

December 4, 2023

The City Council of Scott City met in regular session on the above date at 6:30 p.m. in City Hall.

Pastor Steve Payne from First Christian Church was present to lead the Council and others present in prayer.

Present were Mayor Everett Green, Council members Craig Richards, Jeff Allen, Kelly Funk, Josh Gooden, Bo Parkinson, Barb Wilkinson, Adam Winter, Armando Tarango, City Attorney Jennifer Cunningham (by Zoom), City Administrator Brad Pendergast, and City Clerk Ruth Becker.

The Council and others recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the November 20, 2023, regular council meeting were presented.

Motion by Barb Wilkinson seconded by Adam Winter to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2023, regular council meeting. Vote – Unam.

Appropriation Ordinance # 1011A was presented.

Motion by Jeff Allen seconded by Josh Gooden to approve Appropriation Ordinance # 1011A. Vote – Unam.

Included in the packet was a copy of the certified results from November 7, 2023 General Election. City Council results are as follows:

Ward 1	Louis “Bo” Parkinson	76
	Write-In	6
Ward 2	Barbara Wilkinson	107
	Cody Ellis	95
	Write-In	1
Ward 3	Ali Cline	55
	Jeff Allen	105
	Write-In	0
Ward 4	Lloyd A. Foster	76
	Craig Richards	110
	Write-In	1

Mayor Green congratulated the returning Council members noting that all elected officials had been incumbents.

Mayor Everett Green indicated that, although he had anticipated making appointments to the 2024 Planning & Zoning Commission at this meeting, he is awaiting confirmation of acceptance

for one potential candidate. Rather than making appointments at two separate meetings, he plans to appoint all commission members at the December 18, 2023, Council meeting. Consensus of the Council was to table Planning & Zoning Commission appointments to the December 18, 2023, Council meeting.

Scott Recreation Commission (SRC) Director Cody Brittan was present to update the Council. He began his report by stating that the annual audit found no violations. *Scott Recreation Commission Financial Statement with Regulatory – Required Supplementary Information and Independent Auditor’s Report for the Year Ended June 30, 2023* had been provided in the packet.

Mr. Brittan expanded his report by updating the Council on athletic opportunities provided to community youth, indicating that participation in some leagues was comparable to prior years but participation had increased overall. Director Cody Brittan also updated the Council regarding the utilization of new Rec Management software, indicating that staff had been having issues that were not being resolved. The new Rec Desk software is the same price as what was previously being used, but credit card fees are lower than previously incurred. Overall, he and his staff are excited about the new software. Mr. Brittan’s final comments were directed to the installation of the new irrigation system, which is being installed at this time. Although the contractor started the project almost two months behind schedule, the installation is expected to be completed within the next two weeks. He also stated that water usage at the Sports Complex and the Soccer Fields was about 5 million gallons in 2023. Council members thanked Mr. Brittan for his report.

Included in the packet were billing figures for the Sports Complex and the Soccer Fields for 2023. Total gallons of water used at these two locations was 5,284,100 at a cost of \$27,095.85. As per the agreement between the City and the SRC, in which the City has agreed to provide free water up to ten million gallons for 2023 and 2024, this year’s usage falls dramatically below the agreed-upon threshold.

Included in the packet was *Ordinance No. 1260*, an ordinance amending Title Eight, Chapter Two, Section Eight of the codification of the ordinances of Scott City, Kansas relating to water system rates. City Administrator indicated that this ordinance is the result of Council members’ involvement over the past several months. He noted that because there is no water usage included in the base rate, the issue with the prior ordinance’s “contiguous properties” clause would no longer exist. Every meter will be charged the appropriate base rate and usage fees independent from each other. Mr. Pendergast also noted that this ordinance affords the rights of the Council to negotiate with individual entities when deemed advisable. He recommended reviewing the water rate annually to ensure that the rates continue to be appropriate. Water rates associated with this ordinance will be effective with the first billing after December 1, 2023, for payment due in January 2024.

Motion by Josh Gooden seconded by Bo Parkinson to approve *Ordinance No. 1260*, an ordinance amending Title Eight, Chapter Two, Section Eight of the codification of the ordinances of Scott City, Kansas relating to water system rates. Vote – Unam.

