

Westmoreland City Council
December 14, 2017 minutes

The Westmoreland City Council met on December 14, 2017 at the Westmoreland Community Center for its regular monthly meeting.

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

Governing Body members absent: Councilmember Waide Purvis.

City Staff present: City Attorney, John Watt; Maintenance Supervisor, Robert Krohn; City Treasurer, Teri Varriale and City Clerk, Vicki Zentner.

Others present: Ashley Rice, newly elected Councilmember; Amber Krohn, resident, Cale Prater with *The Smoke Signal* and Kristie Hitch with Tri-County Waste.

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

Additions/Deletions to agenda: There being no additions or deletions to the agenda, Councilmember Mack moved to approve the agenda as presented. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Approval of the November 9, 2017 regular meeting and November 16, 2017 special meeting minutes: There being no corrections to the minutes of the November 9, 2017 regular meeting and November 16, 2017 special meeting, Councilmember Jack moved to approve both sets of minutes as presented. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Approval of payment of monthly bills: Councilmember Rosell moved to approve the payment of the monthly bills as presented. Councilmember Jack seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Councilmember Moore commented that he saw no reason for the city to continue paying the monthly rental fee for the porta potty at City Park during the winter. He stated that he would like to bid the service out next year with bids from Cat Cans and Frankfort Porta Potty.

Councilmember Rosell moved to either lock the porta potty, put an out of order sign on it or contact Frankfort Porta Potty to remove the current porta potty at City Park. Councilmember Jack seconded the motion. After some brief discussion, the motion was amended to have the porta potty removed for the winter and ask for bids on the porta potty after the first of the year. The amended motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.
Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Tri-County Waste rate increase request: Kristie Hitch with Tri-County Waste asked the council to consider her proposal for \$1.00 increase for residential trash pick-up as well as \$1.00 increase for recycling.

Councilmember Moore asked City Attorney Watt if the council could raise the trash and recycling fees before the contract was up. Attorney Watt stated that they could, that an amendment to the contract would need to be signed by both parties.

Councilmember Jack asked if the council could put the service out for bids to compare rates from other companies. Attorney Watt stated that the council would need to give notice of at least 60 days prior to the end of the current contract (November 1, 2018).

Ms. Hitch stated that the last rate increases she asked for had been in 2013 due to the county landfill increasing their rates to her company.

After some more brief discussion, Councilmember Rosell moved to raise the residential trash rate by \$0.50 and the recycling rate by \$0.50 effective January 1, 2018. Councilmember Moore seconded the motion. The motion passed three (3) ayes to one (1) nays (Councilmember Jack) with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Attorney Watt asked Ms. Hitch if she was agreeable with the rates the council voted upon and she said she was. Attorney Watt will draw the amendment up for both the Mayor and Ms. Hitch to sign.

(Ms. Hitch exited the meeting at 7:25 PM.)

Donation to pool: Clerk Zentner informed the council that the Westmoreland Christian Church had sent a donation of \$500.00 to be used for the city swimming pool.

Councilmember Moore moved to accept the donation. Councilmember Jack seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Discussion on employee wage cap: Councilmember Rosell stated he felt that this issue needed to be discussed when Ashley Rice, newly elected councilmember, takes office in January, 2018. Councilmember Moore stated that the council needed to take into account the rate of inflation. Attorney Watt stated that the council looks at raises once a year and can take into consideration at that time the rate of inflation. He also reminded the council that future councils can change any policy that is in place.

Councilmember Rosell stated he just felt that council should be sure the city can afford raises in the future.

No action was taken on this subject at this time.

Approval of CMB license and Occupational Tax applications: Councilmember Moore moved to approval the CMB license to Short Stop and the Occupational Tax application for Westy's Liquor Shop as presented. Councilmember Jack seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Donation of used air bottles: After some brief discussion on the air bottles no longer needed by the fire department, Councilmember Rosell moved to donate the used air bottles to any other fire departments in the area that may need them. Councilmember Jack seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Discussion on KDOL (Kansas Department of Labor) inspection results:

Maintenance Supervisor Krohn stated that most of the issues brought up by the inspector were electrical issues and he had taken care of all of them except those that need to be done by an electrician.

Krohn also stated that documentation of individual training of the proper use of all equipment would need to be done for the shop employees. He has started getting forms and will be conducting the training soon.

Resolution #04-17: Clerk Zentner presented Resolution #04-17 which waives the requirements of the cash basis and budget laws of the State for the city. Councilmember Rosell moved to approve Resolution #04-17 as it applies to the city. Councilmember Jack seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Approval of pay request from VISU-SEWER: Councilmember Rosell moved to approve the pay request from VISU-SEWER in the amount of \$68,665.60 to be paid from the CDBG and KDHE funds. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Discussion on water rate increase: Councilmember Moore stated that after looking at the water statement of profit and loss, the city was barely breaking even on the water rates. He felt there needed to be a “cushion” in the fund and that he hated to raise the rates, but the city wasn’t even covering the expenses and Rural Water District #4 (the city’s water supplier) was raising their rates to the city.

