

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Iola was held on January 28, 2019, at 6:00 p.m., at the Park Community Building, located at 600 Park Avenue, Iola, Kansas..

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Wells called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Wells and Council Members Peters, Ballard, Ford, Peterson, Franklin, and Myrick were present. Also present were Administrator Fleming, Assistant Administrator Schinstock, and City Clerk Hutton. Absent was Council Members Martin and Mathew.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Council Member Myrick and seconded by Council Member Ballard to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Wells read the following statement:

Persons who wish to address the City Council regarding items on the agenda may do so as that agenda item is called. Persons who wish to address the City Council regarding items not on the agenda and that are under the jurisdiction of the City Council may do so at this time when called upon by the Mayor. Comments on personnel matters and matters pending in court or with other outside tribunals are not permitted. Speakers are limited to three minutes. Any presentation is for information purposes only. No action will be taken.

Following Mayor Wells reading of the aforementioned statement, he asked members of the audience if they wished to address the Council. No one present had any comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes Approval**
 - **January 14, 2019**
- B. Appropriations Approval**
- C. KMEA Director 2 Appointment - Chuck Heffern**

Council Member Ballard asked about the annual website fees. Administrator Fleming noted that this was the annual payment for the Website Hosting. The SSL certificate fee assures that the web address is a secure site.

Council Member Ballard asked about the money spent on the repairs at the park and whether they were covered by insurance money. Assistant Administrator Schinstock assured the Council that all money spent on the Recreation Building would come from fund 86 which is where the FEMA Flood Insurance money was deposited.

Council Member Ballard inquired about the expenses for Decorator Supply. Assistant Administrator Shinstock stated that these expenses were for remodeling of an office at the warehouse.

Motion made by Council Member Myrick to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member Ballard. All in favor. Motion carried.

ROUND TABLE

A. Allen County Regional Hospital Update- Administrator Fleming introduced the guest that were present to give the Council an update on Allen County Regional Hospital (ACRH). Tony Thompson and Larry Peters were present from the Hospital Staff and Loren Korte and Jim Gilpin were present from the Hospital Board.

Larry Peterson, Chief Financial Officer of the Hospital, spoke about the bonds that are currently held by the hospital. He noted that the Bond requirement of a debt ratio of 1.0 or greater was met every quarter until the end of the year due to low census in November and December.

He noted that approximately \$25,000 per month is received from the City to assist paying for the Bonds and \$45,000 per month is received from the County.

These funds are deposited directly into an account with Security Mutual Bank. The hospital never touches the funds.

Jim Gilpin, Secretary of the Hospital Board, stated that construction of the hospital cost \$25 million. The County passed a ¼-cent sales tax and the City offered half of their existing ½-cent sales tax designated for Streets and Capital Improvement.

The County received the hospital back from the Management Group because they were unwilling to make improvements to the hospital. At that time the hospital needed working cash flow, therefore; a \$5 million bond was secured by the hospital for this need.

Tony Thompson, ACRH Administrator, stated that the state of the hospital is solid. He explained the way the annual impact of KanCare Expansion on the hospital as well as Allen County as a whole. He encouraged the Council to contact their legislatures to have them vote on the KanCare Expansion.

Council Member Myrick asked about the current turmoil with the Hospital looking at a management company to run the hospital.

Tony Thompson stated that the Hospital Board is looking at two particular companies and what they can do and what would be best for the hospital, the citizens of Allen County, and the patients.

Loren Korte noted that the Board looked at 4-5 options, and they narrowed it down to HCA and St. Lukes. The Board is currently looking into a management agreement versus a lease agreement. They are hoping to make a decision in March.

Jim Gilpin stated that one of the disadvantages of the hospital is not having a clinic adjacent to the hospital. So, the Board is using building a medical arts clinic as a bargaining tool for the companies interested in a lease option.

Donna Houser asked three questions: How is the hospital combating the lack of funding thru KanCare? Have the closing of Independence and Ft. Scott Hospitals increased Allen County's patient count, and is there a point when these bonds are paid off?

Tony Thompson stated that it is their hope that the legislature will pass the KanCare legislation so that the hospital can receive reimbursement for treating patients that have KanCare. He stated that the hospital hasn't seen much of an increase with the closing of the two hospitals. They have, however, recruited some employees from those hospitals. The Bonds were 30-year issued Bonds, therefore; they will be paid off in 2036. At that time the hospital will be 30 years old and will need some upkeep that may require more bonds.

Paul Zirjacks referenced the article in the newspaper about the nurse shortage at the hospital and having to turn away patients due to this shortage.

Tony Thompson explained that the hospital staffs for their average census count and if nurses are not available to come in then the best thing for the patient is to have them sent to one of the sister hospitals. The hospital is actively recruiting nurses.

Council Member Ballard asked who will pay for the new clinic and what are the plans for the current buildings that house clinics.

Tony Thompson noted that if it can be negotiated the management group that the board chooses to hire will build the clinic. The current buildings are owned by the county, therefore; they are in control of those buildings.

Council Member Myrick asked about discussions four or five years ago concerning a Veterans Hospital.

Tony Thompson stated that with the help of Senator Moran the hospital was able to gain certification for Local Care for Veterans and be of service to those individuals.

The group thanked the Council for allowing them to come and present an update on the hospital.

NEW BUSINESS

A. SBDC Agreement - Administrator Fleming noted that the city elected to partner with the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) for our region which is associated with Pittsburg State University (PSU), which serves as a “resource and support center for the small business person.”

