



MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
7651 E. Central Park Ave, Bel Aire, KS
July 11, 2023 6:30 PM



I. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Jim Benage called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present were Councilmembers Greg Davied, Tyler Dehn, Emily Hamburg, Justin Smith, and John Welch. Also present were City Manager Ty Lasher, City Attorney Maria Schrock, Assistant City Manager Ted Henry, and City Clerk Melissa Krehbiel.

III. OPENING PRAYER: John Barkett provided the opening prayer.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

Mayor Benage led the pledge of allegiance.

V. DETERMINE AGENDA ADDITIONS: There were no additions.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes of the June 20, 2023 City Council meeting.

MOTION: Councilmember Smith moved to approve the Consent Agenda as listed and authorize the Mayor to sign. Councilmember Davied seconded the motion. ***Motion carried 5-0.***

VII. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE

A. Consideration of Appropriations Ordinance 23-12 in the amount of \$920,352.63.

MOTION: Councilmember Dehn moved to accept Appropriations Ordinance 23-12. Councilmember Hamburg seconded the motion. ***Motion carried 5-0.***

VIII. CITY REQUESTED APPEARANCES: None.

IX. CITIZEN CONCERNS

John Barkett, 6223 Perryton Street, spoke about his concerns regarding fireworks. He is concerned about the effects on veterans with PTSD and dogs. He suggested limiting the hours and number of days that fireworks are allowed to be detonated.

X. REPORTS

A. Council Member Reports

Councilmember Hamburg reported that she attended the CCUA special meeting on June 22nd. She thanked to the Recreation Center staff and volunteer coaches for a successful T-ball season. Councilmember Hamburg also congratulated Catholic Care for opening the new St. Veronica Senior Behavioral Health unit.

Councilmember Welch reported that this year there were many instances of individuals detonating fireworks after the allowed hours and on days when fireworks are not allowed. He suggested changes may be needed for next year.

Councilmember Smith briefly reported on the recent CCUA meetings held on June 22nd and June 29th.

Councilmember Davied reported he attended the latest CCUA meetings.

Councilmember Dehn reported that he attended the Parks Master Plan open house at the Recreation Center and volunteered at the Rec Center's fishing event for summer day camp kids. He noted that National Night Out will be held at City Hall on August 11th. Councilmember Dehn reported he has received many comments from parents regarding the Wichita school district's plans to discontinue bussing for some students near Woodlawn. While he and other City officials will communicate with the school district about this matter, he also encouraged parents to directly contact the Board of Education and Transportation Services for USD 259.

B. Mayor's Report

Mayor Benage briefly reported on the most recent meetings of the Sedgwick County Association of Cities (SCAC) and the Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's Transportation Policy Body (WAMPO TPB). He asked for the continued support of businesses along Woodlawn Avenue during the construction project.

C. City Attorney Report

City Attorney Schrock reported that over the last couple of weeks she has responded to some citizen inquiries, reviewed several contracts and policies, and is preparing to attend a continuing legal education program in Kansas City next week.

D. City Manager Report

City Manager Lasher reported that the south water tower was recently power washed to remove mildew buildup on the outside of the tank. The mildew does not affect the water quality, as it is on the outside of the tank. However, regular cleaning will prolong the life of the water tower's paint and improve the appearance.

XI. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND FINAL ACTIONS

A. Consideration of a Scope of Services from TranSystems for the Integra Site Access Transportation Plan.

Brett Letkowski, Senior Vice President of TranSystems, stood for questions from the Council. City Manager Ty Lasher also answered questions from the Council.

Councilmembers requested that more specific language regarding deadlines be added to the Scope of Services.

MOTION: Councilmember Smith moved to table the Scope of Services.
Councilmember Welch seconded the motion. ***Motion carried 5-0.***

- B. Consideration of a contingency fee agreement with Foulston Siefkin LLC to serve as counsel for Bel Aire, who will be a member of the Streetlights Alliance for Fair Energy Rates coalition “SAFER” in the rate case of 23-EKCE-775-RTS. The contingency fee agreement has been reviewed by the City Attorney.**

MOTION: Councilmember Hamburg moved to accept the contingency fee agreement with Foulston Siefkin LLC to serve as counsel for Bel Aire, who will be a member of the Streetlights Alliance for Fair Energy Rates coalition “SAFER” in the rate case of 23-EKCE-775-RTS, and authorize the Mayor to sign. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. ***Motion carried 5-0.***

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. MOTION:** Councilmember Welch moved to go into executive session for the sole purpose of discussing the subject of: attorney-client consultation regarding contractual obligations pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2) for consultation with an attorney for the public body or agency which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship. Invite the City Manager, City Attorney, and Jennifer Hill. The meeting will be for a period of 30 minutes, and the open meeting will resume in City Council Chambers at 7:55 p.m. Councilmember Davied seconded the motion. ***Motion carried 5-0.***

The Council then held an executive session. At 7:59 p.m. Mayor Benage called the meeting back to order in open session and stated no binding action had been taken.

MOTION: Councilmember Hamburg moved to extend the executive session for 15 minutes and have the regular meeting resume at 8:15 p.m. Councilmember Dehn seconded the motion. ***Motion carried 5-0.***

The Council then returned to executive session. At 8:20 p.m. Mayor Benage called the meeting back to order in open session and stated no binding action had been taken.

XIII. DISCUSSION AND FUTURE ISSUES

- A. City Council Workshop - Tomorrow, July 12th at 6:30 p.m.**

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 5:22 p.m., Councilmember Smith moved to adjourn. Councilmember Welch seconded the motion. ***Motion carried 5-0.***