

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Iola was held on October 22, 2018, 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, Middleton, Peters, Ballard, Martin, and Myrick were present. Also present were Administrator Fleming, Assistant Administrator Schinstock, and City Clerk Hutton. Absent were Council Members Mathew, Ford, and Franklin.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Council Member Myrick and seconded by Council Member Middleton 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**
 - **October 9, 2018**
- B. Appropriations Approval**
- C. Appointment of City Officials - Through December 31, 2020**
 - **City Clerk - Roxanne Hutton**
 - **Police Chief - Jared Warner**
 - **Municipal Judge - Patricia Miklos Boyd**
 - **City Attorney - Robert Johnson III**
- D. Housing Authority Board - Appointment**
 - **Roland L. Sutterby - New Appointment**
 - **Mark Freimiller - New Appointment**

● **Wanda Lytle - Resignation**

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

ROUNDTABLE

A. Solar Feasibility Study- Discussions - Scott Shreve, EMG, Energy Consultant for the City of Iola reviewed with the Council the earlier approval by the Council to have Westar perform a Solar Feasibility Study in the City of Iola.

Brandon Sack, Renewable Development Director with Westar (soon to be Evergy) informed the Council that Westar's Job is to help the City understand Solar Energy. He explained the difference between a Small Scale Solar Project and a Utility Scale Project. Brandon Sack explained the difference between a Solar Arrays Design - Tracker and a Solar Arrays Design - Fixed. The Tracker moves with the sun while the Fixed one stays in one location.

Brandon Sack then reviewed the City of Iola responsibilities and the timeline if they were to move forward with the project.

Council Member Ballard asked how long the study was done. Mr. Sack explained that the study was done using weather data and wind studies.

Council Member Myrick asked about the cost of the City of Iola doing a Solar Farm versus buying from another source.

Scott Shreve noted that first the city would have to find a company willing to sign a long term lease and they would need large lots to produce the amount of solar it would take to supply the City. There are not any in the area that large.

Council Member Myrick asked what happens after the eight years. Will Westar continue to service the units. Mr. Sack explained that after year 9 the City will own the equipment and they will be available to assist the city.

Mayor Wells stated that he assumes that the City will crosstrain while it is built and during the eight years Westar operates the system.

Donna Houser asked which property will be used. Mayor Wells stated that the land it will be built on is already owned by the city.

Iola Register Reporter, Richard Luken, asked if this would meet the capacity that the City is currently short. Scott Shreve noted that this is only about 1/3 of the capacity that is needed, however it will save the city from having to buy capacity and those savings could be passed onto the customer.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Trade Secrets - Council Member Myrick made a motion to recess into Executive Session for 30 minutes pursuant to Trade Secrets, K.S.A. 75-4319 (b) (4). The purpose of the executive session is to discuss confidential data relating to financial affairs and shall include the Mayor, Council, City Administrator, Assistant City Administrator, Scott Shreve with EMG, and representatives from Westar. The regular meeting shall reconvene in the City Council Chamber at 6:59 p.m. Motion seconded by Council Member Ballard. All in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Financial Audit Services 2018-2020 - Administrator Fleming stated that staff posted a Request for Proposal (RFP) solicitation to the City of Iola website. The solicitation was also sent to five potential accounting firms. Three firms submitted proposals by the specified deadline of October 5, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

The solicitation requested costs to continue the audits based on the regulatory, cash basis of accounting. Additionally, the solicitation requested costs to move to GAAP accounting for the Enterprise Funds while utilizing cash basis for the rest of the funds.

Of the three proposals that were received only two provided pricing for the hybrid accounting system. Staff feels that Mize Houser & Company P.A. offers the best value and best serves the City's interest.

Council Member Myrick asked if the enclosed proposal would commit the City to a three year time frame.

Administrator Fleming stated that it would cover the audits for fiscal years 2018, 2019 and 2020.

Council Member Ballard asked what the difference in price for each option was.

