

CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 3, 2023
7:00 P.M.

The Council of the City of Augusta, Kansas met in regular session on April 3, 2023, with Mayor Mike Rawlings presiding. Council present were Mike Martin, Bob Bailey, Eric Birk, Mike Huddleston, Tom Leffler, Kip Richardson, Jeff Brown and Ron Reavis. Also present: City Attorney Andrew Marino, City Manager Josh Shaw, and City Clerk/Director of Finance Erica Jones. Staff Present: Director of Public Safety Todd Ackerman, Director of Public Utilities Tim Johnson, Jim Sutton, Anthony Craft, and Shawna Cortez. Visitors: Matt Lichlyter, Nichole Lichlyter, Meaghan McClure, Shane Scott, Tonya Scott, Janet Inlow, Briannica Black, Jessica Black, Christopher Black, Frank Miller, J. Murphy, Ruth Holliday, Jim Beadle, Mari Beadle, Jeff Raber, Matt Malone, Michael Canfield, Shawn Davis, Christine Sims, Landon Scott, Kevin Smokorwski, Meredith Helton, Kenny Helton, Chad Houghtaling, Ben Bunck, Craig Plzak, Josh Deeder, Barry Carroll, Nancy Carroll, Nick McClure, Don Snyder, Calvin Hilt, Megan McClure, Lonny Pace, Vickie Carter, Jay Counter, Wayne Vogel, Clayton Pearson and Doug Law.

Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer: Wayne Vogel, Church of Christ, gave the invocation.

Minutes: Richardson made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 20, 2023 City Council meeting. Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Ordinance: Richardson made a motion to approve Ordinance #3B dated 3/29/2023. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Proclamation:

Mayor Rawlings issued a proclamation declaring April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Augusta.

Visitors:

City Manager Josh Shaw presented a request from Matt Childers with Augusta High School Disc Golf Club for the Inaugural Scrambled Oriole event on April 7, 2023 at Garvin Park Disc Golf Course. Reavis made a motion to approve the Scrambled Oriole event on April 7, 2023 at Garvin Park Disc Golf Course. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Business:

2023 Insurance Renewal for Airport: Leffler made a motion to approve the bid from RT Specialty for Airport Liability Coverage for 2023 in the amount of \$10,286.00. Reavis seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Transportation Alternatives Agreement No. 018-23-Redbud Trail Hwy 54/400 Bridge Construction:

Jessica Black and Briannica Black, 1234 Dearborn addressed the governing body and spoke in favor of the trail.

Chad Houghtaling, 11124 SW 114th Terrace, addressed the governing body and spoke out against the trail.

Matt Malone, 2129 Dearborn, addressed the governing body and spoke out against the trail and asked the Council to consider putting it on a ballot for the public to vote.

Meghan McClure, 2402 Mainsgate Dr, addressed the governing body and spoke out against the trail and in favor of putting it to a vote of the public.

Frank Miller, 2549 SW 60th El Dorado and owns property along the trail, addressed the governing body and spoke out against the trail.

Shawn Davis, 1917 Meadowlake and Bike Shop owner, addressed the governing body and spoke in favor of the trail.

Lonny Pace, owner of the bowling alley at 310 State, addressed the governing body and spoke in favor of the trail.

Ruth Holliday, 522 E Crestline Rd., Andover, addressed the governing body and spoke in favor of the trail.

Richardson made a motion to approve Agreement No. 018-23 between the Kansas Department of Transportation and the City of Augusta for Project No. 008 TE-0508-01. Redbud Trail Pedestrian Bridge over US-54, and authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement. Birk seconded the motion.

Leffler read a letter regarding his position on the trail and asked the City Clerk to include a copy of the letter in its entirety in the minutes.

Motion carried with Reavis and Martin voting in opposition.