Provided in the Council packet was *Addendum No. One (1)* for the bid submittal portion of the Water System Improvements-2023 project. City Administrator Brad Pendergast explained that GMS Engineer Ken White had received feedback from potential bidders that they would be interested in bidding for the project if they had more time to do so. Mr. White and Mr. Pendergast determined that it would be beneficial to extend the deadline for bids to be submitted to the City

from December 4, 2023, to December 18, 2023. Therefore, planholders and other interested parties will be allowed two extra weeks to submit any bids for the project. Bids will be opened the afternoon of December 18, 2023, and recommendations will be made at that night's Council meeting.

Under the open agenda, Council member Jeff Allen indicated that he had begun receiving mailers again for the Service Line Warranties of America (SLWA) program that uses the City's seal in their marketing efforts. He inquired about the large number of mailings. City Clerk Ruth Becker explained that, in this first year of educating the public about this program, two sets of mailers were distributed. Altogether, residents have received four envelopes for each mailing address which included a spring campaign and a fall campaign, with each campaign sending not only the initial information but also a reminder, or follow-up, two weeks later. Mrs. Becker noted that, in future years, SLWA has assured her that they will not be as aggressive with their marketing endeavors. She also noted that City Hall staff members have been sending names and addresses of those individuals who do not wish to remain on the mailing list, and SLWA has happily complied with removing these individuals from future mailings.

Council member Jeff Allen inquired when City officials would meet to work on a snow removal plan. City Administrator Brad Pendergast indicated that he and Street, Water, & Sewer Superintendent Terence Appel would soon meet with Emergency Management Director Tim Stoecklein to discuss the plan. Moving forward, the plan will be reviewed each fall.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Director Kris Logsdon spoke to the Council about improvements that he has made to the EMS effort since his arrival. He noted that EMS now has two full-time techs for round the clock response, and has other spots filled with volunteers. Mr. Logsdon also was pleased to announce that in addition to the LUCAS chest compression equipment and the recent radio acquisitions, he had applied for, and was awarded, four ventilators, two to be used at the Scott County Hospital and two to be used with EMS. The cost of each ventilator ranges from \$15,000 to \$18,000. He estimates that the three grant opportunities that have been awarded since his arrival in Scott City have netted the community nearly a quarter of a million dollars in resources that have been purchased without the use of taxpayer money. The Council thanked Mr. Logsdon for his update.

City Clerk Ruth Becker requested to advertise for the Pool Manager, Assistant Pool Manager, and lifeguards for the 2024 pool season. She noted that applications for managers will need to be returned to City Hall by January 2, 2024, and that lifeguard applications will be due to City Hall by January 15, 2024.

Motion by Armando Tarango seconded by Jeff Allow to advertise for pool staff for the 2024 pool season. Vote – Unam.

Building Inspector Jerek Wasinger had nothing to report but asked if anyone had questions about the permit report that he had emailed to them. No one had any questions.

Police Chief David Post provided his official letter of resignation. The letter stated that his last day with the Scott City Police Department would be January 2, 2024.

Motion by Josh Gooden seconded by Adam Winter to accept the resignation of Police Chief David Post with regret, effective January 2, 2024. Vote – Unam.

Police Chief David Post explained the invoices from J & R Car & Truck Center (J & R) that had been included in the packet. He explained that when the 2023 Traverse (School Resource Officer vehicle) was bid out in January 2023, the total of the vehicle with a \$4,300 rebate and a \$14,000 trade-in value on a 2014 Chevy 1500 was to be \$18,935.08. This amount was approved by the City Council on January 16, 2023. When the vehicle arrived recently, the City received an invoice for \$20,435.08—a difference of \$1,500.00. Police Chief Post noted that City Clerk Ruth Becker informed him and Sergeant Colton Schmitt of the difference, so they visited with J & R staff members regarding the difference. They indicated that at the time the vehicle bid was presented, the rebate of \$4,300 was merely an estimate and was not guaranteed. After it was explained to them by City Clerk Ruth Becker, at the direction of City Administrator Brad Pendergast, that the new invoice would have to be approved by the City Council before payment could be processed, J & R staff was able to increase the value of the trade-in to \$15,500 to compensate for the reduction in rebates, resulting in the same net amount as approved by the City Council in January.

