

CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 15, 2024
7:00 P.M.

The Council of the City of Augusta, Kansas met in regular session on April 15, 2024, with Mayor Mike Rawlings presiding. Council present were Mike Martin, Eric Birk, Bob Bailey, Shane Scott, Kip Richardson, Shawn Davis, and Jeff Brown. Council member Jake Marr was absent. Also present: City Attorney Andrew Marino, City Manager Josh Shaw, Assistant City Manager Kamme Sroufe and City Clerk/Director of Finance Erica Jones. Staff Present: Director of Public Safety Todd Ackerman, Anthony Craft, Michael Lunnam, Shawna Cortez and Susan Smith. Visitors: Sue Jones, Kristey Williams, Diana Burress, Walter Burress, Brooke Ponce, Joe Terick, Wyatt Hessman, and Candice Godwin.

Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer: Mayor Mike Rawlings gave the invocation.

Minutes: Richardson made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2024 City Council meeting. Scott seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Ordinance: Richardson made a motion to approve Ordinance #4 dated April 10, 2024. Birk seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Visitors:

Representatives from the Castle Park Project were present to provide the City Council with an update on the status of fundraising, the overall planning process, and options for playground surfacing after our unsuccessful KDHE waste tire grant application. Davis made a motion to authorize supplemental funding not to exceed \$50k from the Pride & Progress fund, contingent on need for surfacing costs for the Castle Park project. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Brown made a motion to authorize use of mulch around the swing area if compaction is an issue and pour in place cannot be used. Scott seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Business:

Request for Supplemental Funding for Trap/Neuter/Vaccinate/Release (TNVR) of Feral Cats: Sue Jones addressed the governing body regarding the TNVR of feral cats to request additional funding in the amount of \$5,000 for spaying/neutering and vaccinating of feral cats in the city. Jones stated she would like the City to commit to funding this program for another year and there will be a volunteer program that will take over the cost of year three.

Martin made a motion to approve a request from Sue Jones for supplemental funding in the amount of \$5,000 for spaying/neutering and vaccinating of feral cats in the city. Scott seconded the motion. Motion carried with Davis voting in opposition.

Engineering Services Agreement with JEO Consulting Group, Inc. for the Inspection of the Augusta City Lake Dam: Brown made a motion to approve the Scope of Services Agreement with JEO Consulting Group, Inc. in the amount of \$6,000 for the inspection of the dam at Augusta City Lake and authorize City Manager Josh Shaw to sign the agreement. Davis seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Engineering Services Agreement with JEO for Water Storage Building Site Plan/Site Design: Richardson made a motion to approve an Engineering Services Agreement with JEO in the amount of \$19,500 for site design for the water plant storage building, with a maximum not to exceed fee of \$25,000 for any supplemental services as needed by the City billed on an hourly basis. Scott seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

2024 Pavement Preservation Program: Brown made a motion to approve the bid from Vance Brothers, Inc. in the amount of \$518,921.12 for the construction of the 2024 Pavement Preservation Program. Davis seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Matters From/For Council and Informational Memorandum:

Mayor: Mayor Rawlings gave a reminder of the Budget Work Session #1 scheduled for 6:00 p.m. April 29, 2024 at City Hall.

Martin: Martin stated staff did a good job of crack sealing all over the city. Martin thanked staff for the concrete work done in the alley today next to City Hall.

Scott: Scott thanked staff for moving the trash can downtown. He also thanked staff for the dog station put in on Custer Lane and maybe we could put more up strategically around town. He stated that he has received a lot of positive feedback on that.

Richardson: Richardson inquired about the status of the Dike road improvements. Shaw stated it will be a township project so they are responsible for that schedule, but that he had expected it to be a fall project. Shaw stated staff could do some follow up and inquire with the township. Craft stated he expects it will be done in the July or August timeframe, but he will check with the township to get confirmation on that. Richardson stated since we are eliminating the truck traffic on Ohio they are using Dike road to get through town. Richardson asked if the two signs on the west side of Ohio about the truck routes are ours or the County's. Craft stated they are ours. Richardson stated that the flashing lights are not working.

Davis: Davis stated he has had a couple businesses call him about dumpster diving going on downtown and that he does not believe it is addressed by ordinance. Shaw stated he will do some research to see if there are other cities that have such ordinances. Ackerman stated we would have to create an ordinance or we would have to handle it as trespassing. But if the dumpster is where it normally would be put for the trash to be picked it up then it would not be trespassing if it has been thrown away to be hauled off.

Davis inquired about removing the no parking sign at the theatre. He stated that no one seems to know how that sign got there. He stated that with the coffee shop and the salon there, it could add three spaces for their customers. Mayor Rawlings stated there has been controversy over the sign and that he has heard from the theatre that it needs to be a loading area. Shaw stated it is not designated as a loading zone, but as no parking. Davis stated the theatre is not open during business hours and the businesses could use the extra spaces.

Davis made a motion to remove the no parking sign in front of the theatre and to paint the permanent striping to identify the stalls. Scott seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Adjourn: At 8:39 p.m., Richardson made a motion to adjourn. Scott seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

City Clerk