

**Greensburg City Council
July 02, 2018
City Hall**

A) CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Robert Dixon called the July 2, 2018 meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

B) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION

The Pledge of Allegiance was said, and the invocation was given by Pastor John Harrison.

C) ROLL CALL & APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Council Present: Matt Christenson, Mark Trummel, Pam Reves, Haley Kern, and Sandy Jungemann. Trummel made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Christenson, and the motion passed 5-0.

D) CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no comments made by citizens at the beginning of the meeting. George Ryan, Twilight Theatre, entered prior to Business Item #2. Dixon offered the floor to Ryan for comments. Ryan requested approval to close East Florida Street from Main to the alley behind the theatre from 10:00 – 2:00 on July 4th. The theatre will be hosting a hot dog feed at noon on the north side of the building (for wind protection). Ludwig advised that the request was not something previously approved by Council and came about today, due to weather predictions. He has visited with the owners of the Antique Store about the potential closing, and they have no issues with it. The consensus of the Council was to allow the closure as requested. Staff will place barricades in the area for theatre staff to put up and take down for the event. Ryan reminded Council that there will be a free performance at the theatre on Monday, July 9th at 7:30 p.m. by the Kansas Army National Guard Band. There is a special Council meeting with KPP that evening, but Staff anticipates it being over within time to allow members to attend.

E) CONSENT AGENDA

Jungemann made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Kern seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

F) ITEMS OF BUSINESS**1. PAC- Donation request**

Judy Kirk, PAC, had spoken to Council on June 4th, mentioning the possibility of a matching grant from the City to purchase the third sculpture for Starlight Park. This evening she again requested Council consider a matching grant for a piece estimated at \$10,000, from artist Rollin Karg. A pictorial example of the artist's work was provided. Kirk stated that the piece would be made of stainless steel, be approximately 10 foot tall, and incorporate the park theme of circles and stars. Christenson asked if PAC would receive details of the design. Kirk stated that she could not guarantee this as the artist fabricates as he creates. She stated that PAC trusts his work and design. He has guaranteed the piece will be sustainable and interactive.

Reves asked if the group was working with only one artist. Kirk explained that PAC had searched for artists in 2015, when the project began. She stated that the facilities of local artists could not handle the size of the proposed pieces, and local artists do not work with stainless steel. Also, she found the cost of working on a project of this magnitude with local artists would cost approximately 4 times as much as with the chosen artists. Larger artists are able to purchase materials at wholesale cost. Dixon also asked about being provided a rendering. Kirk added that the artist will not begin until PAC has the money available. Kern referenced public comments she had read on social media, which asked why the city was paying for items like this. She asked if PAC could compile renderings of 2 or 3 different sculptures from various artists for citizens to view and give input on. Kirk confirmed that PAC is not committed to Karg. Trummel pointed out that the park has been constructed with donations, not tax payer money.

Shawn Cannon presented a prototype of a 3D printed "Beacon" sculpture that could be produced and sold for fundraising efforts. The group has not met to discuss fundraising efforts. Cannon stated that PAC has given Karg some ideas of what they would like to see, but there is no design specifically set at this time.

Kern asked who is currently serving on PAC. Kirk listed Thomas Derstein, Amber Campbell, Kerri Ulrich, Shawn Cannon and herself. The group generally meets on a monthly basis, but has not met since April. Kirk stated that they have donors that they will approach if they are given a matching grant. Kirk requested \$5,000 from Council. Dixon asked if PAC had displayed an image of what would be created during their previous fundraising efforts. Kern suggested a conceptual prototype. Kirk voiced concern that citizens would be upset if the final project was not exactly what they were shown.

Christenson looked at the Donation Fund within the budget to be reviewed later in the meeting and noted \$130,000. Ludwig advised that there is also \$10,000 available in the Planet Green fund, which contains money donated to the community through the Planet Green tv series that was produced about the community. Christenson was not opposed to offering a matching grant, but would like to see a conceptual design. The consensus was to have PAC provide three concepts for the community to give input on. Jungemann commented that the plantings done in the new park are looking nice.

