

Westmoreland City Council  
January 11, 2024 minutes

The Westmoreland City Council met on January 11, 2024 at the Westmoreland Community Center for its monthly meeting.

**Mayor Jack, all City Staff and all Council except for Councilmembers Waide Purvis & John Coleman were present.**

**Others present:** Residents- Michelle Campbell and Brayden Ebert; Reporter of The Times- Cale Prater.

**There being a quorum present, Mayor, Mark S. Jack called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.**

**Agenda:** Councilmember Rice moved to approve the agenda with the addition. Councilmember Meininger seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

**Consent Items:** There being no corrections or discussion, Councilmember Rice moved to approve the consent items. Councilmember Meininger seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

**Public comments on non-agenda items:** Resident Michelle Campbell said Thank you to Robert Krohn for getting the slush off the roads before the heavy snow and then staying on top of the snow once it hit. She stated he was up very early in order to stay on top of it and very appreciative for that.

#### **NEW BUSINESS-**

**Oath of Office:** Councilmember Meininger was the only one present, City Clerk Wren swore him in as Councilmember for the next four years. Wren will catch the other two Councilmembers at a later date.

**Skene & Walnut plat discussion with CHM Property Solution:** Jared Cox and the Planning and Zoning met to discuss the split for Skene and Walnut into 4 blocks. All Utilities are on site. Councilmember Smith motioned to approve the plat for Skene and Walnut with a written agreement drawn up by Attorney Dierks and then signed by Jared Cox with CHM Property and the city regarding the easement needed as a driveway for lot 4. Councilmember Meininger seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

**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 #01-24 as presented. Councilmember Meininger seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

**OLD BUSINESS-**

***Review Emergency Disaster Response Policy/Water Conservation Plan:***

Councilmember Meininger motioned to pass the updates done to the Disaster Response Policy and Water Conservation Plan. Councilmember Rice seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

***Continues discussion on gazebo repairs at the pool:*** Councilmember Rice asked that this be brought back up in March to discuss.

***Future agenda items:*** Brainstorm on repairs for the gazebo located at the pool in March.

**Reports:**

***Treasurer:*** Mandi asked if everyone would be ok with being paid by Direct Deposit rather than checks when it came time to pay Councilmembers and Mayor. Councilmembers stated as long as there's no reason as to why it HAS to be paid by check, they'd be ok with changing to Direct Deposit. Councilmember Rice motioned to change Council and Mayor paychecks to Direct Deposit if they so choose. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

***Maintenance Report:***

**UTILITIES**

- Completed 6 work orders for water meter read in/turn on and/or read out/shut off.
- Completed 4 Kansas One Call locate tickets.
- Collected and sent drinking water monthly samples to KDHE. Samples came back negative for coliform and/or E.coli.

**STREETS**

- Treated streets and city property sidewalks (12/26).
- Installed 20 mph ahead sign and post anchor/post at the west entrance property, along Flush Rd., inside the property line.

**PARKS**

- Picked up trash and tree limbs at city properties.
- Took down seasonal lights and decorations.

**POOL**

- Contractor will schedule pool repair work when their schedule and weather allows before pool opening in 2024.

**BUILDINGS**

- Installed stainless steel shelf for the payment drop box at City Hall.
- Took down seasonal lights and decorations.

**EQUIPMENT**

- Installed v-box salt spreader, wiring harness, and control box in T1.

- Fabricated and installed wiring harness LED lighting for the rear of the v-box salt spreader.