Dacia Clark and Randy Robinson gave a brief overview on how they help individuals that want to start a small business as well as helping those who are already small business owners. They hold classes each year for free at Allen Community College and offer a low-cost class on Quickbooks.

They currently serve 11 counties in the SEK area. They will be holding a Strategic Session with the Iola Chamber of Commerce when they hire a new director.

Council Member Ballard asked how many individuals were assisted from Iola.

Dacia Clark stated that the numbers were not narrowed down by City but by County. They assisted two new startups within Allen County. They assisted others that came to realize that it was not in their best interest to start the particular business idea they began with.

Motion made by Council Member Franklin and seconded by Council Member Ford to approve the Certification of Cash Match for Kansas SBDC at Pittsburg State University and authorize the necessary signatures. Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members: Peters, Ford, Peterson, Myrick, and Franklin. Voting against the motion was Council Member Ballard. Motion passed by a majority vote.

B. Annual Tree Trimming Bid - Assistant Administrator Schinstock informed the Council that staff sent the Tree Trimming Request for Proposal (RFP) to four vendors, but only one was returned. Poor Boy Tree Service, Inc. bid was \$94.79 per hour or a total of \$33,176.50 for 350 hours of trimming.

Assistant Administrator Schinstock and Electric Distribution Supervisor Jim Baker noted that the tree program does cut down overtime for the department due to tree limbs pulling services out and/or causing outages. The company is hoping to get a good start before the trees start budding. Tree trimming was not done by an outside source in 2017 or 2018. In-house staff e continues to trim trees throughout the year.

Motion made by Council Member Ballard and Council Member Peters seconded the motion to approve the annual tree trimming bid from Poor Boy Tree Service, Inc. in the amount of

\$94.79 per hour with a maximum of 580 hours of trimming and authorize staff to execute the necessary documents. All in favor. Motion carried.

C. Farm City Days Concert Series - Request- Assistant Administrator Schinstock presented a list of 16 items that have been requested by the Farm City Days Committee for the concert that is scheduled for July 13. The event is planned to be held on the parking lot in Riverside Park between the Recreation Building and the Fairground facilities.

Council Member Myrick questioned the closing of the Park during the summertime when reunions and family gatherings take place.

Assistant Administrator Schinstock stated that for a few hours one day of the year it shouldn't be a burden on citizens.

The consensus of the Council is to have staff present a formal resolution at the next Council meeting. The resolution will outline the items that the City will provide in support of the Farm City Days Concert event.

D. Recreation Building Renovation SJCF Proposal - Assistant Administrator Schinstock noted that staff has been working with Schaefer, Johnson, Cox & Frey (SJCF) Architecture of Wichita to develop a proposal to assist with the flood recovery renovations at the Recreation Community Building.

Staff finds it necessary to get the assistance from SJCF to assure that the right type of flooring is purchased. They also want to make sure that they are writing the specifications in the correct way to assure that the needs are met.

Staff has looked into some different flooring for the basketball floor. They have removed the old floor, bathroom partitions, and toilets to facilitate the new flooring installation.

Council Member Ballard asked why an Architect was needed for the project.

Assistant Administrator Shinstock stated that staff needs some guidance on how to write up the RFP as well as what would be the best floor type.

Mayor Wells asked if the Architect would also look into some anti-flooding measures.

Administrator Fleming noted that he will evaluate the different types of flooring for the different areas of the building to assist with future damage during a heavy rain event.

Motion made by Council Member Franklin and seconded by Council Member Myrick to authorize staff to move forward in the renovation planning with SJCF Architecture. Voting

in favor of the motion were Council Members: Franklin, Myrick, and Peterson. Voting against the motion were Council Members Ford, Peters, and Ballard. Mayor Wells broke the tie with a vote in favor of the motion. Motion passed by a majority vote.

E. Veterans Worldwide Road Use - Agreement - Assistant Administrator Schinstock reported that Veterans Worldwide Sales & Service, LLC has been awarded a contract by the EPA to perform the latest remediation project in Iola. They are requesting a road use agreement during the remediation project.

Motion made by Council Member Myrick and seconded by Council Member Ballard to approve the road use agreement with Veterans Worldwide Sales & Service, LLC. and authorize the appropriate signatures. All in favor. Motion carried.

COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

A. Council Member Franklin –

- Voiced his concerns about putting a concrete floor in the Recreation Building. Need a safe surface for everyone that uses that floor.

B. Council Member Myrick–

- None

C. Council Member Mathew –

- Absent

D. Mayor Wells–

- Reminded everyone to renew their pet tags.
- Keep water dripping in the next few days. It will get very cold.

E. Council Member Ballard –

- Disappointed in the roads during the last ice event. He felt like the crew should have been out earlier. He received some complaints about Lincoln Street.

F. Council Member Peterson–

- Noted that Washington Street was icy also.

G. Council Member Ford–

- None

H. Council Member Peters –

- None

I. Council Member Martin -

- Absent

J. Administrator Fleming–

- Asked Council Member Ballard to have individuals that complain about problems such as the streets being icy to call and talk to staff. If staff is aware, they can address it right of way and try to do better the next time.

DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. on Monday, February 11, 2019

7:47 pm. Motion made by Council Member Myrick and seconded by Council Member Ballard to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approved by the City Council of the City of Iola, Kansas this 14th day of February 2019.



Mayor Wells

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jonathan Wells".

City Clerk, Roxanne Hutton

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roxanne Hutton".