

Westmoreland City Council
January 12, 2023 minutes

The Westmoreland City Council met on January 12, 2023 at the Westmoreland Community Center for its monthly meeting.

Governing Body members present: Mayor, Mark S. Jack; Councilmembers, Jim Smith, John Coleman, Ashley Rice, and Bruce Meininger.

Governing Body member absent: Councilmember Waide Purvis

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

Others present: Michelle Campbell, Resident , Phyllis and John Hupe, Residents and Cale Prater, Reporter of The Times.

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

Agenda: Councilmember Smith moved to approve the Agenda. Councilmember Meininger seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Consent Items: Councilmember Smith moved to approve the consent items. Councilmember Rice seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Public comments on non-agenda items: There were no comments on non-agenda items from the public in attendance.

Resident Phyllis Hupe regarding stop signs on 4th St: Resident Hupe stated she was on the Council in the 90's when the extra stop signs were first put on 4th Street. She presented to the Council a map of 4th Street with all locations of the stop signs and asked their thoughts of removing them and making it a through road. Mayor Jack asked Maintenance Supervisor Krohn what the cost would be to do this and his response was very minimal, the only items maybe needed would be the sign saying 2 way or 4 way stop and orange flags to mark new locations of stop signs for the roads running East and West. Council decided to table the discussion and will address again at next meeting.

(Phyllis and John Hupe exited the meeting at 6:55 pm)

Approval of Res. #01-23 "...waiving the requirements of K.S.A. 75-1120a(a) as they apply to the City of Westmoreland...": Councilmember Rice moved to approve Resolution #01-23 as presented. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Approval of Ord 594 "...relating to monthly water rates...": Mayor Jack informed those present that due to Rural Water District #4 (water supplier to the city) raising their rates to the city, the council passed the rate increase along to the consumers last meeting. Ordinance #594 raises the rate for each 1,000 gallons of usage from \$7.90 to \$8.10.

Councilmember Rice moved to approve Ordinance 594 which amends Ordinance 564 regarding monthly water rates from the current \$7.90 per 1,000 gallons of usage to \$8.10. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Approval for documentation destruction: City Clerk and Treasurer provided a list of documentation needing to be destroyed. Mayor Jack appreciated the detailed forms provided of what is needing to be destroyed. Councilmember Smith moved to approve the destruction of documents. Councilmember Meininger seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Approval of Check Policy: Councilmember Rice moved to approve Check Policy as presented. Councilmember Meininger seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Councilmember representing Westmoreland for Flint Hills Regional Council: Michelle Campbell let us know that FHRC will be sending us an invoice for membership within the next couple weeks and will hopefully have an answer if she can represent the City of Westmoreland. This will be added to the agenda next month.

Approval of Ord. 593..."amending ord 579 vacating the alley at 306 & 308 Quail"- Councilmember Rice moved to approve Ordinance 593 as presented. Councilmember Meininger seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

ARPA Funds: Mayor Jack asked how much is left to spend and Mandi (City Treasurer) stated around \$29,700. Maintenance Supervisor Krohn explained to the Council what the funds could and could not be used for. Krohn requested to spend the funds on a couple generators and replacing the UTV. The generators run about \$1,200-1,300 apiece. They would be purchased to power sanitary sewer lift stations and drinking water control vault in the need of a power outage and/or emergency. With trading in the UTV the City has now it would be about \$20,000 for a new one. The UTV will be purchased to assist with maintaining, in all aspects, the wastewater and water systems.

Councilmember Meininger moved to spend the remaining ARPA Funds on Generators which will be purchased to power sanitary sewer lift stations and drinking water control vault in the need of a power outage and/or emergency and a UTV which will be purchased to assist with maintaining, in all aspects, the wastewater and water systems along with a \$5,000 cushion if needed. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

(Officer Torres joins @ 7:15 pm)

Future agenda items: discussion on stop signs located on 4th street, waiting on Invoice to proceed with Flint Hills Regional Council,

Reports:

Treasurer: Treasurer Reese asked for an increase for Robert's Credit Card from \$2,500 to \$5,000. Councilmember Rice moved to approve to raise Robert's Credit Card through the Bank from \$2,500 to \$5,000. Councilmember Meininger seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Reese asked the Council about the Safety Deposit Box at the Bank due to it having the previous City Clerk listed as signer and no one else. Councilmember Rice moved to change the signature card for the Safety Deposit Box to have City Clerk Wren, Treasurer Reese and Maintenance Supervisor Krohn as signers. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

(Cale leaves @ 7:32 pm)

Maintenance Report:

UTILITIES

- Completed several work orders for water meter shut off due to frozen/leaking pipes during the week of negative temperatures.