### **MISC.**

- Assisted with updating the emergency operations/disaster response plan and municipal water conservation plan.
- Discuss auctioning off misc. equipment: **(Council approved to use Purple Wave for these items)**
  - o 90 gal. bulk fuel tank
  - o 900lb salt spreader
  - o 72" mower plow
- Discuss 2024 projects:
  - o Street Maintenance **(Asked if continue to epoxy streets, Council said yes with in mind Mandi filled out grant that if approved could pay off up to a million dollars.)**
  - o Gravel purchase for RV Park and cemetery road maintenance **(Due to the snow and plowing the RV Park, there is rock needs to be put in. Krohn stated it be a good idea to purchase before a price increase, thinking it may take roughly \$10,000 to complete the RV Park and Cemetery. Councilmember Meininger motioned to purchase up to \$5,000 in rock for RV Park and Cemetery. Councilmember Smith seconded. Motion passed 3-0.)**
  - o City Hall interior wall issues **(Due to mold and termite damage, Council approved to have a couple contractors come in and look to see what can be done to fix the issue)**

Krohn had put together the Snow Removal Policy and Ordinances dealing with Snow removal into one Ordinance, so it's easy to find and don't contradict each other. Once all Councilmembers reviewed Krohn asked if he could send it to Attorney Dierks to review and Councilmember Meininger said it looks good and is fine to send to Dierks.

**Clerks Report:** Clerk Wren had been in contact with Leslie Campbell with the Health Department and asked if they could host the Blood Drive at the Community Center. They had held one in December due to conflict at the other location and they had the best turn out. The Blood Drive is held every two months and on Friday. Councilmembers all agreed that the fee should be waived for this event and agreed to allow the Blood Drive to be held at the Community Center.

Wren asked if Councilmember Meininger wanted to represent Westmoreland for another year in the Flint Hills Regional Council/Westmoreland to stay in FHRC. After discussion, Councilmember Meininger is fine with staying on with same stipulations as last year (reimbursement for fuel if able to attend meetings in person). Hoping they find a new Director and can get Michele Campbell on to represent Westmoreland.

Insurance renewal was to be brought up again for discussion. Wren stated her and Reese are satisfied with working with Bernie and C&W. Councilmembers all agreed to go ahead and renew when it comes time with C&W.

Wren wanted to inform Councilmembers and to remember for future councilmembers that the League offers a class at the beginning of every year for new members. Council appreciated the information.

Institute Classes will be held in Manhattan March 20<sup>th</sup> thru 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Hilton Garden Inn.

Wren had been in contact with Susan Snapp with the County. She informed Wren that the last resolution on record that states the legal description of city boundary was in 1991. Snapp said we would need to get a surveyor to research and write an updated legal description because the most recent document is very old and might have issues. Councilmember Smith motioned to allow Wren to contact SMH Consulting to survey the boundary lines of the City. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

**Streets-** Councilmember Meininger had nothing to report.

**Utilities-** Councilmember Coleman was absent.

**Animal Control-** Councilmember Smith had nothing to report.

**Planning & Zoning-** Councilmember Smith had nothing to report.

**Pool-** Councilmember Rice shared that Ethan Karnes- Manager sent a mass text out to last year's staff to see who may return for this coming Summer.

**Cemetery-** Councilmember Purvis was absent.

**Parks-** Councilmember Purvis was absent.

**Fire Department-** Councilmember Smith had nothing to report.

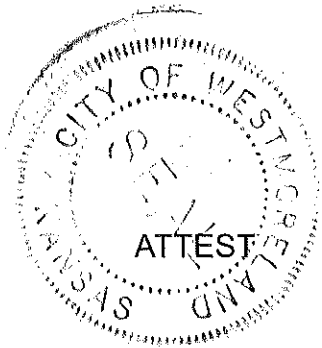
**Mayor-** Mayor Jack had nothing to report.

**City Attorney-** Attorney Dierks was absent, however two people to court, one given 30 days to complete otherwise court again Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>. The other one could be dismissed however due to knowing they are the owner of 4 dogs, will need to appear Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>. A total of 5 court cases could possibly be scheduled for Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>.

There being no further business, Councilmember Smith moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Rice seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Mayor Jack declared the meeting adjourned at 7:21 PM.

Approved by the Governing Body on February 08, 2024.



Signed:   
Mark S. Jack, Mayor

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Julie Wren, City Clerk