2. 2019 Budget Review

Ludwig presented changes to the 2019 General Fund budget since the last Council discussion. The Industrial Park was raise to \$27,000 (\$25,000 earmarked for economic development). The \$15,000 proposed for a potential SRO was placed under Administration. Under Capital Improvement, Staff budgets the entirety of what they think the city will have available. Reves asked what those funds could be used for. Ludwig explained that revenues to capital improvement are from a sales tax committed to capital projects. Dixon confirmed that those funds could be utilized for swimming pool park amenities and toward the airport project. **Electric Fund** – The Electric fund has a healthy fund balance, allowing Staff to over-estimate revenue slightly. The City historically has under used its spending authority for this fund. Personnel expenditures are increased from 2018 to account for the increase in the number of employees within the department and a fairly significant COLA increase. Ludwig also anticipates continual increases in transmission costs. KPP (Kansas Power Pool) will meet with Council next Monday to give an overview of services that they provide. KPP accounts for a significant percentage of the City's budget. **Water Fund** – Ludwig estimated an increase in revenue within the water department, as the consensus of Council has been to have a rate adjustment in 2019. Staff's goal is to ensure the water and sewer funds are capable of paying their respective employees in full. Staff began that process this last pay period. Contractuals within this fund are increased slightly for a possible equipment purchase. **Sewer Fund** – A slight adjustment to sewer rates in 2019 will create a slight increase of revenue to the fund. Personnel costs are elevated to reflect the full cost of operation within the fund. There is also a slight increase in commodities planned. Ludwig discussed the potential of establishing a sewer reserve/rate stabilization fund. **Sanitation** – The City's contract with Nisly Brothers for sanitation services calls for a rate increase in 2019. This increase will be the final increase within the remaining 2 years of the contract. **Big Well** – A portion of personnel costs within the Big Well budget have been reallocated to Tourism, to better reflect the amount of time spent within each department. A slight increase in commodities is to accommodate merchandise for resale. The lease purchase budgeted is to be covered by sales tax revenue. **Fire Equipment Reserve** – The fire department is currently pursuing grant funds for protective equipment purchases. Staff plans to transfer funds not spent from Fire in 2018 to Fire Equipment Reserve, rather than having it roll back into the general fund. **Special Alcohol** – Alcohol taxes collected by the State must be utilized for parks. Ludwig would recommend Council use these funds first when considering swimming pool park development. There has been an increase in revenue to this fund. **Special Highway** – There are no street projects planned for the Special Highway Fund. Council previously approved up to \$100,000 in street repairs in 2018, which are moving forward. **Incubator** – There will be a decrease in revitalization rebate on this facility in 2019. Ludwig stated that Council, should they choose, could dispute taxes imposed in the coming year as a large percentage of the building

is public space and not rented. No personnel costs are allocated to the Incubator, as very little Staff time is consumed. Ludwig updated Council on the progress of Daylight Donuts reopening. Dixon asked if department heads ever check maintenance in the Incubator. He was advised that both Mike Hayse (Streets & Parks) and Mick Kendall (Utilities) have recently been in the building, assisting with maintenance issues. Ludwig noted that a turn-around in the projection of this fund. Personnel costs have been reallocated, but there has also been a significant reduction in maintenance costs. **Transient Guest Tax (Tourism)** - Staff has seen an increase in taxes being remitted. There is an increase in personnel noted in the 2019 budget. This is to more appropriately show where time is allocated. **Non-Budgeted** - A budget for these funds is not required by statute; however, Staff prefers transparency of all City funds. Electric Reserve shows an increase due to the possible need to replace vehicles. Ludwig noted that the starting balance of the fund may be low. Staff suggested moving funds found in the Planet Green fund to the tornado donation fund and closing the account. Ludwig also stated that this would be a good place to take money for the art park donation from.

City auditors from Kennedy McKee are working with Staff this week. On July 9th, Ludwig will travel to their office in Dodge City for them to review the proposed budget and complete the state budget forms. July 16th, Council will review the state form and set a budget hearing for August 6th.

3. Fiber Internet Services – Haviland Telephone Company

After over a year of unsuccessful efforts to work with AT&T to provide fiber internet services to City Hall, the two entities have gone their separate ways. Haviland Telephone has begun work to take fiber internet service from the co-op to the school. A connection box has been installed near Starlight Park to facilitate future service to businesses and government entities. Haviland Telephone is looking into offering fiber service at a residential level in the future. Ludwig has received a quote for fiber internet services, equivalent to the service requested from AT&T for approximately \$400 per month less. Construction costs to the customer are based on the length of commitment agreed to by the customer. Once connected, City Hall can then transition to VoIP, as planned. In July 2017 Ludwig received a quote for VoIP from Verizon that was fairly competitive. Verizon appears to be more hands on with Staff than AT&T, having already sent staff to the office to showcase their equipment.

