

July 15, 2024

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

Pastor Jeff Goetzinger from the First United Methodist Church was present to lead the Council and others present in prayer.

Present were Mayor Everett Green, Council members Craig Richards, Jeff Allen, Greg Mills, 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 July 1, 2024, regular council meeting were presented.

Motion by Armando Tarango seconded by Greg Mills to approve the minutes of the July 1, 2024, regular council meeting. Vote – Unam.

Appropriation Ordinance # 1018B was presented.

Motion by Josh Gooden seconded by Adam Winter to approve Appropriation Ordinance # 1018B. Vote – Unam.

The agenda item regarding the updated interlocal agreement between Scott County and City of Scott City for the Law Enforcement Center was not ready for discussion, so the agenda item will be tabled until the next regular meeting.

City Administrator Brad Pendergast had included a draft copy of the 2025 Budget for Council's review. He indicated that this version varies from the draft that had been presented at the budget workshop after adjusting figures that would be affected by increased salaries in the Police Department (Officers will receive roughly a \$3.00 per hour raise and Dispatchers will receive roughly a \$1.50 per hour raise) and corresponding increases to the Employee Benefits fund. The budget, as presented, remains below the Revenue Neutral Rate (RNR) of 60.572 mills. Mayor Green and Council members congratulated Mr. Pendergast on a job well done. Mr. Pendergast indicated that he still has some projections to incorporate into the budget, such as the cost-of-living adjustment which will be set based on the October CPI, which has stayed consistent over the past several months. The consensus of the Council was that the projected budget is on the right track.

Mayor Green noted that the Council needed to set a date for the 2025 Budget Hearing. City Administrator Brad Pendergast noted that, because the City's proposed 2025 budget would not exceed the RNR, the hearing would need to be held during the next regular Council meeting to meet deadlines for approving a budget without an RNR hearing.

Motion by Jeff Allen seconded by Adam Winter to hold the 2025 Budget Hearing in conjunction with the August 5, 2024, regular Council meeting. Vote – Unam.

Included in the packet were *Business Membership Agreement* and an invoice for the City's business membership renewal with the Scott Recreation Commission. Mayor Everett Green noted that one of the benefits currently offered to the City's employees is a reduced-rate membership at the Scott Recreation Commission (SRC) Fitness Center, which is provided as a perk for the City's continued business membership. Jeff Allen inquired about how many employees take advantage of this benefit. City Clerk Ruth Becker indicated only that she knew of two employees and a few members of the City Council who have reduced-rate memberships. Mayor Green reminded the Council that a great deal of the discussion at the time when the City Council first voted to pay the membership fee focused on the desire to show support for the SRC.

Motion by Craig Richards seconded by Josh Gooden to approve the renewal of the City of Scott City's annual business membership with the Scott Recreation Commission Fitness Center in the amount of \$1,000. Vote – Unam.

Warren Harkness with WTH Aviation Services, LLC was present to provide the Scott City Municipal Airport's Fixed-Base Operator report. Mr. Harkness indicated that they had recently replaced filters on the fuel island. He also reported that the airport has been experiencing issues with prairie dogs at the east end of the grass runway. Mr. Harkness indicated that the area has been treated several times, but that the prairie dogs keep coming back. City Administrator Brad Pendergast offered to research options and visit with EBH Engineer and Airport Consultant Darin Neufeld to solicit any guidance he can provide. Council member Jeff Allen recommended the use of Rozol to limit the prairie dog population.

GMS, Inc. Resident Project Representative Mark Hornberger was present to update the Council. He brought the Council's attention to the drawdown request for the Water System Improvements project. Included in the packet was *Exhibit E – Request for Disbursement from KDHE Revolving Loan Programs #14*. The request for disbursement, in the amount of \$535,535.84 covers GMS, Inc. Invoice No. 35 for engineering and administrative services, and Miller Pipeline, LLC *Application and Certificate for Payment No. Two (2)* for Schedule 1 services.

Motion by Greg Mills seconded by Adam Winter to authorize the payment of \$33,386.27 to GMS, Inc. for engineering and administrative services covered under invoice #35, to authorize the payment of \$502,149.57 to Miller Pipeline, LLC for Schedule 1 services listed on *Application and Certificate for Payment No. Two (2)*, and to submit *Exhibit E – Request for Disbursement from KDHE Revolving Loan Programs #14* for KPWSLF Project #2982 in the amount of \$535,535.84. Vote – Unam.

Mr. Hornberger reported that the paving of 1st Street is mostly complete and that the crew will likely finish the paving of Wayne Street the following day. College Street paving is expected to be completed on Wednesday. Tony Wedel with Hydro Resources is preparing to drill a second test well at the end of this week or the beginning of next week. GMS, Inc. Resident Project Representative Alex Waterman has been working with a new person regarding railroad permits. The bore crew is expected to bore under the highway early next week followed by a bore under the railroad if the permits have been approved. Crews with Gerard Tank & Steel are eager to begin work on the project. They are expected to move into Scott City at the end of the week. Council member Armando Tarango asked Mr. Hornberger if things are progressing on schedule. His response that the project is anticipated to be completed ahead of the end of the contract. Mr. Tarango also questioned whether there have been any issues obtaining the materials needed for the project, to which Mr. Hornberger replied that there have been no issues in obtaining materials.

Council member Jeff Allen asked if work being completed was still within the budget. Mr. Hornberger responded that the project is within the budget and that they have managed to save money on asphalt because many of the trenches are narrower than anticipated, saving 116 square yards of asphalt thus far.

Nothing was reported under the open agenda.

