

CITY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 4, 2021
7:00 P.M.

The Council of the City of Augusta, Kansas met in regular session on October 4, 2021, with Mayor Mike Rawlings presiding. Council present were Eric Birk, Mike Huddleston, Tom Leffler, Kip Richardson, Ron Reavis and Bill Slade. Councilmember Jake Marr was absent. Also present: City Attorney Justen Phelps, City Manager Josh Shaw, Assistant City Manager Cody Sims and City Clerk Erica Jones. Staff Present: Director of Public Safety Bob Sage, Rod Davis, Susan Smith and Susie Geiger. Visitors: Pastor Lynn Lamberty, Rose Mary Saunders, Eric Meyer, William Skaggs, Jayme Chapin, Brandon Stock, Dawn Stock, Kelly Carlson, Priscilla Templin, Joyce Liebst and Debbie Bales.

Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer: Pastor Loy Hoskins, First Christian Church, gave the invocation.

Minutes: Richardson made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 20, 2021 City Council meeting and September 27, 2021 Work Session. Slade seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Ordinance: Reavis made a motion to approve Ordinance #9B dated 9/29/2021. Richardson seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Visitor:

Debbie Bales, 613 Mills Drive Towanda, KS, addressed the governing body about the golf carts on behalf of William Skaggs. Bales asked the governing body to consider allowing use of golf carts in Augusta.

Business:

Conduct a Public Hearing to Consider an Application to CDBG for Acquisition of a New Fire Engine for the City of Augusta, Kansas; Consider Approval of Resolution 2021-19 and 2021-20; Consider Approval of Grant Writing Agreement with Ranson Financial: Mayor Rawlings opened the public hearing to consider an application to CDBG for the acquisition of a new fire truck. Shaw provided a staff report about the grant application and process. Rose Mary Saunders addressed the governing body. Mayor Rawlings closed the public hearing after no one came forward with comments.

Leffler made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-19 certifying legal authority to apply for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and authorize the mayor to execute all required documents, including the Anti-Displacement Plan, Statement of Assurances and Certifications, Disclosure Report, and Determination of Level of Review. Huddleston seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Leffler made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-20 assuring the Kansas Department of Commerce (KDOC) that operating funds for improvements to the Public Safety System will be provided continually. Slade seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Leffler made a motion to approve a grant writing agreement with Ranson Financial. Slade seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Presentation of 2020 Audited Financials: Leffler made a motion to accept the City's 2020 audited financials. Huddleston seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Resolution No. 2021-21 Requesting the State Director of Accounts and Reports Waive the Requirements of K.S.A. 75-1120A(A) for the City's 2021 Financial Statements and Reports: Reavis made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-21 requesting the State Director of Accounts and Reports waive the requirements of K.S.A. 75-1120a(a) with regard to the City's 2021 financial statements and reports. Richardson seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Resolution No. 2021-22 Approving a Conditional Use Permit for 1018 North Custer Lane: Leffler made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-22 accepting the recommendation of the Augusta Planning Commission to approve a conditional use permit for a detached residential garage located at 1018 North Custer Lane. Slade seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Design Services Agreement with Schwab-Eaton, P.A. for the State Fiscal Year 2023 City Connecting Link Improvement Program Surface Preservation Project on East 7th Avenue: Leffler made a motion to approve of a Design Services Agreement with Schwab-Eaton, P.A. for topographic survey, design services, and bidding services in the amount of \$37,000 for the State Fiscal year 2023 KDOT City Connecting Link Improvement Program Surface Preservation project on East 7th Avenue from the railroad overpass to the East City Limits. Richardson seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks Recreational Trails Grant Agreement: Richardson made a motion to approve the grant agreement between the City of Augusta and the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks for the Recreational Trails Grant at Santa Fe Lake. Slade seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Augusta, Kansas Welcome Center Operating Agreement Between the City of Augusta and Go! Augusta: Huddleston made a motion to approve the Augusta, Kansas Welcome Center Operating Agreement between the City of Augusta and Go! Augusta. Reavis seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Election of New Councilmember to Fill the Unexpired Term for the Ward 2 Seat Previously Occupied by Jamie Crum: Richardson made a motion to elect Bob Bailey to fulfill the unexpired term for the Ward 2 Council seat vacated by Jamie Crum by virtue of her resignation announced September 27, 2021. Huddleston seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Matters From/For Council and Informational Memorandum:

