

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

The Council of the City of Augusta, Kansas met in regular session on January 3, 2023, with Mayor Mike Rawlings presiding. Council present were Mike Martin, Eric Birk, Mike Huddleston, Tom Leffler, Kip Richardson, Jeff Brown and Ron Reavis. Councilman Bob Bailey was absent. Also present: City Attorney Andrew Marino, City Manager Josh Shaw, Assistant City Manager Cody Sims, and City Clerk/Director of Finance Erica Jones. Staff Present: Director of Public Safety Todd Ackerman, Shawna Cortez, and Susan Smith. Visitors: Father P.J. Voegeli, Jim Weaver, Shawn Davis and Josh Burns.

Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer: Father P.J. Voegeli, Saint James Catholic Church, gave the invocation.

Minutes: Richardson made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 19, 2022 City Council meeting. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Ordinance: Reavis made a motion to approve Ordinance #12A dated 12/21/2022. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Visitors:

Jim Weaver, 11627 SW Indianola, addressed the governing body regarding the Airport runway project and asked them to reconsider the tunnel and offer to buy the RV property across the highway. He asked the council to hold off for six months to have discussions with the FAA to consider options.

Business:

Park Advisory Board Recommendation to Shift Skatepark Footprint within Bill Reed Park: Reavis made a motion to approve the Park Advisory Board's recommendation to move the skatepark footprint within Bill Reed Park from its previously approved location at the corner of Sunflower & Cron to the open area near Sunflower and State. Birk seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Resolution No. 2023-01 Authorizing City Staff to Apply for a Waste Tire Grant: Reavis made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2023-01 authorizing city staff to apply for a Kansas Department of Health & Environment (KDHE) Waste Tire Bench/Table Grant and delegate authority to the Mayor to sign the application. Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Matters From/For Council and Informational Memorandum:

City Manager: Richardson made a motion to schedule a Public Building Commission meeting for 6:45 p.m. on Tuesday, January 17, 2023. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Mayor Rawlings gave a reminder that the next city council meetings will be on Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> due to Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Reavis: Reavis stated he received concerns regarding the traffic signals at Belmont & Ohio. He stated the sensor is fine but needs readjusted. Shaw stated that staff believes the whole system is out of date

and are working on pricing other systems and materials to upgrade the system. Shaw stated he will provide an update on the latest information.

Richardson: Richardson thanked Sims for all his work with the city and provided well wishes for his future.

Rawlings: Rawlings thanked Sims.

Leffler: Leffler stated we will miss Sims. Leffler asked Shaw about the posting of Sims' position. Shaw stated he is working on it and will get it posted. Leffler inquired about discussion with Tim McLemore at the Airport. Shaw stated he spoke to him shortly after the meeting he attended and the last discussion with him was that the lease agreement was fine, but he would like a longer term. Shaw stated he would follow up with him.

Leffler inquired about the status of the EV charging stations previously approved by the Council. Shaw stated he would follow up with KPP to inquire about the status. Leffler inquired about location. Shaw stated staff had discussed downtown and in Shryock Park. Sims stated Brooke Carroll with KPP indicated there was a 6 month delay in the delivery of the charging stations.

Leffler inquired about the status of turning the property located at 928 E Kelly over to the Girl Scouts. Shaw stated he sent a draft of a quit claim deed to Jerry Primm for his review one and a half to two months ago and has not heard back from him. Leffler stated that we pulled water from the lake this last year to redo the water perfection rights and asked if we worked out a deal with El Dorado about the take or pay portion of our contract. Leffler stated that is about \$366,000 and when you add in the Corps O & M it is about \$414,000. He asked if we are stuck with all that. Shaw stated we will still have to pay our take or pay portion of the contract. He stated that they have worked with us in the past during the drought and did not increase our take or pay amount, but we are required to pay that whether we use it or not.

Leffler stated that we have been 4 years and 3 months with no animal control contract and we paid out over \$138,000 in that time period. Leffler asked about the status. Shaw stated he will bring it to them as long as we have something workable. Leffler stated last January you told me the employee handbook was almost ready, I'm guessing it didn't get done before Makala left. Shaw stated the policies are all complete but staff is working on reviewing it and putting it together.

Martin: Martin stated he conducted some business out at the cemetery recently and the Sexton is doing a really good job out there.

Richardson: Richardson asked if a date has been set for the strategic retreat. Shaw stated it has not.

Executive Session:

At 7:36 p.m. Richardson made a motion to go into executive session for 20 minutes to discuss 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), and to invite in City Manager Josh Shaw and City Attorney Andrew Marino. The open meeting will resume in the City Council chambers at 7:56 p.m. Leffler seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

At 7:56 p.m. Richardson made a motion to exit executive session where no action was taken. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

At 7:57 p.m. Richardson made a motion to go into executive session for 15 minutes to protect an individual employee's private health information pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), and to invite in City Manager Josh Shaw. The open meeting will resume in the City Council chambers at 8:12 p.m. Leffler seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

At 8:12 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 8:12 p.m., Richardson made a motion to adjourn. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

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City Clerk