STREETS

- Removed Christmas lights and decorations throughout town.
- Began rewiring large Christmas light displays.
- Completed work order and sent invoice for trimming trees at 609 N. 1st due to a code violation not being taken care of by the property owner.
- Spread salt on streets, ice melt on city property sidewalks and/or cleared snow off of streets on 12/19, 12/20, 12/21, and 12/22.
- Need to discuss 2023 plans for street maintenance.

CEMETERY

- Assisted with repairs to the north chain link fence line damaged by adjoining property owner.

BUILDINGS

- Garage Door Place made repairs to north garage door at the fire station.
- Inspected and lubricated garage doors at the fire station and the shop.

EQUIPMENT

- Installed new air compressor on equipment utility trailer (X7).

CODE ENFORCEMENT

- Attached Chart for inoperable vehicles and mowing/weeds.
- Will begin notifying property owners of the following violations 1/9/23, after pausing for the holidays in 2022.

Clerks Report: Clerk Wren asked the Council if they would be ok with changing the RV Park cell phone number due to the amount of spam calls she's been receiving. Maintenance Supervisor Krohn also stated when he had the phone a couple times he had the same problem. The Council did not see a problem with getting a new number.

Clerk Wren asked if she could represent the City and attend the City Chamber meetings. The Council said to attend meetings while staying clocked in and will pay for the meal using the amount the handbook policy states.

Dog tags were ordered through Precision Printing the last week of October and nobody with the company could give an estimated time of arrival. Councilmember Rice recommended talking with Navrats to see what service they could provide and possibly get dog tags to us quicker and cancel the order with Precision Printing. Clerk Wren agreed to look into this.

In the past the City had a charge account at the grocery store. Wren asked if this is something they would like her to ask about with the grocery store and possibly Dollar General. Councilmember Rise suggested to see if it's possible first.

Streets-Councilmember Meininger had nothing to report.

Utilities-Councilmember Coleman had nothing to report.

Animal Control-Councilmember Smith had nothing to report.

Planning & Zoning-Councilmember Smith had nothing to report.

Pool- Councilmember Rice brought up needing to get positions for the pool advertised ASAP. Pool Manual needing to be looked into and updated. Mayor Jack asked the Council to consider having every employee (salaried or not) clock in and out. Nothing more discussed on this matter.

Clerk brought up donations for Diamond Club and Rock Creek After Prom. Councilmember Rice moved to donate a family pool pass to the Rock Creek After Prom. Councilmember Meininger seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Cemetery- Councilmember Purvis was absent.

Parks- Councilmember Purvis was absent.

Fire Department- Smith had nothing to report.

Mayor- Mayor Jack brought up BlueValley's concern of the City's December newsletter involving Cox Communication causing confusion. Mayor Jack and Council agreed the City would not be able to put anything else out to the people stating all the available options for services.

(Resident Campbell and Officer Torres exits @ 8:10 PM)

Councilmember Rice moved to enter executive session at 8:10 PM for no more than ten (10) minutes with the Mayor, Councilmembers, Maintenance Supervisor, City Clerk and City Treasurer. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Councilmember Rice moved to exit the executive session at 8:23 PM. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

There was no action taken as a result of the executive session.

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

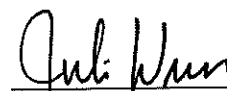
Mayor Jack declared the meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Approved by the Governing Body on February 09, 2023.

Signed: _____

Mark S. Jack, Mayor

ATTEST


Julie Wren, City Clerk