Pool Manager Marci Patton and Assistant Pool Manager Jessica Berry were present to update the Council on the ongoing pool season. Mrs. Patton noted that this is the busiest pool season that she has seen. During the month of June, the average attendance was from 100-150 swimmers per day with one day reaching 265 swimmers. The SCORE program supported 50-70 swimmers on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays in June. Thus far, they have held 10 pool parties with an average attendance of 30 swimmers. The pool hosted a Moonlight Swim that saw about 100 visitors. Mrs. Patton reported that they used the entire amount of the \$5,000 grant that they were awarded to provide free swimming lessons to 100 children. Pioneer Communications and S&T Communications will be sponsoring free-swimming events before the pool season ends, and the ever-popular “Mermaid Night” event has been planned for August. A special “last day” event is in the works.

Mrs. Patton informed the Council that the Emergency Training that was conducted not only with the lifeguards, but also with the Fire Department, Police Department, Emergency Medical Services, and Emergency Management went extremely well. For roughly 2 ½ hours, the teams worked together through scenarios such as need for backboards, lightning strikes, and cardiac arrest. The Scott City Municipal Pool’s Facebook post about the event was shared over 1,000 times. Mrs. Patton expressed appreciation for Scott County Emergency Management Director Tim Stoecklein who has been a big help to the pool staff throughout the season. Each week, the guards are presented with a checklist of training items that they will perform during rest breaks, allowing the public to witness the dedication of the guards to their training. When asked if the pool has any unmet needs, Mrs. Patton indicated that they are working to update the backboards that they have, and that Emergency Medical Services had left an AED (automated external defibrillator) trainer to refresh training throughout the season.

Included in the packet was *Monthly Pool Update for Council Packet* with figures through June 30, 2024.

Building Inspector Jerek Wasinger reported that Eastridge Villas II progress is being made with Tatro Plumbing starting sanitary sewer work earlier in the day. He also reported that Dirks Enterprises is moving in more dirt this week. Mr. Wasinger noted that he is keeping busy with day-to-day inspections and paperwork.

Police Chief Colton Schmitt reported that the outfitting of the Dodge Ram had been completed and returned to the City the previous Tuesday. He also informed the Council that Officer Christian “Rod” Rodriguez completed a week of ARIDE (Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement) training the week prior.

Provided in the Council Packet were updated job descriptions for the Council’s review and approval. Police Chief Schmitt noted that the old job descriptions needed major updates to more accurately reflect the duties of Police Department staff.

Motion by Armando Tarango seconded by Josh Gooden to approve the job descriptions for each position in the Scott County Police Department, as written. Vote – Unam.

Parks Department Superintendent Terence Appel reported that a dead red cedar tree had to be removed from Patton Park. The plan is to replace it in the fall. The Parks crew spent time fixing a broken sprinkler head in Patton Park after several people notified them about a potential water leak.

Street, Water, & Sewer Superintendent Terence Appel requested that bids for the 2024 Chip Sealing project be opened. Mayor Green opened one bid from B & H Paving. Their bid included cleaning the existing street as outlined by the owner, sealing with CRS-1H oil at .37 gallons per square yard, and covering approximately 65,000 square yards at \$1.80 per square yard. The projected cost of the project is \$117,000. Mr. Appel defined the area to be sealed as the general area of the new water tower, where streets are currently being torn up and replaced as part of the Water System Improvements project, and near the City Shop. Crack sealing is also expected on Curtis Street and in the Maddux Park area.

Motion by Josh Gooden seconded by Jeff Allen to accept the bid from B & H Paving to chip seal approximately 65,000 square yards of city streets at a projected cost of \$117,000, which includes labor and materials. Vote – Unam.

Mr. Appel reported that KDOT permits for boring have been submitted. It is expected that it will take up to 30 days for a response. In addition, City crews have been working to repair drainage issues on the north end of town.

City Clerk Ruth Becker notified Council members of the League of Kansas Municipalities' Annual Conference in Wichita on October 10-12, 2024. Mrs. Becker solicited interest in the conference, offering to register participants and reserve hotel rooms. She noted that the early bird rate of \$250 was good through July 24, 2024. There was discussion at the table regarding the voting delegates that will be assigned at a future meeting. Council member Barb Wilkinson indicated that in previous years, she felt uncomfortable voting on items that had not been presented beforehand. She noted that she had visited with the League's director, Nathan Eberline, about the possibility of having the materials to be voted on available earlier for review. He had noted her concern. Mayor Green, who is also a League of Kansas Municipalities governing body member, informed those in attendance that Mrs. Wilkinson was not the only person to have this concern and that the League staff is working to find a solution. Mayor Everett Green and Council member Barb Wilkinson asked Mrs. Becker to register them for the conference. Brief discussion was also heard about the City Forum and Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA) training held at the Child Advocacy Center in Scott City the week prior from Council members Barb Wilkinson, Jeff Allen, Greg Mills, and Armando Tarango.

City Administrator Brad Pendergast briefly outlined drainage plans for Eastridge Villas II (ERVII). He has been working with Margaret D'Amato with GMS, Inc. The City's Public Works crew will dig a ditch behind ERVII and route it to the south of the ball fields creating a drainage pond. This project will be completed before any homes are built at ERVII.

City Attorney Jennifer Cunningham had nothing to report.

Financial, investment, and quarterly reports were provided for the Council's review.

There were no executive sessions.

Mayor Green had no further comments.

Motion by Adam Winter seconded by Armando Tarango to adjourn at 7:11 p.m. Vote – Unam.

Everett M. Green
Mayor

Ruth Becker
City Clerk