Councilmember Rosell moved to raise the water rates by \$0.40 per 1,000 gallons effective February 1, 2018. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Agreement with Pottawatomie County regarding maintenance of Campbell Street: Councilmember Moore stated the proposed agreement was basically a 50/50 split.

Attorney Watt stated he was told to make sure that the council understood that any maintenance for bridges or culverts were not part of the agreement.

Councilmember Rosell stated he didn't feel it was a very good agreement as the city was told in the past that the county was going to maintain the street.

Mayor Goodenow stated that most of the traffic on Campbell Street was either from heavy county vehicles, semi-trailer trucks or county employees. He felt that the split should be 70/30 or at least 60/40 and asked that Councilmember Moore meet with the County Engineer and Administrator with a counter offer.

The proposed agreement was tabled until Councilmember Moore meets with the county representatives and reports back to the council.

City Agent: Agent Zimmerman was not present, so there was no report given.

Library Committee: Due to absence of Councilmember Purvis and the chairperson of the library committee, the city clerk relayed the questions the committee had for the council.

A list of more committee members was requested from the council and Zentner suggested that the list be presented at the January 11, 2018 meeting to the committee.

A question regarding donation of materials to the Regional Library was posed with the Council deciding that Councilmember Purvis as the liaison, should be the one that contacts the library staff regarding the donations of materials.

Future agenda items: There were no future agenda items discussed.

Staff Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Councilmember Smith moved to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Councilmember Jack seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

Maintenance Report: Supervisor Krohn reported the following:

UTILITIES

- Jadwin Construction made one (1) emergency sewer repair at 1st and Main
- VISU-SEWER has installed over 8000 feet of sewer liners to date
- Jadwin Construction will start again on point repairs on Friday
- Larson Construction will make repairs at 6th & Burkman due to fiber optics being bored through the sewer main
- Brought to the surface unknown manhole south of Westmoreland Auto
- Brought to the surface unknown manhole in the alley north of 1st & Cochrun

STREETS

- Backfilled new sidewalk on North Street
- Removed leaves out of the culverts on Main Street

PARKS

- Installed Christmas Lights and banners throughout town
- Removed leaves off of the tennis court
- Winterized the RV Park bathhouse

CEMETERY

- Trimmed the cedar trees at the cemetery

POOL

- Valburg Electric will install GFCI breaker for outlets in the concession area and the pump room

BUILDINGS

- Installed all the GFCI outlets and made other corrections from the KDOL inspection-Valburg Electric will make the rest of the electrical repairs

PLANNING & ZONING

- Issued building permits for a fence at 301 S. 6th; building addition at 307 Main and building addition at 201 S. 6th

EQUIPMENT

- Installed snow plow/spreader on the F650
- Westmoreland Auto Repair replaced two (2) tires, new tie rod ends, clutch master cylinder, air bag wiring and an alignment to the 2006 Chevrolet

City Clerk: Clerk Zentner had nothing to report.

Councilmembers Reports:

Streets: Councilmember Moore stated the city might be getting a bill for some patch work done on Main Street.

Utilities: Councilmember Rosell stated he would be meeting with Krohn after the meeting to review change orders from VISU-SEWER as his last duty as a councilmember.

Animal Control: Councilmember Smith had nothing to report

Planning & Zoning: Councilmember Smith reminded the council that there was a public hearing on the 20th for the final plat of the bank's land at the industrial park as well as a variance request by Krohn on setbacks.

Pool: Councilmember Jack had nothing to report.

Fire Department: Councilmember Jack had nothing more to report.

Cemetery and Parks: Due to the absence of Councilmember Purvis, there was nothing reported.

Mayor: Mayor Goodenow stated he had nothing to report, but did ask the council if they were still interested in giving Holiday bonuses to the four (4) staff members.

Councilmember Rosell moved to give Holiday bonuses to the Maintenance Supervisor, Maintenance personnel, City Treasurer and City Clerk in the amount of \$250.00 each after taxes. Councilmember Jack seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

City Attorney: City Attorney Watt had nothing to report.

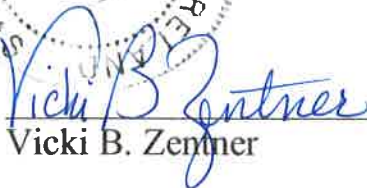
City Clerk Zentner thanked the council for the Holiday bonuses.

There being nothing more brought before the council, Councilmember Smith moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Jack seconded the motion. The motion passed four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays with Councilmember Purvis being absent.

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

Approved by the Governing Body on January 11, 2018




Vicki B. Zentner


Mark A. Goodenow, Mayor