

Westmoreland City Council Meeting
April 13, 2017 minutes

The Westmoreland City Council met for its monthly meeting on April 13, 2017 at the Westmoreland Community Center at 7:00 PM.

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

City Staff present: City Attorney, John Watt; Maintenance Supervisor, Robert Krohn; City Treasurer, Teresa Varriale, Pool Manager, Amber Krohn; City Agent, Jeff Zimmerman and City Clerk, Vicki Zentner.

Others present: Elmer Smith, resident; Janet Goodenow, Caitlin McLean and Bekah Purvis, library committee members; Pat Weixelman, Pottawatomie County Commissioner; Robert Reece, Pottawatomie County Administrator and Cale Prater, reporter for *The Smoke Signal*.

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

Additions/deletions to agenda: Mayor Goodenow stated that Charles Britton would not be attending the meeting. Councilmember Moore asked for an executive session to discuss non-elected personnel.

There being no further additions or deletions to the agenda, Councilmember Purvis moved to accept the amended agenda. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays.

Approval of minutes of March 9, 2017 regular meeting, March 16 and March 30, 2017 special meetings: Councilmember Smith moved to approve the corrected minutes of March 9, 2017 meeting and March 16 and March 30, 2017 special meetings. Councilmember Jack seconded the motion. The motion passed five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays.

Approval of monthly bills: Councilmember Jack moves to approve payment of the monthly bills. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays.

Opening of North Street sidewalk bids: Mayor Goodenow asked clerk, Zentner, to open the bids received for the sidewalk project on North Street. After reading of the five (5) bids received and clarification by Supervisor Krohn, Councilmember Mark moved to accept the low bid from Fleming Brothers in the amount of \$7,477.80. Councilmember Rosell seconded the motion. The motion passed five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays.

Public Comments: Resident Elmer Smith approached the council with his idea of obtaining property in the city to build a hardware store. He stated he just wanted to make sure that the property in question would be zoned for commercial use.

After some brief discussion, Attorney Watt informed Mr. Smith that he would need to obtain a building permit for any work done on the property and if the zoning administrator found nothing wrong with the application then Mr. Smith could proceed with constructing the hardware store.

There being no further public comments, Mayor Goodenow continued with the business of the council.

Pool manager report/requests: Pool manager, Amber Krohn, addressed the council next. She explained that she had hoped to be able to hire 8-10 guards for the pool season, but after speaking with the Wamego pool manager, and conflicts of scheduling guards for the first two (2) weeks in June, she would be hiring 10-12 guards.

Amber also asked the council to consider hiring two (2) head lifeguards instead of an assistant manager and head lifeguard. She stated that between schedules of the two (2) guards that had indicated they wanted to be assistant manager and head lifeguard, she felt that having the two (2) head guards and splitting duties between them was an ideal solution.

Councilmember Purvis moved to allow the pool manager to hire two (2) head lifeguards instead of an assistant manager and head lifeguard. Councilmember Jack seconded the motion. The motion passed five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays.

Amber also asked that the rate of pay for the two (2) head lifeguards be \$8.25. Councilmember Purvis moved the rate of pay for the two (2) head lifeguards be \$8.25 an hour each as requested. Councilmember Jack seconded the motion. The motion passed five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays.

Amber would like to have an "end of school" bash on Wednesday, May 24th from 5:00 pm to 12:00 midnight with games and prizes. Flyers will be made and sent home with the elementary students at both Westmoreland and St. George elementary schools and one (1) taken to Rock Creek to be posted by the office there. The council felt this was a good idea.

Councilmember Moore stated that he had contacted Mr. Tim Kite, who managed the Onaga city pool for several years, and asked if he would be willing to come and help Amber with getting the pool ready and going through the pool handbook with her. Mr. Kite had said he would be willing to do so and did not want any compensation for doing so.

Amber informed the council that some of the concerns of the returning guards was the broken umbrella and the floor in the pool house. Both of these concerns will be fixed by the maintenance supervisor.

It was agreed by the council to not allow the guards to have cell phones while on duty, whether in the pool house or on the pool deck.

Discussion on formal proposal to regional library board for their consideration: Attorney Watt informed the council that they should have a formal written proposal sent to the Pottawatomie Wabauensee Regional Library board with the hours, days and use of volunteers the city would like at the library for the board's consideration.