Christenson advised that the Court House transitioned a year and a half ago, at a cost of approximately \$1,500/month. There were no construction costs because the line was already ran. The hope is to see a savings of \$110-\$120/ month with a 5 year contract. Christenson voiced concern over the ability of Haviland Telephone to support VoIP. Ludwig stated that with the fiber line brought into the co-op a few years ago (rather than satellite connection), Haviland can provide whatever speed the City is willing to pay for. Discussion was had on the ability to transfer the City's current phone numbers to a different provider for VoIP. Ludwig advised that the process will take a little time, but that Verizon can make that transition. Office Solutions (Pratt) has also suggested a web based VoIP provider. A preference for Verizon was voiced. Government package deals are available. Christenson questioned the City's ability to get out of its AT&T contract without an early termination penalty. Ludwig noticed AT&T four months ago of their failure to fulfill their part of the contract. Christenson made a motion, seconded by Reves, to enter into a 5 year agreement (no construction costs) contract with Haviland Telephone Company to provide fiber internet service. The motion passed 5-0.

4. Interim Administrator

Staff and Dixon have talked to previous interim administrator Jay Newton, who is interested in returning to Greensburg on a part time interim basis. City Attorney Clayton Kerbs has reviewed an agreement provided by Newton and has suggested a few word changes. The agreement allows for a weekly salary of \$1,250 plus housing for one day a week and a travel allowance (approximately \$220/week). Newton would be available 20 hours/week and plans to be here Monday afternoons and all day Tuesday. Kern made a motion to approve the agreement, with corrections recommended by Kerbs. Jungemann seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

G) CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

City Attorney Clayton Kerbs was not present for tonight's meeting.

H) CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Ludwig discussed the following topics:

Auditors – City auditors are here this week, reviewing the 2017 books.

July 4th Events – A free movie will be shown at the theatre July 4th at 11:00 a.m., followed by a hot dog feed. Power Up will serve hamburgers at the Big Well Park at 6:00 p.m., followed by cake and ice cream provided by area churches. There will be activities for the kids. Fireworks will begin at 10:00 p.m.

KPP – Kansas Power Pool will be here Monday, July 9th at 6:00 p.m. to present an overview of services. KPP has been advised of the concert at the theatre that evening and intends to be finished in time for Council to participate if they so desire.

Chamber of Commerce – The Chamber has voiced interest in utilizing the green space across from City Hall for temporary businesses such as a farmer's market. This use was planned in the City's Comprehensive Master Plan. Chamber has some funds available for possible development.

Street Closure – Prior to the meeting, Staff approved the temporary street closure request for East Florida on July 4th for the hot dog feed. The closure will go from Main Street to the first block alley.

I) GOVERNING BODY COMMENTS

Kern voiced concern that the wooden bear statue in Sunset Acres Park has fallen down. Kern and Dixon are not happy that the wooden train that was previously in the park was removed, rather than repaired, and do not want to see the same thing happen to the bear statue. Ludwig was aware that the statue was down, which has happened before, and had asked Staff to take care of the issue. This time, the statue broke off higher up on the in ground support. Staff was looking into options for preserving the statue. Ludwig will follow up with Staff.

Ludwig was asked about where Staff is at with moving forward with a community plan. Ludwig had originally planned for Network Kansas to come for a community meeting in August. With his resignation, Ludwig has postponed service until October, providing transition time for the new City Administrator.

Reves asked about development of the Swimming Pool Park. Ludwig has spoken to Staci Derstein at the school. She is agreeable to kids participating in the planning of the park. Derstein is also interested in bringing back the Construction Class and having them participate in the development. Nothing will be done on the park this summer. Ludwig sees value in getting the school kids involved.

Ludwig was asked about the rules associated with the lighting of fireworks. Fireworks are allowed June 30th – July 4th from 10 a.m. to midnight.

J) ADJOURNMENT

Dixon declared the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.


Robert A. Dixon, Mayor


Christy Pyatt, City Clerk