

November 8, 2016
Garnett, Kansas

The Governing Body of the City of Garnett met in regular session on November 8, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall with the following present: Greg A. Gwin, Mayor; W. Gordon Blackie and Jody M. Cole, City Commissioners and Joyce E. Martin, City Manager. Absent: Terry J. Solander, City Attorney and Kristina L. Kinney, City Clerk. Also attending: Jeremy DuPont, ACH Youth in Government Representative.

CALL TO ORDER

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by Doug Meyer of the First Christian Church giving the invocation.

MINUTES APPROVED

A motion was made by Commissioner Blackie, seconded by Mayor Gwin to approve the minutes of October 25, 2016 as written. On roll call, the following vote was recorded: Ayes – three; noes – none.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cole, seconded by Commissioner Blackie to approve the minutes of October 27, 2016 as written. On roll call, the following vote was recorded: Ayes – three; noes – none.

A motion was made by Commissioner Blackie, seconded by Commissioner Cole to approve the minutes of November 1, 2016 as written. On roll call, the following vote was recorded: Ayes – three; noes – none.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Chris Kanawyer introduced himself and thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He said he was one of the candidates for city commissioner and wanted to discuss two (2) major issues that concern him. It is Mr. Kanawyer's opinion that there is a huge change going on in dealing with water resources, particularly fluoridation, which he believes is killing nerve and brain cells. It is his opinion that the city's water shouldn't be treated with fluoride.

He would like for the commission to consider developing a free energy system by producing power from water by utilizing the two (2) water sources in Garnett. He believes the diesel and natural gas engines can be converted to use water which would reduce costs for the city and its customers. He also discussed his concern with the slow internet speed in Garnett and cost of the service.

Mayor Gwin responded that the city is currently working with Kansas Fiber Net to resolve the slow internet issue; however we are very early in the process. Other communication companies are aware of this possibility and have been told to contact Kansas Fiber Net to determine if they can pick-up the service and extend it to other parts of town.

Commissioner Blackie said the city is very well aware of this problem. However, in working with communication companies, the city finds their ability to keep promises and set deadlines doesn't seem to happen. Mr. Blackie said the city would welcome any suggestions on what we can do to make installation of the service more attractive to the providers.

Mr. Kanawyer said the City should advertise and take bids from other communication companies to see what services they can provide. He said when people live in a small community, they are often left behind and communication becomes a huge issue. He suggested talking to the Governor and reaching out to other communities to see what they are doing.

Mayor Gwin said that Commissioner Cole had written an article about Kansas Fiber Net in the last issue of *Town Talk*. He asked Mr. Kanawyer if he had seen it and the response was that he usually throws them (newsletters) away. Mr. Gwin said this publication is included on the city's website.

COMMUNICATIONS & REPORTS

Mayor Gwin said there is still some painting that needs to be done on the north side of the stadium above the concession stand. Other than that, the building looks very nice.

Mayor Gwin said he had received some concerns about the lack of information on the trout program; that people didn't know who to ask or where to call. He suggested that information be given to the newspapers. Concerns were also expressed about the size of the trout and how many the city receives.

Student representative Jeremy Dupont said that no progress has been made on the skate park project; that it appears he may have to organize something himself which he really doesn't want to do because it is his feeling that the interested students should be more involved. Commissioner Cole suggested a "go fund me page". The City Manager said she had submitted information to the Tony Hawk foundation requesting funds.

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

The manager reported that representatives from Kansas Fiber Net and Mike Schmarder of Midwest Energy had driven the city's electric system to determine the feasibility of installing their cable on city poles. The pole attachment agreement will be presented to the Commission for their review at the November 22nd meeting.

The city manager said that Troy Hart had talked with the IT person for GENECO to determine the location of the two (2) power beams on the water tower and how to supply power to the beams. The City Attorney continues to work on the agreement to allow the beams to be installed on the water tower.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion was held on the manner in which appointments are made to the ACDA board. The City Manager reported that the county commissioners discussed this issue at their November 7th meeting and voted that they should appoint three (3) members who live in the county and the city commission should appoint three (3) members who are city residents. At the present time, the five (5) remaining members of the board are all county residents. There are two (2) vacancies and these should be filled with city residents. The City Manager stated her support of the commission appointing three (3) members from the city as the city not only contributes funds to the economic development department, but also provides an office, fringe benefits to the director and an administrative assistant to help with paperwork and website design and postings. The Commissioners were in unanimous agreement with the county commissioners and city manager that appointments to ACDA should follow three (3) members living in the county to be appointed by the county commission; three (3) members living in the corporate limits of Garnett appointed by the city commission and the remaining member appointed by the board.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 11/08/16-1 was read as follows: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF GARNETT, KANSAS AND THE LEAGUE OF KANSAS MUNICIPALITIES FOR ASSISTANCE IN SEARCHING FOR A NEW MANAGER. Mayor Gwin said he believed all questions about signing an agreement with the League to help in their search for a new manager have been addressed. Commissioner Cole said she had visited with the City Attorney who made the requested changes to the agreement. A motion was made by Commissioner Cole, seconded by Mayor Gwin to approve Resolution 11/08/16-1 as written. On roll call, the following vote was recorded: Ayes – three; noes – none.

The City Manager was asked to send the signed agreement to Nikki Harrison at the League office. The Manager will also contact Don Osenbaugh of City Code telling him that the League was chosen to assist the city commission in their search for a new city manager.

CLAIMS, BONDS & COMMERCIAL LIABILITY INSURANCE

Ordinance #4162 was read as follows: AN ORDINANCE FOR THE APPROPRIATION OF CERTAIN CLAIMS. A motion was made by Commissioner Cole, seconded by Mayor Gwin to approve Ordinance #4162 as written. On roll call, the following vote was recorded: Ayes – three; noes – none. Ordinance #4162 paid warrants in the amount of \$284,678.48.

Mayor Gwin asked if there were any additional comments from those citizens in attendance. Mr. Kanawyer said he was a business owner and would be interested in serving on ACDA. He also said that he hoped his concerns about the water and production of power would stimulate some conversations and the commission would address these issues. Mayor Gwin said city staff was in the process of working with an engineer to build a new water plant and he anticipated the plans would be presented to the city commission in the near future.

Mr. Kanawyer said he forgot to mention that the water samples should be tested for alkaline and questions should be asked of the engineers when they are presenting their reports to the commission. He also talked about the importance of wind mills and, if built, how they could help keep utility prices down.

There being no further business to come before the Governing Body, Mayor Gwin adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

/s/ Greg A. Gwin

Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Kristina L. Kinney

City Clerk