At 8:22 p.m. Richardson made a motion to take a 10-minute break. Leffler seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

At 8:35 Richardson made a motion to reconvene the meeting. Leffler seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Street Preservation Program Bid Award: Leffler made a motion to approve the low bid from Vance Brothers, Inc. in the amount of \$498,172.92 for 2023 Street Preservation projects. Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Interlocal Agreement with Butler County for Emergency Medical Services: Leffler made a motion to approve an Interlocal Agreement with Butler County for Emergency Medical Services. Huddleston seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Resolution No. 2023-07 Authorizing Interlocal Agreement Regarding Neighborhood Revitalization Plan with Butler County, USD No. 402, and Butler Community College: Richardson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2023-07 authorizing and directing the Mayor to execute a new Interlocal Agreement with the Board of Butler County Commissioners, Unified School District No. 402, and Butler Community College. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Mayoral Appointment to Augusta Housing Commission Board: Reavis made a motion appoint Resa Gardner and Carol Borger to the Augusta Housing Commission Board. Leffler seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

EV Chargers: Director of Public Utilities Tim Johnson stated that it is staff's intention to install two Level 2 EV chargers on the west side of State Street adjacent to the Veteran's Memorial Park in approximately a month or so. He stated there will be no cost for use of those at this time. Huddleston asked if they have meters on them. Jim Sutton stated we will put meters on them to track the usage but there would be no charge. Brown stated that Marion, Winfield and Goddard have them and do not charge. Shaw stated there may be some cost in the future for the electricity so you have a replacement for the fuel tax you are losing. That may impact the ability to not charge in the future. Johnson stated EV's do more damage to roads. Shaw stated in the future you will have to have a grid that can support the load needed for those EV's. Huddleston asked if they have solar EV Chargers. Johnson stated there are not, but energy comes from several sources and in other areas solar use is more prevalent.

Electric Rate Ordinance: Leffler made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2218 establishing new rates and charges for the users of the municipally owned and operated electrical utility of the City of Augusta. Brown seconded the motion. Roll Call: Huddleston Yes, Birk Yes, Reavis Yes, Richardson Yes, Bailey Yes, Leffler Yes, Brown Yes, Martin Yes. Motion carried.

Girl Scout House Quit Claim Deed: Council reviewed a draft quit claim deed for transfer of City property to Girl Scouts and provided direction to staff on how to proceed. Leffler made a motion to rescind the offer to give away the property at Kelly and Custer Lane and go back to the original contract and re-establish the contract with them as it was in the past with approval of the 2nd 5-year extension. Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried with Leffler, Martin, Richardson, Birk and Huddleston voting in favor and Reavis, Bailey and Brown voting in opposition.

Matters From/For Council and Informational Memorandum:

Reminder of City Council Work Session on April 10, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss animal control ordinance revision.

Huddleston: Huddleston inquired about big square patch in front of 615 Santa Fe that keeps getting worse and asked if there is a way to fix that rather than pouring a patch in to it week to week. Craft stated it was a concrete patch that was done in the winter time with a cold patch topping, but now that it is warmer we need to mill that off and put on a hot mix asphalt topping. Rawlings stated there are 3 or 4 bricks missing around water valve near Miller's 5. Brown stated he got a call from Coopers again about the lot behind them and needing the lines repainted. Craft stated he would look at it.

Huddleston stated we've had a lot of zoning discussions regarding properties in the County and during those discussions he has always wondered why we have an interlocal agreement with the County for the zoning but not the inspection. Shaw stated that is how extraterritorial zoning works. Shaw stated he would provide more information to the Council regarding that by email. Huddleston asked if there was any interest in reducing the scope of our growth area. Shaw stated that staff would be supportive of that, but we need staff that can handle that change and we are still working on filling the Assistant City Manager position.

Rawlings: Rawlings inquired about the status of the east alley behind the 400 block of State Street. Shaw stated he has reached out to staff and they are planning on getting out there and patching it. Craft stated his staff added and removed some of the gravel and tried to smooth it out.

Leffler: Reminder next Monday 6 p.m. at City Hall to review the draft Animal Ordinance. Leffler asked how we are doing enforcing the truck traffic on Ohio. Ackerman stated they are still monitoring that area and writing tickets and that his staff is concentrating on the north end of Ohio right now. Rawlings inquired about the cameras on poles at the north end of town. Ackerman stated they are the Flock cameras and that the ones on Ohio are operating, but the ones near Walmart are not working yet. Shaw asked if we could use those cameras for monitoring the truck traffic. Ackerman stated he could review that and at least we would have a count of how many trucks there are.

Martin: Martin asked if the air compression breaking is enforceable. Ackerman stated he is torn on that. He stated they are a safety feature, but there is an ordinance against it so it is enforceable. Martin asked if the overpass project is still on schedule. Shaw stated we still do not have a date to announce to the public yet. Martin stated he will not be able to make the work session.

Adjourn: At 10:25 p.m., Richardson made a motion to adjourn. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

City Clerk