Kimball City Council
Regular Meeting
June 04, 2024

A regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council was convened in open and public session at 5:00 p.m. June 04, 2024, held at the City Council Chambers, 223 S. Chestnut St. Council members present were, Ingram, Pike and Warner. Absent was Muench. Also, present was Mayor Morrison, City Administrator Annette Brower, City Treasurer Jean Klassen, City Clerk Paula Tarango, and Attorney Matt Turman. The public was represented in the meeting.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication in the Western Nebraska Observer. Notice of the meeting was given to the members and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and the agenda is on record at the office of the City Clerk. Availability of the agenda was communicated in advance notice and in the notice to the members. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public except as otherwise indicated.

Morrison called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. On roll call the following votes were recorded. Aye: Warner, Ingram, and Pike. Nay: None. Absent: Muench. Motion carried. Morrison acknowledged the posted Open Meetings Act.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Ingram, seconded by Warner to excuse the absence of board member Muench, the following votes were recorded: Aye: Ingram, Pike, and Warner. Absent: Muench. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Pike, seconded by Warner to approve the consent agenda items as one which includes the minutes from the meeting held on May 28 and claims. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Warner, Ingram, Pike. Nay: None. Absent: Muench. Motion carried.

Morrison opened discussion on Olsson Engineering's recommendation on the bid proposal for sewer extensions for Nadine and 7th Street projects. Per City Administrator Annette Brower, the City of Kimball engineers recommend that these are denied/declined due to the extreme cost. The option will be to handle the project internally. Our water crew is more than capable of completing it with the assistance of our engineers if necessary.

Motin by Warner, seconded by Pike to reject the bid per Olsson Engineering recommendation on the sewer extensions for Nadie and 7th Street projects. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Pike, Warner, and Ingram. Absent: Muench. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Morrison opened discussion on moving forward with pursuing the Rural Community Recovery Grant through the NDED for workforce housing. Per City Administrator Brower, NDED has opened opportunities for grants, we applied for 1 million dollars, a letter of intent was sent. It would allow us to purchase dilapidated or properties that need rehabilitated. There is no matching funds.

Motion by Pike, seconded by Warner to approve moving forward with pursuing the Rural Recovery Grant through the NDED for workforce housing. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Warner, Pike, and Ingram. Absent: Muench. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Morrison opened a discussion on matching funds for a zero-fare summer program with KCTS for Kimball residents. Per Warner, to do this, we must have matching funds. Temporary bus stops would be created, a yard sign could be put up to indicate such. Our in-town buses start at 5:45am until 10:00pm, for this program, we would ensure to include the free lunch program at the school, library program, golf lessons, pool when it opens, soccer, softball, and baseball fields/games. This would give children an opportunity to attend such.

Motion by Pike, seconded by Warner to approve the matching funds for a zero-fare summer program with KCTS for Kimball residents. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Pike, and Warner. Nay: Ingram. Absent: Muench. Motion carried.

Nate Fox (Fox Insurance) conducted a proposal presentation on LARM Insurance – Fox went into detail on rates, deductible, processes and procedures.

Motion by Ingram, seconded by Warner to approve the LARM insurance proposal as presented effective as of June 5 of 2024. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Warner, Pike, Ingram. Nay: None. Absent: Muench. Motion carried.

Motion by Ingram, seconded by Pike to approve the Interlocal Agreement for the Establishment and Operation of the League Association of Risk Management. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Warner, Ingram, Pike. Nay: None. Absent: Muench. Motion carried.

Motion by Ingram, seconded by Pike to approve Resolution #2024-01 – League Association of Risk Management 2024-25. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Pike, Ingram, Warner. Nay: None. Absent: Muench. Motion carried.

Morrison opened discussion on reducing the pool entry fees for the summer due to not being able to open on time as scheduled. Per City Administrator Brower, pool repairs are moving forward, this is a very complex and lengthy process and must be done under a minimum of 50 degrees overnight and at least 75 degrees during the day for 7 days straight for curing. Everyone has been hands on and very involved in ensuring this is done accurately since safety is priority for and prior opening the pool.

Motion by Ingram, seconded by Pike to reduce the pool entry fees on a pro-rated basis effective opening day. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Warner, Pike, Ingram. Nay: None. Absent: Muench. Motion carried.

Morrison skipped the next agenda item because there is currently nothing to consider. (No action taken)

Motion by Pike, seconded by Ingram to approve the HR Manager duties and job description. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Ingram, Pike, and Warner. Nay: None. Absent: Muench. Motion carried.

Motion by Ingram, seconded by Warner to enter executive session for the protection of the public interest and to prevent needless injury to the reputation of an individual, specially to discuss job performance, job duties, and potential terms of employment for City Clerk Paula Tarango. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Warner, Ingram, Pike. Motion carried.

Motion by Ingram, seconded by Warner to exit executive closed session at 6:16pm. The following votes were recorded: Aye; Warner, Ingram, and Pike. Nay: None. Absent: Muench. Motion carried.

Motion by Pike, seconded by Ingram to approve assigning the HR Manager position to the Clerk and salary increase to $95K a year salary. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Ingram and Pike. Abstained: Warner. Nay: None. Absent: Muench. Motion carried.

Reports –

Mayor's report – The previous Council meeting was very recent, there is not much more to add. Glad to see that the zero-fare summer program with KCTS for Kimball residents will take place, also glad to see that the pool entry fees will be prorated as the pool is important to Kimball residents.

City Administrator's report – working with FEMA on getting the infrastructure replaced due to the April storm that we had. There was a lot of damage from that. Looking at about 10K (ten thousand) we if we can get it back, let's get it back. Thank you to the Electric Crew for handling it so well and taking some amazing pictures during that storm. The Mayor and I met with Christy Warner to discuss DED Rural Recovery Community grant for the Wellness Center and the pool. Soon we will be discussing additional grants for the wellness center as we learned that there are opportunities for others. The Walter Scott foundation reached out to offer the opportunity for additional grants, further discussion on that will be taking place. Jean Klassen and Paula Tarango will be gone next week for the annual finance continuing education/training in Lincoln. The Board of Public works will be holding a discussion on electric rates. Board of Adjustment passed the approval on a variance for the Mietus apartments. Additional updates were given.

The public was represented.

Austin Gardner – Added a comment to this topic.

Motion by Pike, seconded by Ingram to enter executive session for the protection of the public interest and to prevent needless injury to the reputation of an individual, specially to discuss job performance, job duties, and potential terms of employment for City Administrator Annette Brower. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Warner, Pike, and Ingram. Nay: None. Absent: Muench Motion carried.

Motion by Pike, seconded by Ingram to exit executive closed session at 6:34pm. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Ingram, Pike, and Warner. Nay: None. Absent: Muench. Motion carried.

The next regular scheduled meeting will be on Tuesday, June 18 of 2024

There being no further business, motion by Pike, seconded by Warner, to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 p.m. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Pike, Ingram, and Warner. Absent: Muench. Nay: None. Motion carried.

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John Morrison, Mayor City Clerk