

May 8, 2018
Garnett, Kansas

The Governing Body of the City of Garnett met in regular session on May 8, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall with the following present: Jody M. Cole, Mayor; Greg A. Gwin and Brigitte Brecheisen-Huss, City Commissioners; Chris Weiner, City Manager; and Terry J. Solander, City Attorney. Also attending: Will Mechnig, ACHS Youth in Government Representative and Nancy Hermreck, Acting Clerk. Absent: Kristina L. Kinney, City Clerk.

CALL TO ORDER

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by Andy Frye, giving the invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Governing Body reviewed the April 24, 2018 minutes of the City/County Special Meeting. Mayor Cole motioned to approve the minutes of the City/County Special Meeting minutes of April 24, 2018 with the amendment that Eric Blaze was not yet an ACDA Board Member. Commissioner Greg A. Gwin seconded the motion. On roll call, the following vote was recorded: Ayes – three; Noes - none.

The April 24, 2018 City Commission Meeting minutes were also reviewed. Upon no discussing a motion was made by Mayor Jody M. Cole to approve the April 24, 2018 City Commission Meeting minutes as written. Commissioner Brigitte Brecheisen-Huss seconded the motion. On roll call, the following vote was recorded: Ayes – three; Noes - none.

PUBLIC FORUM

Kenneth and Lisa Jarret brought before the Commission a complaint against the City regarding sewer water found in their home located at 703 West 3rd Avenue in Garnett, KS. They explained on Thursday, April 19, 2018 they entered their family room and found the carpet to be wet. Thinking they had a drain issue they contacted a plumber and believed they had corrected the problem. On Friday, April 23rd, they entered their family room and found more moisture and realized that it was wastewater. Also speaking on behalf of the Jarret's was contractor Andy Frye. Mayor Jody M. Cole requested more information be provided to the Commission, as well as time for the City to investigate this further before final determination of the claim be brought to a vote. This matter was tabled until the next meeting.

Scott Rogers addressed the Commission concerning his proposal to refurbish the welcome signs. He reported that he has spoken with both the Lions Club and Rotary Club, and each club voted to spend up to \$1,500 for this project. Mr. Rogers will be dividing the work into sections. The signs will have red background and grey lettering. He will work with city staff and departments to schedule their assistance in advance when necessary. The Commission thanked Mr. Rogers for his work on this project.

GOVERNING BODY

Student Representative Will Mechnig asked about the drainage issues at the ball complex. Standing water on the fields makes it difficult to practice and play. He requested information on how to facilitate fixing the issue and stated that the ball players would be willing to help. City Manager Weiner will speak with school administrators, baseball coaches and team to see how best to address this issue.

Commissioner Brecheisen-Huss would like to thank the Anderson County Farm Bureau for putting on the Day on the Farm event.

Commissioner Gwin shared his appreciation to JD Mersman for the explanation on the fire department's response to certain calls.

Mayor Cole thanked the electric department for helping the sewer department and water department. In both situations it saved the City money. She also thanked all departments that worked together on city wide clean-up. Mayor Cole continued with congratulating officer Baumgardner on working towards certification as drug recognition expert. Finally, Mayor Cole thanked all staff involved in the banner project directed by Susan Wettstein.

REGULAR BUSINESS

- Discussion about potentially increasing the number of City Commissioners to Five. Commissioner Brigitte Brecheisen-Huss presented a proposal to the Commission and those in attendance, both in person and on Facebook Live, to increase the number of members on the Garnett City Commission from its current three-member board to a five-member board. Mayor Cole presented information on the research she had completed. Discussion was held on how to proceed. Commissioner Brecheisen-Huss made a motion to pose the question on the upcoming election ballot of whether the City should add or increase to a five-member commission size. Commissioner Greg A. Gwin seconded the motion. On roll call, the following vote was recorded: Ayes-three, Noes-none.
- Discussion regarding renewal of Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP). City Manager Weiner gave a report on the county perspective to expand the parameters covered as well as extending the renewal period from two years to five years. This property tax rebate program is for new construction or significant improvements to existing property.
- Setting Special Meeting Workshop for Budget, Streets, and Code Discussions. Mayor Cole proposed that the commission meet on May 19th and May 26th to work on strategic plans so that priorities can be made when discussing the budget. Dates were not accommodating for all the commissioners. Mayor Cole asked the Commission to provide dates to the city manager, with tentative dates of June 9 and June 23, 2108 set. City Manager Weiner will help identify suitable dates to discuss the departmental strategic plans.

Consideration of semi-monthly bills and payroll in the amount of \$158,713.41. Mayor Cole made a motion to approve the semi-monthly bill in the amount of \$158,713.41. Commissioner Brecheisen-Huss seconded. On roll call, the following vote was recorded: Ayes – three; Noes – none.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

The departmental reports were received and discussed.

City Manager's Report was received and discussed.

The City Commission recognized Kenneth Amaya as the Employee of the Month.

Governing Body email addresses and business cards were received and discussed.

Discussion of Governing Body participating in the May 24, 2018 Celebration of Service.

Discussion of joint City/County meeting. Youth in Government representative asked if Mayor Cole's idea of having a joint annual meeting with representatives of the city, county, school district and hospital in attendance had been considered. City Manager Weiner is looking into this.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

City Manager Weiner requested a five (5) minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel.

At 8:40 p.m. a motion was made by Mayor Cole to adjourn for a five (5) minute break before entering into executive session, with the City Commission, City Manager Weiner and City Attorney Solander to be present in the executive session that will begin at 8:45 p.m. On roll call, the following vote was recorded: Ayes – three; Noes – none.

At 8:50 p.m., a motion was made by Mayor Cole, seconded by Commissioner Brecheisen-Huss to extend executive session for five (5) minutes.

At 8:55 p.m., a motion was made by Mayor Cole, seconded by Commissioner Brecheisen-Huss to extend executive session for five (5) minutes.

At 9:00 p.m., a motion was made by Commissioner Brecheisen-Huss, seconded by Mayor Cole to extend executive session for five (5) minutes.

At 9:07 p.m., Mayor Cole called the regular meeting back to order. With no further business to come before the Governing Body, Mayor Cole made a motion to adjourn the meeting and

Commissioner Gwin seconded the motion. On roll call, the following vote was recorded: Ayes – three; Noes – none.

Meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

/s/
Mayor

Attest:

/s/
City Clerk