

Westmoreland City Council
August 10, 2023 minutes

The Westmoreland City Council met on August 10, 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, Chamber Member & owner of Main St. Mercantile; Rita Newell, Flint Hills Reg. Council; Jerry Lonergan, Fire Chief; Kevin Umscheid, 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 Smith moved to approve the agenda. Councilmember Purvis 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 Purvis moved to approve the consent items. Councilmember Smith 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: None.

Jerry Lonergan speaking about Flint Hills Regional Council: Jerry came to talk on behalf of the Flint Hills Regional Council. Jerry will be retiring as Director. He started off by thanking the Council for joining the FHRC. They are always looking for ways to make money for the region. One project that he's excited about is in the works is \$50,000 to be given for entrepreneurship training. This will bring training to smaller communities for business owners that are beginning their journey with opening a business. Mayor Jack expressed his concern on how smaller towns may not be able to join FHRC due to Council Members not being able to attend meetings due to having full time jobs themselves. Jerry stated he is aware of this and is doing his best for things to change so that residents (such as Michelle Campbell) can represent a city especially when they're willing to do so, but because of the bylaws this isn't possible. The Board has a retreat next week (8/18) and he's hoping to find a solution to broaden their thinking.

(Jerry exited @ 6:47 pm)

Approval of Ord. 596- Repealing Ord #578 annexing residential property into city:

Due to Attorney Dierks not being there, Maintenance Supervisor Krohn and City Clerk Wren thought it would be best to postpone this until next meeting due to complications of the repealed ordinance.

Approve Cereal Malt Beverage (CMB) temp. license for Westmoreland Chamber Cornhole event in September: Due to Chamber not having the State paperwork filled out yet, Council requested a special meeting is called as soon as they get the paperwork filled out 14 days prior to the event.

Westmoreland Area Chamber- donation towards billboards: Rita Newell reminded the Council their goal is to get a billboard south of Rock Creek on Flush Road. Councilmember Purvis proposed to pay the \$1,350, for the first year, to get this project going. He stated, "If we're not growing, we're dying". Councilmember Meininger reminded everyone the Council is here to help support the businesses of this town and look forward to this billboard going up. Due to not having a quorum (with Councilmember Meininger excluding himself), there couldn't be a vote at this time.

(Rita exited @ 7:10 pm)

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

Refuse Service and extra 25 cent charge applied to bills: Councilmember Purvis and Smith asked to put Trash service out for bid and bids be due by next meeting (September 14th). At this time the Council does not want to impose the extra charge of 25 cents on citizens.

Future agenda items: Approval of Ord. 596, Approval of donation towards Chamber's billboard, Refuse Service and extra 25 cent charge applied to bills and repairs needing begun ASAP for the swimming pool.

Reports:

Treasurer: City Treasurer Reese asked if she could attend a training that will go over QuickBooks next Thursday (September 17th) in Topeka. Councilmember Purvis stated of course and in the future any training and/or conferences that will benefit us in any way, please go. Reese also asked if she could attend a conference in November. It'll be a three-day conference in Overland Park. Councilmember Purvis moved to approve Mandi to attend these two training courses and have the same arrangements made for

milage and meals as when City Clerk went to hers. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed three (3) ayes to zero (0) nay with Councilmembers Coleman and Rice being absent.

There is a portion of the payroll portion in QuickBooks that will expire September 1st. Mandi has spoken to a spokesperson from QuickBooks for options. Option 1 is QuickBooks Online Advanced which is \$2160/ Annual w/ QuickBooks Elite Payroll \$1350/Annual or Option 2 is QuickBooks Plus \$970/ Annual w/QuickBooks Core Payroll \$85/ Annual and QuickBooks Time \$20/Monthly. Both options would be half off for the first year. Councilmember Purvis moved to approve the purchase of Option 1 which will be \$1,755 for the first year, with the stipulation of keeping track of what services are beneficial to the city and what services we don't use while using QuickBooks. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed three (3) ayes to zero (0) nay with Councilmembers Coleman and Rice being absent.

Maintenance Report:

UTILITIES

- Completed 12 work orders for water meter read in/turn on and/or read out/shut off.
- Sent 2023 Lead and Copper drinking water samples collected by property owners to KDHE.
- Completed 6 Kansas One Call locate tickets.
- Replaced AMR-water meter sensor damaged by mower at 201 N. 5th.
- August KDHE drinking water sample results were negative for E.coli and/or coliform.

STREETS

- Replaced damaged stop/street sign at Campbell/Scott Dr.
- Painted crosswalks on Main and State streets.
- Painted parking stripes on Main St., 2nd St., and at the Community Center.
- Programmed school zone lights for the 23/24 school calendar.