Dispatcher Dara White's last day as a full-time dispatcher will be December 10, 2023, but she is still on the schedule as a part-time dispatcher later in December. Dispatcher Sirena Oronia has been training to fill the vacancy that will be left by Mrs. White. Police Chief Post stated that she has been training for 3 weeks and has been doing a great job.

Giving Day donations earned \$1,190.00 to be added to the police fund held at the Scott Community Foundation. These funds are used primarily for expenses related to Scott City K9 Officer Enoch and training expenses for his handler, Officer Trey Davidson. Police Chief Post expressed his gratitude to those who donated to this cause.

Sergeant Colton Schmitt will be attending the second of three sessions for an FBI Leadership and Command School in Greeley, Colorado the following week. He noted that he is proud of Sergeant Schmitt.

Parks Superintendent Terence Appel had nothing to report.

Street, Water, and Sewer Superintendent Terence Appel reported that work had begun on Glenn Street, just north of K96. The unpaved street had been severely encroached upon for several years, and the City is now opening it back up with the help of involved property owners.

Mom & Pop's Burger Stop restaurant owner Danny Morris contacted Mr. Appel regarding the reconstruction of the sidewalk in front of the building due to the construction of K96. When the KDOT crews rebuilt the sidewalk, they built the section of the sidewalk closest to the building according to ADA guidelines but built the section of the sidewalk adjacent to the street at about a 22% slope. The construction crew indicated that the only fix that they would provide was to create a two level sidewalk with a railing and a step.

Mr. Appel informed the Council that he would not be attending the meeting on December 18 when the bids for the water improvement project will be opened. He noted that he had planned that the bids would be opened at this meeting, and so scheduled some time off on December 18. Mayor Green asked if he felt that would cause any issues, to which Mr. Appel replied that there should not be any issues.

City Clerk Ruth Becker informed the Council and other City officials present that they had been invited to attend a free KOMA/KORA training in Leoti on December 19, 2023, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. A meal will be served. Mrs. Becker asked for interested individuals to let her know so that she can send a head count to Leoti City Clerk Jeannine Hassell.

City Administrator Brad Pendergast reported that he has been working with Western Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 1 (GMD1) Manager Katie Durham on potential grant opportunities for three separate projects—an irrigation control & rebate program, water education assistance, and the 8<sup>th</sup> Street water line.

Mr. Pendergast informed the Council that, in the prior week, a representative of Governor Kelly’s office was in Scott City to learn about the City’s water utility and water in general. The representative, Vijayasundram Ramasamy met with Mr. Pendergast, Water Superintendent Terence Appel, and GMD1 Manager Katie Durham who guided him on a tour of the water treatment plants.

Mr. Pendergast and Mr. Appel will meet with GMS Engineer Trevis Smith on December 12, 2023, to discuss the findings of the drainage study.

City Administrator Brad Pendergast had hoped to present recommendations to the Council regarding the City employees’ insurance renewal for the plan year beginning February 1, 2024, but he had noticed some discrepancies and needs to seek further clarification from Blue Cross & Blue Shield Agent Adrian Caro before proceeding. He plans to present options at the next regular Council meeting on December 18, 2023.

City Attorney Jennifer Cunningham had nothing to report.

Motion by Bo Parkinson seconded by Josh Gooden that the City Council recess into executive session discuss personnel issues pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), retaining the Mayor, Council, City Administrator, City Attorney, and City Clerk, with the open meeting resuming in the Council room at 7:22 p.m. Vote – Unam.

The Council came out of executive session.

Mayor Green called the meeting back to order.

No immediate action was taken.

Mayor Everett Green noted under his comments section of the agenda that, with the upcoming resignation of current Police Chief David Post on January 2, 2024, he wished to appoint Sergeant Colton Schmitt to the Police Chief position to become effective on January 2, 2024, and to place Police Chief Schmitt at O7 on the 2024 Step & Grade Matrix of the City’s Pay Plan for 2024.

Motion by Armando Tarango seconded by Adam Winter to approve Mayor Green’s appointment of Colton Schmitt as Police Chief effective on January 2, 2024, with Police Chief Schmitt placed on the City’s 2024 Play Plan Step & Grade Matrix at O7. Vote – Unam.

The Council took a short break.

Mayor Green called the meeting back to order.

Motion by Adam Winter seconded by Armando Tarango to adjourn at 7:29 p.m. Vote – Unam.

Everett M. Green  
Mayor

Ruth Becker  
City Clerk