After some brief discussion on the aforementioned items, the council instructed Councilmember Purvis, library liaison, Janet Goodenow, city library committee chairperson and the city clerk to compose the formal written proposal as soon as possible and forward to Attorney Watt for review and then send to the library board.

County Commissioner, Pat Weixelman, stated he felt that there might still be scheduling conflicts with volunteers should the city take over the library.

Councilmember Jack moved to allow Councilmember Purvis, Janet Goodenow and the city clerk draft a formal letter to the library board and send it after being reviewed by the city attorney. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays.

Councilmember Moore asked County Administrator Robert Reece if the city drops out of the regional library system if the mill levy would go down. Mr. Reece stated that it would. Councilmember Moore then asked if the city could raise its own mill levy for a city owned library. Mr. Reese responded it would be subject to the mill levy cap, but if the city wished to raise the mill levy over the "cap", they would have to put the issue to a vote by the patrons.

Sales tax issue: Councilmember Rosell asked the Mayor to allow Mr. Reece and County Commissioner Weixelman to speak to those in attendance about the county wide sales tax sunset issue.

Mr. Reece explained that the 1% county wide sales tax would expire in 2020. The city receives approximately \$100,000 of tax money from the county each year. Should the county sales tax not return, this amount will not be available to the city in its general budget. Mr. Reese stated that this information needed to be relayed to the residents and ask them to have the county commissioners put the item on the next ballot for a vote. The commissioners will need to decide if they want it to go for another 15 or so years or become permanent. He stated that the county commissioners and city councilmembers cannot promote it, and suggested the Westy Area chamber and other chambers in the county be given the information and promote the issue themselves. Mr. Reese also stated that if it doesn't pass the first time, it can still be put to a vote in 2019. June 1st is the deadline for the county clerk to get it on the August ballot.

(Mr. Reese and Mr. Weixelman left the meeting at 8:09 PM).

Donation request from St. Luke Lutheran Youth Group: Councilmember Rosell moved to donate a family pool pass to St. Luke Lutheran Youth Group's fundraiser. Councilmember Jack seconded the motion. The motion passed five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays.

City Agent report: After discussing the vehicles that had been written up by the city agent and still were not taken care of by the owners, Attorney Watt stated he would write a letter giving the owners two (2) weeks to move the vehicles or appear in municipal court.

As for the trash/debris issues, Attorney Watt state he felt that the main issue was the properties on Main Street. Watt had held a conversation with the owners and they had stated that they will get the properties cleaned up within the next few weeks.

Setting date to meet with Seven Township Fire Board: June 5th will be the next Seven Township fire board meeting and Assistant Chief, Michael Ridder, suggested the council could set this date as a time to meet with the board to talk about the obligations of the board to the city, etc. The council agreed to June 5th at the fire station as the date to meet with the fire board.

Setting date for touring of city properties: The council set Saturday, April 22nd as the date for the annual touring of city properties by the council. They will meet at the South 40 Café for breakfast at 8:00 AM and then proceed to tour the city properties.

Setting date to meet with Rural Water District #4 board: After some discussion, it was decided that Councilmember Moore, Councilmember Rosell and Attorney Watt meet with the board to ask for clarification on the loan repayment amount the city pays for the new water lines being installed from the Rural Water District's water plant to the city.

Continued discussion on library: Since the council had discussed the library previously in the meeting, Janet Goodenow introduced two (2) of the young ladies serving on the committee with her to the council. They are Bekah Purvis and Caitlin McLean. Mrs. Goodenow also stated that there was a need for more committee members.

(Bekah and Caitlin exited the meeting at 8:26 PM).

Future agenda items: There were no items mentioned.

Staff Reports:

Treasurer's report: Councilmember Jack moved to approve the treasurer's report as given to the council prior to the council meeting. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays.

Maintenance report: Supervisor Krohn gave the following:

Utilities: Filed the 2016 municipal water use report with KDHE (Kansas Department of Health and Environment)

Streets: Cleaned the ditch and culvert end section at 1st & Grant
Installed rip rap in the washout around the storm water area
drain at Quail and Rock Creek Drive

Councilmembers' reports:

Streets: Councilmember Moore stated that Shilling Construction should be finished with Main Street within the next week. The county had indicated they would help with the cost of the overlay.