PARKS

- Picked up trash and tree limbs at city properties.
- Mowed, trimmed, and sprayed weeds.
- Watered flower planters throughout town.

CEMETERY

- Mowed, trimmed, and sprayed weeds.
- Opened/closed full burial.
- Opened/closed cremation burial.

POOL

- Mowed, trimmed, and sprayed weeds.

- Super chlorinated the pool on 8/8/23, due to vomit in the pool.

BUILDINGS

- Mowed, trimmed, and sprayed weeds.

PLANNING AND ZONING

- Issued a building permit for an addition to an accessory use building at 406 Quail.
- There will be a planning and zoning meeting to discuss and potentially approve a boundary line adjustment for the properties at 103 North and 208 N. 1st.

EQUIPMENT

- The trailer auctioned through Purple Wave sold for \$1950.00.
- KanEquip completed warranty work on M2, installing a new carburetor due to it backfiring while using.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

- Ask to view chart for inoperable vehicles and mowing/weeds.
- Force mowed property at 703 N. 1st.

Clerks Report: Wren wanted to inform the Council the employee manual is coming along. Trying to get it formatted in a way that she likes. Wren wanted to council to know it's something to work on when there's no interruptions, which isn't too often but doing the best she can.

Clerk Wren reminded Council that Terry Force with Force Surveying still does not have the Updated Section C cemetery map completed. She has been asking every month before the meeting to see if he will be joining and as of right now, it's still not completed. The council requested to send a letter to Terry and have Mayor Jack sign.

Wren wanted to let the Council know she's going to be attending a CMB and Liquor License seminar in Olathe, October 13th. Mandi can cover the office and will be carpooling with Jeannie, City Clerk of Olsburg.

Streets- Councilmember Meininger asked Krohn how the progress is on replacing culvert due to the top of metal culvert rotting out and exposing a hole along the street/driveway. Krohn said he's hoping to get the tube replaced this Fall.

Utilities- Councilmember Coleman was absent.

Animal Control- Councilmember Smith had nothing to report. Mayor Jack stated since the city doesn't have animal control, we piggyback from the County. The County will only pick animals up if they are acting aggressively.

Planning & Zoning- Councilmember Smith had nothing to report other than a meeting will be held on Monday (August 14th).

Pool- Councilmember Rice was absent. Krohn brought up to the Council there is damage to the pool that will need to be fixed before next year's season. It will need to be addressed ASAP so we can get a Contractor scheduled and items can be fixed in a timely manner. Councilmember Purvis asked that it be added to the future agenda item.

Cemetery- Councilmember Purvis had nothing to report.

Parks- Councilmember Purvis had nothing to report.

Fire Department- Councilmember Smith wanted to thank all the firefighters for their work done here recently in town. Fire Chief Umscheid informed the Council the Fire Engine was having troubles and Russ Soupene with SS Truck Service came to the fire station to hopefully pinpoint the problem of Engine 1 and he thought it might be a speed sensor but didn't have the computer to diagnose it. Engine 1 was towed to Central Power Systems in Salina where they installed a new speed sensor. Kevin had asked since Engine 1 was in Salina already, the seal on the pump was leaking and needs to be fixed, could they transport it to Weis. Councilmember Purvis motioned to approve spending up to \$8,000 to get the proper repairs done to Engine 1 and if the amount comes in higher, call the Mayor and he has the discretion to approve an amount if higher than the \$8,000 within reason. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed three (3) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmembers Coleman and Rice being absent.

Flint Hills Regional Council- Council member Meininger and Resident Campbell said there is a retreat next week in Manhattan that they both will attend. Michele shared that at first, she was told she couldn't attend this retreat, but Jerry made it clear she is able to attend if she wanted.

Mayor- Mayor Jack had nothing to report.

City Attorney- Attorney Dierks was absent.

(All others present left @ 7:58 PM)

Executive Session: Councilmember Purvis moved to enter executive session at 7:58 PM for no more than fifteen (15) minutes with the Mayor, Councilmembers, City Clerk, City Treasurer, and Utility Maintenance Supervisor in attendance for personnel matters of non-elected personnel and to protect their privacy. Councilmember Meininger seconded the motion. The motion passed three (3) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmembers Coleman and Rice being absent.


Councilmember Smith moved to exit the executive session at 8:10 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 Purvis 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 8:11 PM.
Approved by the Governing Body on September 14, 2023.

Signed: _____


Mark S. Jack, Mayor (ABSENT)
Waide Purvis, President

ATTEST

Julie Wren, City Clerk

