

The Moran City Council met in regular session on Monday, April 1, 2024. Mayor Jerry Wallis called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT

Mayor

Jerry D. Wallis

Council Members Present

Warren L. Johnson

Kenneth D. Kale

James A. Mueller

Lee Roberts

Kris R. Smith

Council Members Absent

City Staff Present: Bret Heim, City Attorney; Michael Stodgell, City Superintendent; Shane Smith, Police Chief; and Lori Evans, City Clerk

Visitors Present: Michelle Meiwes, Dorothy Sparks, Marie Parker, Aimee Daniels, Kyle Spielbush, Paul Zirjacks, John Adams, and Candy Adams

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Smith moved to approve the April 2024 consent agenda as follows:

- March 2024 Minutes
- March 2024 Petty Cash Report
- April 2024 Pay Ordinance totaling \$206,769.80
- March 2024 Utility Audit Trail Report
- March 2024 Certificate of Deposit Report
- March 2024 Utility Billing and Use Report

Mueller seconded the motion, motion passed with all approving.

VISITORS

Michelle Mewies and Dorothy Sparks representing Hope Unlimited were present to ask the Council to adopt a proclamation declaring April as National Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Council member Mueller moved Mayor Wallis sign the proclamation as requested. Johnson seconded the motion, motion passed with all approving.

Aimee Daniels and Marie Parker representing Allen County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) were present to ask the Council to adopt a proclamation declaring April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Council member Johnson moved Mayor Wallis sign the proclamation as requested. Smith seconded the motion, motion passed with all approving.

Patrick Zirjacks introduced himself as an employee with Thrive Allen County. Mr. Zirjacks invited the Council meet with residents and Thrive members at a Community Conversation at the Moran Senior Center on April 16th.

Candy Adams asked the Council for approval to remove the broken sidewalk on the west side of their home. Discussion followed with Council member Mueller moving to approve the request. Kale seconded the motion, motion passed with all approving.

Kyle Spielbusch presented the 2023 Audit Report to the Council reviewing receipts, expenditures, transfers, encumbrances, and ending cash balances for the City as of December 31, 2023. Mr. Spielbusch noted the Water Reserve Fund ended the year with a negative balance but this is allowable as the fund is currently used for expenditures and reimbursements for the ongoing water project. He reported the audit found the City was in compliance with the cash and budget requirements of the State of Kansas for the prior year. Mr. Spielbusch reviewed employment liabilities and explained references to the City's obligation to the net pension liability to the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System. Mr. Spielbusch reviewed the proposed audit adjustments for the City and asked the Council if they had additional questions. None were raised.

OLD BUSINESS

Water Project Update – Superintendent Stodgell reported the project is going well except for some weather delays. Stodgell noted the contractor would soon be moving to the project area that includes Midpoint Baptist Church. Clerk Evans noted the City was still waiting for the easement from the Church. Attorney Heim said he was waiting for information as to who would be signing the easement on behalf of the church. Topic was tabled until the May meeting.

Council member Kale moved the City pay invoices received from Schwab Eaton and Goins as soon as grant/loan funds are released to the City. Smith seconded the motion, motion passed with all approving.

Library Board Appointments – The Board advised they were still looking for a new member. Topic was tabled until the May meeting.

KwiKom Pole Attachment Project – Superintendent Stodgell informed the Council that KwiKom crews have given notice they will begin installing fiber on City electric poles within the next month or two. No action was taken.

Lead Copper Survey – Clerk Evans noted the City has received 183 surveys returned in the past three months. 93 surveys were received from January mailing. 37 were returned from the February mailing and 52 meters received in the March mailing. Jerad Maley discussed the ongoing effort to gather data. No action was taken.

Park Improvements – The Council discussed the possibility of adding clay to the ball fields. Superintendent Stodgell offered to get pricing for clay and clay bricks for the pitching mound. After additional discussion, the Council chose to table the topic until the August or September meetings as the ball fields will be in use for the next few months by the school and summer ball programs.

NEW BUSINESS

Direct Deposit for Council Members – Clerk Evans informed the Council that direct deposit of payroll has been working well for employees and offered the Council the option to choose direct deposit for their quarterly paychecks.

