

**Greensburg City Council
December 16, 2013
City Hall**

Item 1: Opening Session

Call to Order; Pledge of Allegiance; Invocation; Roll Call

Mayor Robert Dixon called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on December 16, 2013. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Pastor Terry Mayhew gave the invocation. Council present: Matt Christenson, Mark Trummel, Haley Kern, and Erica Goodman. Sandra Jungemann was absent.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Trummel made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Kern seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Mayor's Report

There was no report from the Mayor.

Council Member's Report

Goodman reminded Council of the Vision Statement that was discussed in an August 2007 meeting, in Pratt, that spoke to creating a business climate in the community. Goodman counted 7 businesses that have closed, in Greensburg, since 2007, with one additional closing at the end of the month and one more considering doing the same in the near future. She also mentioned vacancies in the Business Incubator and the Business Park. Goodman encouraged fellow Council Members to reflect on the Vision Statement and consider what they can do to foster business in the community.

Trummel mentioned that crews have begun work to bury the electric lines at the new airport.

City Administrator Comments

City Administrator Ed Truelove briefed Council on the following topics:

- A. On Council's desk was a copy of Appropriation Ordinance #1918. Staff was unable to have it included in the Council Packets Friday due to the delay of receiving the KPP invoice for payment of the City's electric fees.
- B. Truelove provided Council with a copy of the flyer advertizing a public meeting scheduled for January 13th, 7-8pm, to be held in the school gym. The purpose of the meeting is to gain public input for finalizing phase-1 plans for relocating Davis Park. PEC will help Staff incorporate the public input and a plan will be presented to Council during the January 20th Council meeting.
- C. Staff continues to search for a replacement member for the Greensburg Public Housing Authority. There is one board position whose term expires December 31st. Should Council know of anyone interested in the position, they were asked to share that name with Staff.
- D. On Thursday, December 12th, Mick and Truelove attended the Kansas Power Pool Annual Meeting in Wichita. The KPP presentation included information on electric rate increases expected for 2014; approximately a \$.02 cent per kW increase (to the City) over current rates.
- E. Representatives from PEC will be in town this week to continue work on the water modeling study. The water modeling study will show Staff where there are weaknesses/problems in the water system. This work is funded through the water treatment plant project.

Item 2: Public Comment

Dixson welcomed those in attendance.

Dennis McKinney spoke to Council on his concerns of what he feels is a restrictive truck route that communicates that the City does not care about the important role the agriculture and oilfield communities play in the success of Greensburg. He also voiced disapproval of the demolition of the airport hangar buildings and current zoning regulations regarding signage. McKinney petitioned the Council to focus on how to develop the town's economy and to involve business owners in those conversations.

Scott Brown concurred with McKinney, voicing concern over companies that have looked at Greensburg but are not here. He voiced his disapproval of a code enforcement letter sent to a local business owner regarding signs along Highway 54, that were out of compliance with the City's current zoning regulations.

RuthAnn Wedel encouraged Council to work to include and value county residents and businesses. She also asked which Council positions would be up for election in 2014. Dixon explained that the terms of Christenson, Goodman, and Kern would be expiring. Wedel then asked if the City was doing anything to encourage the local Post Office to move out of their temporary facility and into a permanent facility. She was assured by Dixon that the City has been in continuous conversation with the United States Postal Service (USPS) regarding this very issue. Dixon recently spent several hours with Carla West, USPS out of Salina, discussing the current facilities, community and city concerns.

Ki Gamble, Southern Plains Coop (SPC) board member and local farmer, discussed the significant contribution SPC has made in the community since the tornado. Gamble feels that the current truck route penalizes SPC and encourages grain haulers to utilize ADM facilities outside of town. Gamble explained that SPC profits stay local, while other facilities profits go out of state. Gamble believes that trucks should be allowed on Main Street as they were before the tornado because of the larger road base that now exists.

Dixson thanked those who addressed Council for their comments, asking that they, along with Council move forward in a collaborative effort. He reminded those in attendance that an Ordinance regarding off premise signs has been sent to the Planning Commission and a public hearing is being called. Goodman clarified that the Ordinance deals with only a portion of the sign code.

McKinney suggested Council suspend all sign regulations for six months to a year, to review and see if there is an issue with signs in town and what needs to be regulated.

Item 3: Consent Agenda

Kern made a motion, seconded by Goodman, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Trummel questioned check 22348. This expense was accounted for in the current budget through the state highway fund. Staff prefers to utilize local services and dealers as much as possible for such projects. The motion on the table passed 4-0.

Item 4: Items of Business

A) Receive Stacy Barnes and consider approval of way-finding signage, as approved by the Tourism Committee.

Stacy Barnes, Tourism Director, presented a proposal from Luminous Neon for way-finding signs along Hwy 54. This past year, the Convention and Tourism Board has been working on a comprehensive, city wide sign project that would provide a cohesive, uniform look to directional signage along the highway corridor. City Staff will install the signs, which will be a board with overlay. Posts and Staff labor would be additional costs to the project. Barnes is in the process of obtaining a permit from the state for the proposed signage. The project would be paid for out of the Tourism Fund. The proposed signage is one of the projects found in The

New Boston Group marketing plan for the City. Kern and Goodman both serve on the Tourism Board and voiced their approval of the project. Christenson made a motion to accept the Luminous Neon proposal. Trummel seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

B) Consider Ordinance 1049 establishing an Insurance Proceeds Fund.

Truelove explained that directly following the 2007 disaster Council had passed Ordinance 07-004, repealing the established Insurance Proceeds Fund. In its original form, the fund was established to require that 15% of insurance proceeds from claims for loss or damage to any building or other structure located within the city, arising out of any fire, explosion, or windstorm be retained by the City, so that the damage resulting from such a disaster can be abated without relying on City/taxpayer funds. Since the original Ordinance was repealed, the City has struggled to fund abatements. Truelove requested Council consider Ordinance 1049, re-establishing the Insurance Proceeds Fund. Goodman made a motion, seconded by Christianson, to approve Ordinance 1049. Roll Call Vote: Christenson: yes; Trummel: yes; Jungemann: absent; Goodman: yes; Kern: yes. Motion passed 4-0 (1 absent)

C) Consider Resolution 2013-16, adopting changes to the Personnel Policy Handbook for Sick Leave Bank.

Discussion on changes to the Personnel Policy Handbook for Sick Leave Bank were tabled at the December 2nd Council Meeting. Truelove advised that Staff has modified the proposed policy to incorporate changes suggested by Council. Kern made a motion to approve Resolution 2013-16 as presented. Trummel seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

D) Consider approval of a Letter of Understanding between the City of Greensburg and Kennedy McKee & Co. LLP, providing for the audit of City financial statements for the budget year ending December 31, 2013.

Included in Council Packets was a Letter of Understanding between the City and Kennedy McKee & Co. LLP, providing for the required audit of City financial statements for the budget year ending December 31, 2013. Trummel made a motion to approve the agreement. Goodman seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Item 5: City Attorney's Report

There was no report from the City Attorney.

Item 6: Executive Session

There was no need for Executive Session.

Item 7: Adjournment

Dixson declared the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Robert A. Dixson, Mayor

Christy Pyatt, City Clerk