

June 27, 2017
Garnett, Kansas

The Governing Body of the City of Garnett met in regular session on June 27, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall with the following present: W. Gordon Blackie, Mayor; Greg A. Gwin and Jody M. Cole, City Commissioners; Joyce E. Martin, City Manager; Kristina L. Kinney, City Clerk and Terry J. Solander, City Attorney. Also attending: Jeremy DuPont, ACHS Youth in Government Representative.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Blackie called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by Josh Ford of the Trinity Baptist Church giving the invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mayor Blackie, seconded by Commissioner Gwin to approve the minutes of June 13, 2017 as read. On roll call, the following vote was recorded: Ayes – three; Noes – none.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Brigitte Brecheisen-Huss introduced herself and said she has filed for the city commission post currently held by Mayor Blackie that will be voted on in November. Her grandfather was Adell Brecheisen, a former city commissioner and long-time Garnett business owner.

COMMUNICATIONS & REPORTS

Commissioner Cole thanked power plant and electric distribution personnel for their hard work during the recent power outage. City Manager Martin said a former power plant employee was called in to help run the engines throughout the day and was able to provide a great deal of training to the newer operators. She said everyone needs to understand the importance of having these engines, not only because we can produce our own power when needed, but because they are a bargaining tool during rate negotiations. Commissioner Gwin stated the power plant was a busy place that Saturday evening and is very loud when the engines are started. He stated his appreciation for staff's hard work. One of the engines was giving false readings and the crews that had been working on another engine earlier in the week were able to come back that afternoon to make the necessary repairs. The City Manager expressed her appreciation to the workers as well, saying they were exhausted by the time the final problems were resolved.

Commissioner Cole thanked everyone who has donated to the Libertyfest fireworks.

City Attorney Solander reported that at the last meeting there was a question on the council report because a payroll run had not been updated and three (3) payroll expenditures were listed on this report. As requested, he spoke to Auditor Abram Chrislip and there are no issues with the employee benefit line items not being approved as they are all tied into payroll compensation. He said he will prepare a memo to help the governing body understand this better. He stated further

that there is no law that prevents these withholdings from being paid without coming before the governing body for authorization as all expenditures are authorized when the budget is approved. In addition, there are no legal requirements to present warrants to the governing body for their approval. In a Manager/Commission form of government, the statutes require that warrant checks must be signed by the Finance Director, the City Treasurer then countersigned by the City Manager. He said his concerns were with a possible double entry in bookkeeping, but that is not the situation after he looked into it. He is confident everything is okay. He will send the memo, including the statutory provisions, by the end of the week.

Jeremy DuPont reported that the skateboarders would like to order a grid box which costs \$2,493.22. William Mechnig stated the grid box allows for different tricks to be done by the skaters. They plan to work for people for donations as well as asking people to donate without any work being done. Commissioner Gwin asked Jeremy to get the grid box information box to the city manager who will provide it to the commission for their review. Jeremy reported that their fund raisers have raised \$600 at the Pizza Hut and \$250 selling Krispie Kreme donuts. They will continue with the fund raisers.

City Manager Martin reported that Ray Arnett has transferred from the Refuse Department to the Water and Gas Department and will be the main equipment operator. Willie Mead was rehired to work in the refuse department.

The General Report of City Manager Joyce E. Martin was received and discussed, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

City Manager Martin reported there will be a joint city/county meeting on July 10, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at city hall. The county will host this meeting. Dennis Arnold will attend to provide a report on economic development activities.

City Manager Martin stated the League of Kansas Municipalities annual conference will be September 16-18, 2017 in Wichita. We need to know if the governing body plans to go so reservations can be made.

The City Manager reported that water plant crews are doing what is called a “chlorine burn” to alleviate algae problems in the clear wells. In addition, water distribution crews started flushing water lines today. These procedures are causing some residents to experience dirty water. They are being told to leave their faucets on for a few minutes which will clear the water.

City Manager Martin reported the outflow meter to monitor the downstream water flow from the reservoir will be placed under the Pottawatomie bridge rather than on top of it. The State Department of Water Resources wanted the meter placed at this location which is different from the original plan.

City Manager Martin said she plans to ask the County Commissioners if they are okay with planting trees in the one-way median once the curbs on the south side of the one-way have been completed. Ray Peine will mow the median and will be asked if he could water the trees.

City Manager Martin reported her concern with the code book revisions not being reviewed. This needs to be done so the book is up-to-date and can be included on the city's website. CityCode has sent us copies of their recommendations but City Attorney Solander hasn't had time to review them.

OLD BUSINESS

The matter of Southland Cruisers request to have their car show on June 2, 2018 on the square was discussed. City Manager Martin reviewed the street closings as done this year and said the Messicks plan to follow the same plan in 2018. They will get business owner's approval to close Oak Street between Fourth and Fifth Avenues. A motion was made by Commissioner Gwin, seconded by Commissioner Cole authorizing the closing of Oak Street between Fourth and Fifth Avenues and a portion of the one-way from Oak Street to the crosswalk on June 2, 2018 pending letters of approval from affected business owners. On roll call, the following vote was recorded: Ayes – three; Noes – none.

NEW BUSINESS

Craig VanWey, Kansas Department of Commerce, presented Business Appreciation Awards to the following: Prairie Belles Kitchen & Catering, Yoder's Country Store, Rockers Photography Studio, and Farmer's State Bank.

CLAIMS, BONDS & COMMERCIAL LIABILITY INSURANCE

City Clerk Kinney reported that at the last meeting she thought the t-shirt charged to the library fund was for the summer reading program. This was verified by Andrea Sobba, Librarian. The money for the t-shirt was placed in the library's petty cash fund.

The City Manager said she and Commissioner Gwin had discussed Jerry Miller's bill for \$913 which covered AWOS repairs. Both agreed to pull this from the warrant register to allow her time to discuss this with the Airport Operator. Commissioner Cole said she had the same opinion.

Ordinance # 4186 was read as follows: AN ORDINANCE FOR THE APPROPRIATION OF CERTAIN CLAIMS. A motion was made by Commissioner Cole, seconded by Commissioner Gwin to approve warrants after deducting \$913 for AWOS maintenance. On roll call, the following vote was recorded: Ayes – three; Noes – none. Ordinance #4186 paid warrants in the amount of \$68,893.65 after the previous charge was removed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:40 p.m., Commissioner Gwin requested a 10 minutes executive session from 6:45 p.m. to 6:55 p.m. to discuss personnel. Mayor Blackie adjourned the regular meeting at 6:45 p.m. for an executive session. Those attending the executive session were Mayor Blackie, Commissioners Gwin and Cole, City Manager Martin and City Attorney Solander.

At 6:55 p.m., Mayor Blackie called the meeting back to order and extended the executive session for another 10 minutes.

At 7:05 p.m., Mayor Blackie called the meeting back to order. No action was taken after the executive session.

There being no further business to come before the Governing Body, Mayor Blackie adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

/s/ W. Gordon Blackie
Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Kristina L. Kinney
City Clerk