Administrator Fleming noted that the hybrid accounting services cost more due to the extra work that is required. If the City switches to GAAP form of accounting for the enterprise funds it is more like an actual business audit for those funds.

Motion made by Council Member Ballard and seconded by Council Member Myrick to authorize staff to engage Mize Houser & Company P.A. and sign the necessary documents for the financial audits for Fiscal Years 2018-2020. All in favor. Motion carried.

B. Staffing & Organizational Plan - Administrator Fleming stated that at the Council's request a Request for Proposal was solicited for a staffing study. Two consultants submitted proposals by the specified deadline.

Wichita State University Public Policy and Management Center and Springsted Human Capital Advisors. Wichita State was the lower of the two bids.

Council Member Myrick asked about interns for a university performing the job. Mayor Wells stated that by the time a program is set-up for interns and then the city would be responsible for paying for the lodging it would not be a beneficial way to go.

Council Member Peters asked if Wichita State had experience doing this kind of a study.

Administrator Fleming stated that they had done this type of study for other public utilities, certain departments within the City of Wichita.

Mayor Wells asked the Council if they felt this is a project worth pursuing. He feels like an outside firm doing the study would be better with no bias.

Carla Brown, Human Resources Manager, stated that she agrees with the Mayor doing an outside study is the best way to go.

Mayor Wells stated that having someone like WSU do the study would have a level of credibility with the community than if done by staff.

Administrator Fleming stated that the Council needs to understand what the goals are that they are searching for or the product won't be clear. If the goal is to shed \$500,000 out of the general fund then the Council needs to make a decision on what services are you willing to do without.

Council Member Ballard stated he would like to look over the proposals and obtain references from other cities that have had the study done by the two organizations.

Council Member Middleton stated that the goal is to determine if the City has the right organizational structure and the right level of staffing for the services we want to provide.

Administrator Fleming asked the Council what staff needed to do before the next meeting to get the Council's decision on this item. He doesn't normally bring organizations to the Council that make proposals due to the fact that it is imposing on their time.

Administrator Fleming noted that staff didn't have the organizations come to the Council to present for the Water and Wastewater Master Plans. Staff interviewed each one and then brought the recommendation to Council for approval.

Council Member Martin stated he would like to see both proposals in electronic form if possible. This seemed to be the consensus of the Council. Administrator Fleming will disperse the two plans to the Council and revisit next meeting.

COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

A. Council Member Franklin –

- Absent

B. Council Member Myrick–

- Reminded everyone to get out and Vote.

C. Council Member Mathew –

- Absent

D. Mayor Wells–

- Thanked all of the Farm City Days volunteers and everyone that participated in the event.

E. Council Member Ballard –

- Thanked the Farm City Days volunteers. It was a great event.

F. Council Member Middleton –

- Asked for updates on the Recreation Building. Administrator Fleming noted that staff is waiting on the Flood Insurance adjuster to make a determination on the damages. Our EMC policy has denied the claim on the liability insurance. The flooring is a total loss. Staff is not sure on the timeline to reopen the building.

G. Council Member Ford–

- Absent.

H. Council Member Peters –

- Thanked the City of Iola staff members that worked all day on the Farm City Days Event.

I. Council Member Martin -

- None

J. Administrator Fleming–

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- Noted that there is a KMU class coming up in Baldwin on running a water utility. Let him know if you are interested in attending.

DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING

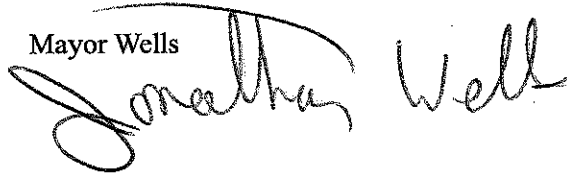
City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 13, 2018

ADJOURNMENT

7:27 pm. Motion made by Council Member Myrick and seconded by Council Member Martin to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approved by the City Council of the City of Iola, Kansas this 13th day of November, 2018.

Mayor Wells



City Clerk, Roxanne Hutton

