Official Greensburg City Council Minutes 06.04.2018

Greensburg City Council
June 4, 2018
City Hall

A) CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Robert Dixson called the June 4, 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, and Sandy Jungemann. Haley Kern was absent. Jungemann made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Christenson, and the motion passed 4-0.

D) CITIZEN COMMENTS
Judy Kirk, PAC Greensburg, gave a Starlight Park grounds committee update. She also advised that PAC has met with a sculptor on a third art piece for the park. His newest technique would create a metal piece, centered around the theme of the park, for approximately $10,000. A picture of a similar sculpture was provided. The group has the funds for the foundation and the lighting. The sculptor will begin work as soon as total funding is available. Kirk asked Council to consider a matching fund grant to the group. She suggested the City’s portion come from funds donated to the City for “public things.” PAC has also discussed the option of rotating various art pieces through the space, as some other communities do, through a rent/lease option with the sculptor.

E) CONSENT AGENDA
Reves made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Jungemann seconded and the motion passed 4-0.

F) ITEMS OF BUSINESS
1. Greensburg PowerUp Firework Donation Request
Mike McBeath, representing Greensburg PowerUps, requested a $1,500 donation from Council for the Community July 4th event. Plans are to hold an event similar to those of the last couple of years. Dixson complemented the group on their past efforts. Trummel made a motion, seconded by Jungemann, to approve the $1,500 donation. The motion passed 4-0.

2. Quarterly Transfers
City Administrator Kyler Ludwig requested approval to proceed with scheduled quarterly transfers. Cash funds are sufficient for the transfers. The proposed transfer for the Equipment Reserve fund will fulfill that particular budgeted transfer for the remainder of the year. Transfers include:
   Electric Fund to General Fund: $32,500
   Electric Fund to Electric Reserve Fund - $25,000
   Water Fund to General Fund - $2,500
   Water Fund to Water Reserve - $3,750
   Water Fund to Water Debt Payment - $22,717.75
   Sewer Fund to Sewer Replacement - $3,750
   General Fund to Equipment Reserve - $20,000
Christenson made a motion to approve the scheduled transfers. Reves seconded. The motion passed 4-0.

3. Procurement Policy Review
Ludwig provided a presentation on the City’s current Procurement Policy and requested no amendments at this time. The last update was in July 2016, when changes were made to accommodate regular invoices that come in late.
4. Economic Development Budget Discussion
Ludwig stated that during previous discussions, Council has expressed a desire to increase the City’s commitment toward Economic Development. Ludwig briefly discussed various Eco Devo programs that the City has attempted in the past. Staff feels that it is highly unlikely that the County will financially support a joint effort. Options discussed included establishing an Eco Devo fund to help attract new businesses; setting aside money for building and supporting the industrial park; allocating funds for an economic development position; and seeking an outside firm to help attract businesses/development.

Reves asked if Staff would create a separate fund within the general fund. Staff would work with auditors to transfer money to the Industrial Park fund or a separate Eco Devo fund, depending on which direction Council would prefer to point their focus. Christenson stated that he was not keen on position development or using an outside firm. He was, however, interested in establishing a separate fund. A brief discussion was had on how much the City could afford to budget in and what the funds could be used for. Dixson suggested $25,000 a year be transferred. Christenson would like to transfer as much as possible, without affecting services within the city. Trummel asked about the possibility of offering a financial incentive to attract business. Reves asked what had brought about the conversation; specifically, was it related to the community visioning discussion. Ludwig explained that the discussion was based on previous interest in making Eco Devo a priority. Reves mentioned amenities that previously have been viewed as incentives for Eco Devo. She voiced concern over spending additional funds on “quality of life” amenities at the risk of taking from something else. Ludwig stated that in the last two years, the City has accumulated a 3 month reserve and can now afford to look at other commitments. Reves stressed that she prefers to avoid anything that will create additional tax burden.

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:

Network Kansas – Ludwig has been in contact with Network Kansas regarding their facilitation of a community vision conversation. Ludwig hopes to accomplish that in August, though he is still negotiating times. Staff will advertise the meeting location and date to citizens.

Kansas Power Pool (KPP) – KPP is discussing possibly offering a community solar program. Participants would contribute approximately $25,000, as would KPP. The City would retain any money created by the 25 kW system. Ludwig would like to know if the Council would be interested in looking into the program. The system would be placed at ground level, allowing for educational opportunities, and would be about 3 times the capacity of what is located on City Hall. KPP is currently gauging community interest.

2019 Budget – The 2019 budget will be discussed and reviewed over the next two Council meetings.

Bike Across Kansas - Bike Across Kansas will come from Ashland, up highway 183, and have lunch in Greensburg Monday, June 11th, on its way to Pratt for the night.

Big Kansas Road Trip (BKRT) – A “Thank you” was received from the Kansas Sampler Foundation for the City’s participation in the first annual BKRT.

AT&T – Staff continues to struggle with getting switched over to VoIP. The fiber is in City Hall, but is not connected. Staff will be discussing the possibility of the same service to other parts of the community, utilizing Haviland Telephone. The school will be participating in a meeting on the topic. If this is something the City would like to pursue, a Franchise Agreement would need to be entered into.

Charging Stations – The Tesla charging stations are here. Installation will begin as soon as possible.
I) GOVERNING BODY COMMENTS
Trummel stated that he had a non-resident voice concern over the amount of bind weed in town. The citizen recommended spraying the bind weed and also suggested cutting down all of the pre-tornado signs that are not being utilized. They also recommended a company out of Medicine Lodge do the spraying. Council briefly discussed their inability to spray private property and the risk of drift from the spray killing plants in neighboring properties.

Christenson stated that a group (comprised of Scott Brown, Dennis McKinney, and Tim Tyree) presented a proposal to develop a 6-8 unit mobile home park to the County Commissioners at their final meeting in May. The group was asking the Commission to donate their property just north of the County Highway Department on South Grove. A discussion on currently zoning regulations and how to change those regulations ensued. Ludwig mentioned that if the group was unhappy with the current process, there is the possibility of developing the park outside of city limits, where the group would not be required to follow zoning codes. He believes the City would be willing to provide utilities to such a development.

J) ADJOURNMENT
Dixson declared the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Robert A. Dixson, Mayor

Christy Pyatt, City Clerk