplugged sanitary sewer main at 105 N. HWY 99, due to an obstruction in the sanitary sewer main between MH 115 and MH 46. Sent wastewater bypass report to KDHE.
- B&B Services completed annual service on the valves at the water vault.
- Repaired and sent invoice for damaged AMR-water meter sensor at 201 B N. Walnut.

STREETS

- Completed one work order to trim tree limbs at the intersection of 4th/Campbell due to safety issues with a stop sign and stop sign ahead at that intersection.

PARKS

- Picked up trash and tree limbs at city properties.
- Mowed, trimmed, and sprayed weeds.
- Watered flower planters throughout town.
- Removed treated wood border around playground equipment at City Park that had become a safety issue.
- Trimmed low hanging tree limbs.
- Sprayed for broadleaf and bindweed at all parks except the RV Park due to complaint being turned into the county noxious weed department.

CEMETERY

- Mowed, trimmed, and sprayed weeds.
- Removed flowers and items not allowed after June 10th.

POOL

- Mowed, trimmed, and sprayed weeds.
- Reinstalled sink and replaced broken drain line/supply lines in the woman's bathroom.

BUILDINGS

- Mowed, trimmed, and sprayed weeds.
- Painted the pipe bollards in front of bay doors at the fire station.
- Replaced faulty LED exterior security light on the north side of the fire station.
- Alternative Air completed annual ac service at all city buildings.
- Discuss mold issue in the insulation due to no moisture barrier installed between the insulation and exterior rock walls behind the dry wall at City Hall.
- Installed AED cabinets at the pool, City Hall, and the Community Center for when the units arrive.
- Alternative Air made repairs to the ac/furnace at the library.
- Formed, finish graded, poured, backfilled/seeded/erosion control mat the water service installation at the Community Center.
- Sprayed for broadleaf and bindweed at all buildings except the pool and RV Park due to complaint being turned into the county noxious weed department.

PLANNING AND ZONING

- Issued a chicken permit for 305 W. Redbud.
- Issued a building permit for a carport at 408 N. 2nd.
- Issued a building permit for a house at 205 Cochrun.

- The property owner of 206 S. Walnut will be submitting a replat of the property to create 3 building lots for new construction for the planning and zoning board to review.
- Issued a building permit for a fence at 210 E. State.
- Issued a building permit for an accessory use building at 404 Quail Dr.

EQUIPMENT

- Replaced solid front tires on M1, due to falling apart off of the tire rims.
- KanEquip completed warranty work on M2, adjusting engine valves due to backfiring while using.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

- Attached Chart for inoperable vehicles and mowing/weeds.
- Forced mowed property in violation at 703 N. 1st and sent invoice to property management company.

MISC. – Spoke with Richard Herman, planning/working on fixing the bent flag poles in the cemetery.

Clerks Report: City Clerk Wren was asked about our animal control, if there's interest, what are they needing to do? The Council is excited in the interest and said for them to bring in a proposal and go from there. She stated the person asking is at the very beginning stages so it may be a while if/or when he'd be able to come in with a proposal. Clerk Wren said the Cox Franchise Fees should begin 45 days after June 30, 2023 since there had been residents that signed up in the 2nd quarter time frame. 2023 League Annual Conference for clerks is scheduled for October 7-9 in Wichita. If Wren signs up now, there's a discount for the conference. Councilmember Purvis motioned to allow Mrs. Wren to attend the Conference October 7-9th in Wichita. Councilmember Meininger seconded the motion. The motion passed three (3) ayes to zero (0) nay with Councilmembers Coleman and Rice being absent.

(Cale exited @ 7:30 PM)

Streets- Councilmember Meininger had nothing to report.

Utilities- Councilmember Coleman absent.

Animal Control- Councilmember Smith had nothing to report.

Planning & Zoning- Councilmember Smith had nothing to report.

Pool- Councilmember Rice was absent, City Treasurer Reese presented on her behalf. The plan is to have the pool stay open until August 13th, then drop to just weekends until Labor Day. They have 16 kids signed up for public swimming lessons. Mayor Mark

asked that a meeting be scheduled to go over some items that had been brought to his attention. With the pool being such a big liability, he wants to be sure things are being done right.

Cemetery- Councilmember Purvis had nothing to report. Mayor Jack asked Attorney Dierks look at the recent tract of land that got annexed into the city with the County wasn't done correctly.

Parks- Councilmember Purvis had nothing to report.

Fire Department- Councilmember Smith had nothing to report, however asked if it would be ok that he purchase a polo with the City of Westmoreland logo on it. Suggested maybe the city purchase everyone a shirt with the city's logo. Councilmembers didn't show interest but gave the ok for Smith to purchase a shirt through the City.

Flint Hills Regional Council- Council member Meininger and Resident Campbell shared that they're discussing bringing training locally for small entrepreneurs in the Flint Hills region. Also saddened to hear Jerry, the Director of Flint Hills and the gentleman who was helping us to get it passed that residents could represent towns, will be stepping down and FHRC is looking for a new director.

Mayor- Mayor Jack had nothing to report.

City Attorney- Attorney Dierks said the next court case scheduled is the 27th for inoperable vehicle, otherwise nothing to report.

(All others present left @ 7:52 PM)

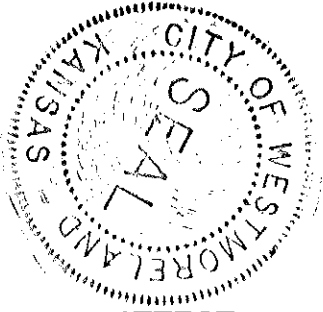
Executive Session: Councilmember Purvis moved to enter into executive session at 7:52 PM for no more than ten (10) minutes with the Mayor, Councilmembers, City Clerk, and Utility Maintenance Supervisor in attendance for personnel matters of non-elected personnel and to protect their privacy. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed three (3) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmembers Coleman and Rice being absent.

Councilmember Purvis moved to exit the executive session at 8:02 PM. Councilmember Meininger seconded the motion. The motion passed three (3) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmembers Coleman and Rice being absent.

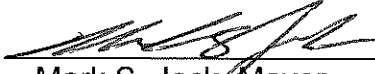
No action taken.

There being no further business, Councilmember Smith moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Meininger seconded the motion. The motion passed three (3) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmembers Coleman and Rice being absent.

Mayor Jack declared the meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM.
Approved by the Governing Body on August 10, 2023.



ATTEST

Signed: 
Mark S. Jack, Mayor


Julie Wren, City Clerk