

Westmoreland City Council Meeting
June 9, 2016 Minutes

The Westmoreland City Council met on June 9, 2016 at the Westmoreland Community Center for its regular monthly meeting.

Governing Body members present: Mayor, Mark Goodenow; Councilmembers, Jim Smith, Jim Moore, Jeff Rosell and Mark Jack.

Governing Body members absent: Councilmember Waide Purvis.

City Staff present: Maintenance Supervisor, Robert Krohn; City Treasurer, Lindsay Elliott; City Attorney, John Watt and City Clerk, Vicki Zentner.

Others present: Residents: Dorothy Campbell, Wendy Hudson, Pat Andel and Wayne “Chick” Roberts; Tim Stadel, Westmoreland/Seven Township Fire Department; Bruce Brazzle with Weis Fire and Safety and Matthew Cobb, reporter with *The Wamego Smoke Signal*.

There being a quorum present Mayor Goodenow called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Additions/Deletions to the prepared agenda: Councilmember Moore asked that a discussion on inoperable vehicles at Umscheid Auto Works be added to the agenda. Councilmember Jack asked that a discussion on the foundation of the house on State Street be added as well.

There being no further additions or deletions to the prepared agenda, Councilmember Moore moved to approve the amended agenda. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Approval of minutes from May 12, 2016 regular meeting and May 25, 2016 special meeting: Councilmember Smith moved to approve the corrected minutes of the May 12, 2016 meeting and the minutes of the May 25, 2016 meeting as presented. Councilmember Jack seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Approval of payment of monthly bills: Councilmember Moore asked Maintenance Supervisor Krohn if the payment for the rental of a backhoe to open and close a grave was due to the city’s backhoe being repaired. Krohn responded that it was.

Councilmember Moore asked City Treasurer/Pool Manager Elliott why the city purchased chips from Rock Creek High School. Elliott replied that the individual bags of chips were purchased from the students that went on the Costa Rica trip that were left over from their fundraising.

Councilmember Moore commented on the deposit of the Insurance Dividend check from EMC Insurance and asked that a spreadsheet be available at the next council meeting for the council to see.

There being no further questions or comments concerning the monthly bills, Councilmember Rosell moved to approve the payment of the monthly bills as presented. Councilmember Jack seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Opening of bids for Armer Street sidewalk project: City Clerk Zentner opened the two (2) bids the city had received for the Armer Street sidewalk project and read aloud the amount of each one.

Fleming Brothers, St. George, Kansas bid \$19,367.60

Ornamental Concrete, St. Marys, Kansas bid \$22,081.00

Councilmember Moore moved to accept the bid from Fleming Brothers in the amount of \$19,367.60 for the five (5) block sidewalk project on Armer Street. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Public Comments: Resident Pat Andel addressed the council and asked for the placement of a sign stating “Children At Play” near his home where his wife provides child care. He stated that vehicles “fly down the street in front of his home”. When asked where Mr. Andel would like the sign placed, he stated that the east side of the street would be fine.

Mr. Andel also addressed the council concerning the ditch on Walnut Street along his property. He stated that he was not going to mow this ditch anymore due to having a mower blade broken and the motor of his weed eater breaking as will. He said it was getting out of hand and he couldn't take care of it by himself any longer.

Councilmember Moore stated that he and Maintenance Supervisor Krohn would look at it again.

(Mr. Andel exited the meeting at 7:12 PM).

Storm Water Run-off: Resident Dorothy Campbell addressed the council regarding the storm water runoff near her property on 6th Street. She stated that the runoff was due to the streets being higher than the creek from the chip and seal over the years. There is a brome in the alley to keep the runoff from pooling, but a past resident had made the alley narrower. She also stated that dirt from the sewer re-hab being dispersed at the creek bed was changing the natural flow of the creek which makes the water flow more to the east and thus washes the trees roots out on the north side. The extra runoff of rain water from the new Justice Center parking lot was also contributing to the problem as well which has since formed a sink hole.

Mrs. Campbell recommended the council get an engineer to give the city guidance as to what to do to help the situation.

Councilmember Moore stated that he would look again at the problem, but wasn't sure what to do. Mrs. Campbell stated again the need for having an engineer look at the issue.

Maintenance Supervisor Krohn stated that a previous resident in the area had asked the city for fill dirt on the bank of the creek that was on his property, but over time, the rain and runoff has caused it to slowly eat away. Krohn was planning to use the concrete from the old sidewalks on Armer Street to build the slope back up.

After some discussion, Councilmember Moore stated that with the council's permission, he would set up a meeting with the county engineer between himself, Krohn and Councilmember Rosell for any suggestions the engineer might have to help with the situation.

Westy Area Chamber request: Councilmember Moore stated that he had been asked by the chairperson of the "Christmas in Westmoreland" committee of the Westy Area Chamber to ask the city to put a banner across Main Street advertising the event on the second (2nd) Saturday in December.

Wendy Hudson stated that she was on the committee and they wanted to put one at each end of town as well.

Supervisor Krohn stated that Westar Energy would not allow the city to use their utility poles to hang anything on that wasn't already there (street light pole banners). Mayor Goodenow stated he didn't see there being any problem with signs being put up at the east and west entrances into town. Councilmember Rosell asked that the costs of the signage be looked into before the council made a decision.

Discussion on Fire Department air compressor: Bruce Brazzle with Weis Fire and Safety addressed the council regarding the need for an air compressor for the fire department to fill their air bottles.

Mr. Brazzle stated that after meeting with Chief Smith and fire department officers, they found that the present compressor would not be compatible with the replacement bottles in the near future. There was also a concern that there weren't any carbon monoxide detectors on the present bottles which is a NFPA (National Fire Protection Agency) requirement. He was concerned of the quality of air the firemen were breathing and felt it wasn't safe with the present system in place.

Councilmember Moore asked if Seven Township Fire Board would be willing to pay half of a new compressor. Tim Stadel stated that the board would be willing to go up to \$12,000.

Pool-Councilmember Jack stated he had nothing more to report on the pool.

Fire Department-Tim Stadel reported that the pump testing had been done recently and that a leak on Engine One had been detected. The repair cost was \$1,002.

Councilmember Jack moved to approve the repair to Engine One at a cost of \$1,002. Councilmember Moore seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Cemetery and Parks-Due to the absence of Councilmember Purvis, there were no reports presented.

Mayor-Mayor Goodenow stated he had nothing to report.

City Attorney-Attorney Watt stated he was working on a chicken ordinance as instructed and it would be ready to consider at the July 14, 2016 council meeting.

There being no further business brought before the council, Councilmember Smith moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Moore seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Mayor Goodenow declared the meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Approved by the Governing Body on July 14, 2016.



Vicki B. Zentner
Vicki B. Zentner, City Clerk

Signed: 
Mark A. Goodenow, Mayor