ACH Payments to Vendors – Clerk Evans discussed ongoing problems with USPS mail delivery and noted City payments to vendors have been delayed or lost. Evans asked the Council to consider making vendor payments by Automated Clearing House (ACH). Discussion followed with no action taken.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Police Chief – Chief Smith informed the Council that beginning in May he plans to issue citations to dog owners who have not purchased dog tags, send Code violation notices to properties that need cleaned up, and speak with property owners who have automobiles in violation of City Code.

Smith also informed the Council that he does not need to purchase another gun as his reserve gun has been repaired.

Superintendent – Superintendent Stodgell submitted the following activity report for the month of March:

- Repaired a fuse at 204 S Cedar
- Repaired a security light and cut limbs out of the triplex at 104 S Pine
- Trimmed trees in the alley between Park and High Streets
- Reattached conduit to a utility pole at the HS Football Field
- Piled up trees that were removed for the possible substation site
- Changed out the power steering gear box on the dump truck and worked on gauges and lights
- Changed oil and unattached front loader and belly mower to J. Deere 3032R
- Many Locates
- Ball Fields
 - Re-seeded both fields
 - Mowed and spread fertilizer
 - Removed score board covers
- Picked up sticks, dumped trash cans
- Set out soccer goals for rec soccer
- Mowed city hall, ditches, soccer field
- Cleaned leaves out of tennis court and playground areas
- Turned on the water to the park bathrooms and concession stand
- Completed some unoccupied property surveys for the Lead Copper Project
- Hydrant set at Church and Spruce – helping contractors
- Inspected water project- doing very good
- Old Water Plant
 - Marked lines and removed services
 - Cleaned up the area and moved cold patch and rock piles
 - The plant was torn down by Ray's Metal Depot

City Clerk – Clerk Evans reported income for the month of March as follows:

General Fund		Water Fund	
Charges For Services	6.00	Sales To Customers	15,451.05
Refuse	1,957.50	Water Protection Fee	29.62
Court Fines	321.00	Connect/Reconnect Fees	691.00
Tax Disbursement	2,336.07	Penalties	462.65
KS Sales Tax	5,922.71	Bulk Water Sales	111.92
54 Fitness Fee/Fobs/Ovrpd	1,400.00	Debt Collection Fee	72.92
Interest Earned Checking/CDL	448.76	Water Tower Fee	50.00
Miscellaneous Receipts	0.10	Sewer Fund	
Dog Tag/Kennel Fee	376.00	Sales To Customers	7,098.26
Sales Tax	5,836.98	Debt Collection Fee	47.24
Reimbursed Expense	29.00	Reimbursed Expense	14.00
ATV/Golf Cart Permits	65.00	Library Fund	
Electric Fund		Tax Disbursement	205.36
Sales To Customers	39,996.30	Sales Tax	
Connect Fee	98.28	Sales Tax Receipts	1,166.72
Overpaid	613.30	Gross Sales	<u>87,882.41</u>
Lieap Receipts	1,997.42	<i>Add: Interest to CD 44526614</i>	<i>10.31</i>
Fuel Adjustment	286.58	<i>Water Project Acct Interest</i>	<i>13.18</i>
Light Rent	210.00	Gross Receipts	<u>87,905.90</u>
Debt Collection Fee	120.42	<i>Less: LIEAP Credit</i>	<i>754.85</i>
Employee Benefit Fund		<i>Utility Credits</i>	<i>633.77</i>
Tax Disbursement	460.25	<i>EWAP Credits</i>	<i>230.69</i>
		<i>Setoff Fee</i>	<i>216.69</i>
		<i>Recreation Fee Credit</i>	<i>100.00</i>
		Net Receipts	<u>85,969.90</u>

Clerk Evans relayed a request from Nancy Marquez asking the Council to consider providing water service to the residents at Katy Lake. Evans noted she advised Ms. Marquez that she would need to bring this request to the Council. No action was taken.

There being no further business to discuss, Council member Smith moved, seconded by Kale, to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:08 PM. Motion passed with unanimous approval.