Huddleston: Huddleston stated that Main Street, a concrete street, has some really bad areas in it. He asked if we looking at repairing it any time soon. Sims stated he will bring that to the Street Superintendent's attention. Huddleston asked when 6th Street at Osage and Main will be open to traffic again. Sims stated he will get some answers on that and that it was shut down for a waterline repair.

Huddleston stated he would like staff and the Planning Commission to take a look at the zoning regarding storage sheds in the downtown area to see if a change can be made.

Reavis: Reavis inquired about the process and status of filling the Public Safety Director position. Shaw stated we are in the very first phase of accepting applications. He stated it is posted everywhere, but we have only received about 10 applications so far. Shaw stated that is a fraction of the applications we received last time and that we have not started interviews yet.

Richardson: Richardson received a request from someone in the Custer Lane/Debra Circle area in reference to street lights on Custer Lane between Kelly and Belmont. He stated that area is extremely dark and

we have a really nice sidewalk there. Richardson stated he would like to see us consider putting lighting along that area. Shaw stated staff is working on guidelines on how to handle citizen requests such as this. He stated the electric lines in this particular area are underground, so it will be quite costly to install lighting.

Richardson stated he was contacted by a person inquiring about putting a couple truck loads of dirt just to the north and west of the Disc Golf Course for a BMX track. Shaw stated that Meadowview Acres is a federal flood buyout land and we had to apply for permission just to put the fence up. He stated it is heavily regulated and process heavy to get a yes or no and that it took 7 months to get the approval to put a fence in. Shaw stated there may be other areas around the lake that might be more appropriate to consider.

Richardson inquired about a work session for campers in driveways. Shaw stated that nothing has been scheduled yet by the governing body. Richardson made a motion to schedule a work session to discuss all front yard parking October 25th at 6 p.m. at City Hall. Birk seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Richardson inquired about banners for light poles for Christmas and Christmas lights downtown. He stated it would be nice if we put lights up or looked at other ideas to increase what we have downtown to make it look more festive. Shaw stated what he recalled is that staff put something together to purchase banners but we received feedback from members of the council that gave us some hesitancy but that there was not a formal discussion. He stated that nothing has been included in the budget for purchase of decorations. Shaw stated he didn't think we were only looking for downtown, but for 7th Avenue and Ohio. Sims stated staff looked at options for replacement of the current decorations on 7th Avenue, for patriotic banners for Ohio from Main to Kelly and holiday banners for downtown. Huddleston stated if the City purchased a little each year it can be reused and we can grow the number of decorations, compared to the fireworks where we spend \$10,000 each year for them and they go away after that day.

Rawlings: Rawlings inquired about the status of the water fountain at the Dog Park. Sims stated he has been working with the Water Department on it. He stated it is a frost free hydrant that has been vandalized on multiple occasions. He stated it was corroded by the flood event a few years ago. He stated there is also sand material down there and as the water comes in the sand gets stuck in the diaphragm of the plumbing so the water runs and will not shut off. Sims stated there have been many attempts to fix that he has shut the water off to make the repairs, but people turn it back on after it has been shut off. He stated the last time it was tampered with it was locked in the on position with a padlock so we could not shut it off. He stated we cut the padlock off and pulled the meter out. Sims stated staff is trying to fix it so it will work permanently, but it will not be a frost free fountain and will have to be winterized each year.

Adjourn: At 8:52 p.m., Richardson made a motion to adjourn. Slade seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

City Clerk