

CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 19, 2021
7:00 P.M.

The Council of the City of Augusta, Kansas met in regular session on April 19, 2021, with Mayor Mike Rawlings presiding. Council present were Eric Birk, Jake Marr, Mike Huddleston, Tom Leffler, Kip Richardson and Bill Slade. Councilmembers Jamie Crum and Ron Reavis were absent. Also present: City Attorney Andrew Marino, City Manager Josh Shaw, Assistant City Manager Cody Sims and City Clerk Erica Jones. Staff Present: Director of Public Utilities Tim Johnson, Dave Warner, Richard Nash, Susie Geiger and Susan Smith. Visitors present were: Mary Anderson, Jayme Chapin, Doug Marr, Kristin Marr, Matt Womeldorff and Brian Coomes.

Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer: Gene Kaufman, GracePointe Church, gave the invocation.

Minutes: Richardson made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 5, 2021 City Council meeting. Slade seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Ordinance: Richardson made a motion to approve Ordinance 4 dated 4/14/2021. Leffler seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Oath of Office:

City Clerk Erica Jones administered the Oath of Office to Jake Marr who was sworn in as Council member for Ward 1 to fill the unexpired term of Cale Magruder.

Visitors:

City Employee Richard Nash was recognized for attaining his Journeyman Lineman Certification.

Mary Anderson, representing the Augusta Public Library, was present to request use of Garvin Park and Kerry Unrein State on June 12, 2021 for Ballet in the Park and on June 15, 2021 for a McCrae Puppets performance, and for use of Garvin Park on July 13, 2021 for a dunk tank activity. Slade made a motion to approve the request from Augusta Public Library to use Garvin Park and Kerry Unrein State on June 12, 2021 for Ballet in the Park and on June 15, 2021 for a McCrae Puppets performance, and for use of Garvin Park on July 13, 2021 for a dunk tank activity. Huddleston seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Jayme Chapin, representing Downtown Augusta Inc., was present to request \$600 in funding for prizes for the upcoming Spring Adopt-A-Pot competition. Huddleston made a motion to approve funding in the amount of \$600 in funding for prizes for the upcoming Spring Adopt-A-Pot competition. Marr seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Business:

Consultant Agreement for Design, NAVAID Siting/AGIS Survey, and Bidding Services with Olsson for the Reconstruction of Runway 18-36 at the Augusta Municipal Airport: Leffler made a motion to approve a Consultant Agreement with Olsson to provide design, NAVAID Siting / AGIS Survey, and bidding services in the amount of \$687,700 for the reconstruction of Runway 18-36 at the Augusta Municipal Airport contingent upon FAA approval of the agreement. Slade seconded the nomination. Motion carried without opposition.

Airport Coronavirus Relief Grant Program Grant Agreement: Leffler made a motion to table this agenda item until the May 3, 2021 council meeting so questions regarding the Face Covering Policy can be answered. Richardson seconded the motion. Motion carried

Proposed Resolution No. 2021-07 Repealing Resolution No. 2014-03 and Recognizing Current Utility Abatements and Credits and Establishing Guidelines to Evaluate Future Requests for the same: Leffler made a motion to table this agenda item to bring back to the May 3, 2021 council meeting and encouraged councilmembers to present their ideas to staff. Slade seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Mayoral Appointments to the Augusta Planning Commission: Leffler made a motion to approve the mayor's recommendation to appoint David Chappell to replace Rick Blue and re-appoint David Bisagno, Jim Keller, and Diana Burress to the Augusta Planning Commission for a term beginning May 1, 2021 and expiring April 30, 2024. Huddleston seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Park Board Recommendation Regarding Skatepark Location: Slade made a motion to approve the Park Board's recommendation to construct the new skate park in Bill Reed Park. Birk seconded the motion. Motion carried with Leffler and Richardson voting in opposition.

Matters From/For Council and Informational Memorandum:

Huddleston: Huddleston stated that some parents came by his office one evening last week with their little kid looking for a restroom to use because the line for the new restroom was really long and didn't seem to be moving. Huddleston asked if the new restroom is going to be sufficient to accommodate the number of people there. Shaw stated there are the same number of restrooms available there as there are in our other parks.

Huddleston stated he has not been receiving an animal control report and asked if one is still available. Sims stated he would get one put in the packet. Huddleston asked if animal control will be monitoring fishing license enforcement. Sims stated it is a conversation he will be having with City Inspector Travis Combes. Huddleston asked if we have decided that the Safety Department will be enforcing Ordinance 14-220 related to vehicles parked on private property. Sims stated that the Department of Public Safety has been enforcing Section 14-220 of the Code since passage of the ordinance.

Richardson: Richardson thanked staff for the new lights that have been put outside and over by the park.

Leffler: Leffler asked if there will there be a budget work session next week. Shaw stated there will not. Leffler asked if all of the CDBG Loan recipients are up to date on their repayment. Jones stated they are, except the one that is behind the one payment from December.

Leffler stated there is a lot of misinformation going around about the surveys being sent out and ask staff to clarify. Shaw stated this is an opportunity to bring federal money into the community so our local tax payers and rate payers don't have to bear the brunt of the payments for the equipment and improvements we want to make. He stated we previously received a \$500,000 federal grant for the sewer basin repair. The two projects we are looking at this time is a fire truck and sanitary sewer lines. He stated the fire truck is considered a community asset and the sewer lines will be looked at on a basin to basin basis. Shaw stated that based on our old census data we do not meet the income limitations to qualify for the grant, but due to the pandemic we feel that income levels may have fallen enough to allow us to qualify for the grant. He stated these surveys are good for a few years and will also allow the data to be used for the basin improvements in the

future. Shaw stated that the City is not collecting the data. He stated the consultant is aggregating the data and looking to see if 51% of our population meets the low to moderate income requirement and what opportunities we can qualify for. Leffler stated he hopes citizens will fill these out so we will qualify for grant money instead of having to use tax dollars. Rawlings stated the consultant missed the boat by not providing an envelope to return it or where to complete it online. He stated a return envelope would have made it more likely to be returned.

Executive Session:

At 8:36 p.m. Richardson made a motion to recess into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss issues related to pending litigation and potential legal liability related to the performance of a contract pursuant to the “consultation with an attorney for the public body or agency which would be deemed privileged in the attorney client relationship” justification for executive sessions under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2). Richardson asked that City Manager Josh Shaw, Assistant City Manager Cody Sims and City Attorney Andrew Marino to join the Council in executive session. The open meeting of the governing body will reconvene in the Council Chambers at 8:51 p.m. Leffler seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

At 8:51 p.m. Richardson made a motion to exit executive session where no action was taken. Leffler seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Adjourn: At 8:51 p.m., Richardson made a motion to adjourn. Slade seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

City Clerk