

CITY COUNCIL
AUGUST 20, 2018
7:00 P.M.

The Council of the City of Augusta, Kansas met in regular session on August 20, 2018, with Mayor Mike Rawlings presiding. Council present were Cale Magruder, Eric Birk, Paul Belt, Tom Leffler, Kip Richardson and David Bates. Councilwoman Jamie Crum was absent. Also present: City Manager Josh Shaw, City Attorney Austin Parker, Assistant City Manager Cody Sims, Director of Public Safety Bob Sage and City Clerk Erica Jones. Visitors present were: Susan Smith, Kate Bosserman, Belinda Larson, Connie Thurman, Sarah Hoefgen, Angie Johnston and Ron Reavis.

Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer: Councilman Cale Magruder gave the invocation.

Minutes: Richardson made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 6, 2018 City Council meeting and August 13, 2018 Special Meeting. Bates seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Ordinance 8: Belt made a motion to approve Ordinance 8 dated 8/8/2018. Richardson seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Visitors:

Angie Johnston, AHS Booster Club Treasurer, was present to request permission to hold the annual bonfire pep rally at the Augusta City Lake. Magruder made a motion to approve the Augusta High School Booster Club's request to host its annual bonfire at 7:30 p.m., August 29, 2018, at Augusta City Lake. Belt seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Sarah Hoefgen, Augusta Chamber of Commerce Director, was present to request approval for the 150th Birthday Celebration events taking place downtown; and to discuss the City of Augusta Flag design contest.

Magruder made a motion to approve the parade and pep rally taking place downtown September 28, 2018. Birk seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Belt made a motion to approve the events taking place downtown September 29, 2018. Magruder seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Council consensus was to not make a decision about an official city flag. Hoefgen stated that she would go back to the 150th Celebration Committee and Arts Council and see if they want to move forward with the contest and select a flag and use it however we choose and we can bring it back to the Council and you can choose to adopt it or not at that time.

Business:

Resolution 2018-23 Acknowledging Support of the City of Augusta's Application for the Leadership Transformation Grant Through the Kansas Leadership Center: Leffler made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2018-23 acknowledging support of the City of Augusta's application for the Leadership Transformation Grant through the Kansas Leadership Center. Richardson seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Water Fountain Purchase Options in Shryock Park: Magruder made a motion to approve the Halsey Taylor Outdoor Hydroboost Bottle Filling Station, Endura 11 water fountain with the bottle filler and ADA accessible fountain for \$4,292.62. Leffler seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Canine Swim Event at the Augusta Municipal Swimming Pool: Bates made a motion to approve the canine swim event to take place at the Augusta municipal swimming pool on Thursday, September 6, 2018 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Magruder seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Election of New Councilmember to Fill the Unexpired Term for the Ward 4 Seat Previously Occupied by Justin Londagin: Leffler made a motion to nominate Ron Reavis to fulfill the unexpired term for the Ward 4 Council seat vacated by Justin Londagin by virtue of his resignation at the August 6, 2018 Council meeting. Bates seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Matters From/For Council and Informational Memorandum:

City Manager: Shaw reminded everyone of Special Meeting scheduled for 6 p.m. on August 27, 2018 to conduct a public hearing and adopt the 2019 Budget.

Shaw provided an update on the Sanitary Sewer Basin A progress and discussion of project cost overages for point repairs. Additional repairs beyond the established budget have been recommended by contractor/staff that would require Council feedback. Council consensus was for staff to gather more information about the repairs as well as an updated amortization schedule for the KDHE loan including an amendment for these additional repairs.

Shaw provided an update on the Cemetery clean up including photos and staff interpretation of the regulations. Magruder made a motion for city staff to produce 25 prototype shepherd hooks and sell at cost at the Sexton's office. Leffler seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition. Council consensus was for the items removed to be cataloged and stored behind the fence with the grave names attached.

Kip Richardson: Richardson inquired about enforcement of the ordinance regarding vehicles parked in yards. He stated that the ordinance is very clear, but there are several cases of it all over town and there are a couple people going around town turning people in. Richardson stated that we have an ordinance out there that we are not really enforcing and asked who should be enforcing the code. He stated that if the ordinance is not right then we need to change it, not just address it when people complain about specific addresses. Shaw stated the biggest issue is resources for enforcement. He stated that we prefer to see voluntary compliance, but when that fails and cannot be achieved then go out and enforce it. Shaw stated that staff is trying to be more proactive in advising of the ordinance and that Officers are trying to notify people of non-compliance before citing them for it. He stated that both the Safety and Community Development Departments are short on staff and do not have the resources to prioritize enforcement. Sims stated after the last ad hoc meeting there were discussions to look at having a work session after the budget session to discuss the matter further. Magruder agreed and stated it was suggested we look at zoning and the undue burden the parking ordinance is putting on people. Sage stated that when they respond to a complaint they educate the person before issuing a citation. He stated that numerous complaints have been made but only four citations have been issued since the ordinance was adopted. Council consensus was for the Safety Department to provide information on the number of complaints received versus the number of citations issued for violating the ordinance.

Richardson inquired about an update on the hammocks in the park. Shaw stated he reached out to the company in Haysville that manufactures these types of materials. They are already set up to manufacture this stuff, so he sent them the dimensions, which they sent to their engineer. He stated he heard back from them a month later that they did not have enough information to move forward and needed more specific information. Shaw stated he needs to follow up on this again.

Leffler: Leffler asked how the splash pad works and stated that Sunday it was raining and he just walked in and it turned on and when he pulled his vehicle into the parking lot, it came on. Shaw stated that there is a motion sensor on the push button and the sensitivity level can be impacted by a strong wind or heavy rain. He stated he is looking at reprogramming the sensitivity.

Leffler asked Jones to explain about unpaid taxes on city properties. Jones stated that she needs to file exemption requests for several city properties that have been purchased and for some that came back on the tax rolls for some reason. She stated that several are related to the Levee project. Leffler stated specifically that he noticed the Depot property was on the list.

Adjourn: At 9:12 p.m., Bates made a motion to adjourn. Leffler seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

City Clerk