Official Greensburg City Council Minutes 10.21.13

Greensburg City Council
October 21, 2013
City Hall

Item 1: Opening Session
Call to Order; Pledge of Allegiance; Invocation; Roll Call
Mayor Robert Dixson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on October 21, 2013. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Pastor Franklin Ruff gave the invocation. Council present: Matt Christenson, Mark Trummel, Haley Kern, Sandra Jungemann, and Erica Goodman.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda
Trummel made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Kern seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Mayor’s Report
Dixson advised that Greensburg is one of 7 cities featured in a Southwest Airline Spirit Magazine “Living For The City” article.

Council Member’s Report
There were no reports from the Council.

City Administrator Comments
City Administrator Ed Truelove briefed Council on the following topics:
A. Dwayne Corzine, our Journeyman Lineman, has accepted a position with the City of Perry, OK, and is no longer with us. We have begun advertising to fill this vacancy.
B. On Thursday, October 24th, at 5:30pm, the Mayor and Truelove will be attending the Great Plains Development annual banquet. The keynote speaker will be Secretary Pat George, KS Dept of Commerce.
C. On the Council desk is an invitation to the SPIRIT of 54 organization’s annual conference. The conference will be conducted at Pratt Community College on November 7th and 8th. Truelove plans to attend the conference on Friday, November 8th. Council was asked to let Truelove know if anyone is interested in attending the conference.
D. Council was provided a copy of the Unmanned Systems Conference Report, from Mr. Joel Anderson, K-State. The conference, held in Manhattan on October 14-16, was a great success, and the City of Greensburg, and our efforts to have a UAS presence at our new airport, were well received. Truelove also read comments from Anderson regarding the presentation Dixon gave on Greensburg at that conference, in place of a representative from the FAA who was scheduled to speak but was unable to attend due to the government shutdown. Dixon’s presentation was said to be a moving speech on the devastating effects of the EF5 tornado, the resiliency of the community, our efforts to rebuild a sustainable future, our desire to be active in the Unmanned Systems world, and how as Kansans we need to work together to “just get er done…”

Item 2: Public Comment
Dixson welcomed those in attendance. There were no comments from the public.

Item 3: Consent Agenda
Jungemann made a motion, seconded by Christenson, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried 5-0.
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Item 4: Items of Business
A) Receive Stacy Barnes and Grant Neuhold to present a Convention and Tourism award from the Travel Industry Association of Kansas.

Stacy Barnes, Tourism Director, attended the Annual Kansas Tourism Conference in Topeka last week. Barnes had applied for three marketing awards. The City was awarded the Traditional Multi-Media award for a 30 second commercial created by Grant Neuhold through the City’s ongoing partnership with the Kiowa County Media Center. Barnes and Neuhold played the commercial for Council’s viewing and presented them with the award.

B) Consider Resolution 2013-13, ordering the abatement of a dangerous and unfit structure located at 611 W. Iowa Lane.

Dixson opened the advertised public hearing on the abatement of a dangerous and unfit structure located at 611 W. Iowa Lane. Truelove advised Council that the owners of the property, Brian and Tracy Gumpenberger, had been advised of tonight’s hearing and have been in communication with Staff. The Gumpenbergers have removed the rotted subfloor and floor joists from the basement. They have also removed the deteriorated stairway and cleaned out the basement. Staff remains concerned about the now open basement. Larry Foulk, Code Enforcement Officer, was present to answer any questions the Council may have.

Tracy Gumpenberger was present and apologized for the property falling into a state of disrepair. She described the property as it is today, their clean-up efforts, and the money invested in the property thus far. The intent of the Gumpenbergers when they purchased the property was to build a home and sell it. Unfortunately, when the time came to begin the project, the market for $190,000 - $225,000 homes was not there. This continues to be a problem, but Gumpenberger hopes to one day follow through with their original plans. Gumpenberger requested guidance from Council on how to proceed. She and her husband have discussed several options, all with pros and cons. In the past, keeping a tarp on the basement has proven nearly impossible and the Gumpenbergers are concerned about additional costs to temporarily cover the basement in other manners.

Dixson and Council Members thanked Gumpenberger for their cooperation in removing the most immediate hazard, the rotting floor. Gumpenberger was encouraged to continue working with Staff towards a viable solution for covering the basement. Jungemann made a motion to table Resolution 2013-13 until the next meeting, giving Staff and Administration time to work with the Gumpenbergers on a solution. Trummel seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

C) Consider the re-appointment of Ruth Ann Wedel to the Convention and Tourism Board for a term ending December 31, 2015.

Truelove advised that he had attended the last Convention and Tourism Board meeting, at which they discussed the possibility of recommending that Ruth Ann Wedel be re-appointed to the Board. Wedel had previously resigned from the board due to lack of attendance. The board, looking for a unanimous decision, recommended reappointment. Council briefly discussed that the newly adopted bylaws for Convention and Tourism will be in effect 61 days following their second publication. The bylaws allow for the number of members on the Board to be lowered if necessary. Given the consensus of the Convention and Tourism Board, Christenson made a motion to appoint Ruth Ann Wedel to the Convention and Tourism Board for a term ending December 31, 2015. Jungemann seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

D) Consider a request from the Fairview Cemetery Board for City donated water.

At the previous Council meeting Clair Banta, Fairview Cemetery Board, requested that the City donate water to the cemetery. Truelove gave the following data on cemetery water consumption;

- **2011**: Usage 137,000g, $517.44
- **2012**: Usage 189,000g, $557.50
- **2013 (to date)**: Usage 348,000g, $1,020.75 (601 in August 2013 alone)

Since the new sexton took over, a number of new trees have been planted. Also, the cemetery board recently acquired additional property and has been working to landscape that area. An increase in usage is more than likely due to the new plantings as well as the drought that has been plaguing the area. The Council was reminded that the cemetery board is a tax supported entity. There are five townships that support the cemetery expenses, including the citizens of Greensburg. Goodman requested a copy of the board’s annual budget. Dixson asked Staff
to keep Banta informed of their discussion. Trummel made a motion, seconded by Kern, to table a decision. Motion passed 5-0.

E) Consider appointing Pam Muntz to the Greensburg Tree Board to fill the unexpired term of Kathy Kelley, ending May 31, 2016.

Truelove advised that City Clerk Christy Pyatt had spoken to Pam Muntz and asked if she would be interested in serving on the Greensburg Tree Board. Council is asked to consider Muntzs appointment. Goodman made a motion to appoint Pam Muntz to the Greensburg Tree Board for an unexpired term ending May 31, 2016. Christenson seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Item 5: City Attorney’s Report
There was no report from the City Attorney.

Dixson reminded Council of the letter they received in the packets regarding the upcoming Veteran’s Memorial dedication.

Item 6: Executive Session
City Attorney Gordon Stull requested a 15 minute executive session for attorney-client. Christenson made a motion to go into executive session until 7:00 p.m. Trummel seconded. Motion passed 5-0. Council returned to open session at 7:00 p.m.

Item 7: Adjournment
With no additional items to discuss, Dixson declared the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

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Robert A. Dixson, Mayor            Christy Pyatt, City Clerk