Councilmember Rosell asked if the paving of South 6th Street was being paid for in entirety by the county. Krohn responded that they were.

Councilmember Moore asked the council if they would allow Shilling Construction to bill the city for the paving of the street in the Industrial Park owned presently by the Bank. He stated that once the area was platted, the street would be the responsibility of the city at that time. The bank would reimburse the city for the amount of the bill for this paving.

Councilmember Jack moved to allow Shilling Construction to bill the city for the paving of South 6th Street with the bank reimbursing the city. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays and one (1) abstention (Councilmember Moore) due to conflict of interest.

Councilmember Rosell stated he would like for Jeff Hancock with SMH to draw up plans for beautification of Main Street. Clerk Zentner will contact Mr. Hancock and ask him to come to the May meeting.

Utilities: Councilmember Rosell stated that the water tank leak had been fixed and the telemetry was up and working.

Planning & Zoning: Councilmember Smith had nothing to report.

Councilmember Moore stated that at one time it was proposed that the committee look at the definition re-wording of storage containers. He wondered where the committee was on this issue.

Mayor Goodenow appointed Jeff Zimmerman to the planning and zoning committee. Councilmember Rosell moved to accept the appointment of Jeff Zimmerman to the planning and zoning committee. Councilmember Jack seconded the motion. The motion passed five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays.

Pool: Councilmember Jack said he had nothing more to report. He did say that he would be interested in being present when the guards were shown how to monitor and add chemicals at the pool when that meeting was scheduled.

Fire Department: Councilmember Jack said they were still waiting for the electricians to test the air bottles.

Fire Chief Smith asked the council for permission to be given the old laptop that was no longer used by office staff for the fire department to use. Councilmember Rosell moved to allow the fire department to have the old laptop for their use. Councilmember Purvis seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with one (1) abstention (Councilmember Smith) due to conflict of interest.

Chief Smith informed the council that the ISO testing would be on April 26th. The firemen were busing trying to make sure the department would get the ISO rating down in order to lower residential insurance rates.

Cemetery: Councilmember Purvis presented a list of suggestions from the cemetery committee as follows:

- Putting two (2) trash cans at the GAR near the Auxiliary's refreshment table during Memorial Day service
- Having new American and POW/MIA flags up at Memorial Day.
- Clean and paint the benches at GAR monument as they show rust and age
- Asked for more benches to accommodate seating for older patrons at the Memorial Day service
- Put a small plaque on the display case in the new information shelter stating "Cameron Krohn's senior project 2017" in honor of the work he did
- Still need volunteers for the committee as there are only two (2) members at present.

Councilmember Moore stated the bank had some benches that could be taken to the cemetery for Memorial Day services.

Councilmember Purvis moved to put a small plaque on the display case for Cameron Krohn's exit project work. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays.

(Cale Prater exited the meeting at 8:50 PM).

Parks: Councilmember Purvis stated that there had been a few issues in the concession stand, but felt they were being taken care of. He stated he would like to propose when the restrooms are closed over the winter, that a new padlock be put on it with only Krohn and Zentner having keys so as to not run into problems with the plumbing when the high school team begins practice in the spring.

Mayor: Mayor Goodenow had nothing to report.

City Attorney: Attorney Watt had nothing to report.

Councilmember Moore asked to enter into executive session with the Mayor, Attorney, Councilmembers, treasurer, clerk and maintenance supervisor in attendance for 15 minutes to

discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel and to protect their privacy. Councilmember Purvis seconded the motion. The motion passed five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays.

Mayor Goodenow asked that the remaining public exit the meeting at this time.

Mayor Goodenow declared the executive session at 8:55 PM.

Councilmember Rosell moved to exit from the executive session. Councilmember Jack seconded the motion. The motion passed five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays.

Mayor Goodenow declared the executive session closed and the continuation of the regular meeting at 9:04 PM.

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

Councilmember Rosell moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Purvis seconded the motion. The motion passed five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays.

Mayor Goodenow declared the meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Approved by the Governing Body on May 11, 2017.



Vicki B. Zentner
Vicki B. Zentner, City Clerk

Signed: *Mark A. Goodenow*
Mark A. Goodenow, Mayor