Kimball City Council
Regular Meeting
July 02, 2024

A regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council was convened in open and public session at 5:04 p.m. July 02, 2024, held at the City Council Chambers, 223 S. Chestnut St. Council members present were, Ingram, Muench, Pike and Warner. Absent None. 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, Muench, and Pike. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried. Morrison acknowledged the posted Open Meetings Act.

Motion by Pike, seconded by Muench to approve the minutes from the meeting held on June 18th of 2024. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Muench, Pike, Warner, and Ingram. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Gabe Ingram Farmers Day Chair opened discussion on the request for Keno Grant in the amount of $1000 on behalf of Farmers Day. Ingram spoke about certain activities for the event. The Farmer's Day event relies on donations to keep it alive. This is the 98th year. The circus will be in town on July 14. Farmers Day gets a portion of that. Anyone that wants to join the board is welcome. Expecting a big crowd. If anyone wants to put an event on, we will support that.

Motion by Warner, seconded by Pike to approve the Keno request by Ingram on behalf of Farmers Day in the amount of $1000.00. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Warner, Muench, and Pike. Abstained: Ingram. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Sherrie Stevenston gave an update on the Friends of Ferals program. (Discussion only, no action taken)

Matt Silverman and Andrew Wicker – Vista Beam – gave an update on the presentation for fiber in Kimball. Wicker shared that Vista Beam received a grant through Nebraska. The goal is to build the entire town, fiber would run through every home and every business. They would like to formally ask the city if they could get pole attachment agreements started and/or permission to use the right of way. Aerial and underground amounts are unknown, but engineers are currently surveying, they will come back with recommendations, and we will proceed from there. Per Morrision, we are willing to work with Vista Beam and are excited due to the lack of internet in the past. (Discussion only, no action taken).

Chief of Police Jose Ruiz opened a discussion on considering the purchase of a K9. Ruiz went into detail regarding the need for such due to the expected growth for Kimball. K9 Trudy is a dual-purpose dog which means she can detect narcotics but also do apprehension work. The cost for her would be $25,000 but they are willing to sell it to us for $7,000 to cover the tuition

since she was donated to them. The total savings would be $18,000. Ruiz has been in contact with a local bank, and they are willing to finance this purchase. The first payment would be due in October which would fall under the 2024-2025 fiscal budget. Yearly payments are possible in the amount of approximately $1,400 with the option of paying the loan sooner if we decide. K9 Trudy is 1 year old, which means she can be used for a long period of time. The growth of the city is the biggest factor for considering a second K9. Chief Ruiz provided additional information and details regarding K9 Trudy. Board members participated by asking multiple questions on the topic.

Motion by Warner, seconded by Pike to approve the purchase of the K9 dog (Trudy) in the amount of $7,000. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Warner, Pike, Ingram, and Muench. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Jim Shoup – 4-way stop signs at 7th Street and High School update – this is an odd intersection, there needs to be additional research and/or information on what the best option would be for this before we add signs. Shoup proceeded to show the board members and the public on the screen of the television the layout of the intersection and shared that Adam Vath has assisted with these parameters; at this time nothing would be resolved due to the traffic flow not being known due to the new apartments being built

Motion by Warner, Seconded by Pike to hold off on the approval and/or the installation of the 4-way stop signs at 7th Street and High School until the traffic flow and pattern are fully understood to make an informed decision. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Warner, Muench, Ingram, and Pike. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Reports -

Mayor Morrison – Attended another meeting. The governor has created 6 Economic Development areas, they coincide with PADD, there was a meeting June 24 the governor was present plus individuals from multiple counties. There will be a 3-year test program so that they can decide what needs to happen in western Nebraska as far as Econ Development. These are preliminary meetings and beginning of conversations. The city will have a nice celebration on the 4th at the pool, go and enjoy it.

Annette – Received a call from the senator's office, we had applied for a grant with the Department of Defense, and we were not allocated any funds from that grant. The purpose of the grant is for immediate needs and since ours is more planning for future growth, the City of Kimball did not fall under the guidelines. They are aware of the projects coming into town and as soon as things move forward with the sentinel project they will push to assist the City of Kimball with federal funds. A letter of intent was sent to the Department of Economic Development Recovery for the grant, we got accepted and invited to move forward with that grant process. This is for 1 million dollars to purchase dilapidated properties. We met with PADD, and we will be working together, and we will be submitting that grant request by July 22. We also submitted a letter of intent to the Walter Scott foundation. We are moving forward with that process. It will be close to $100,000 to assist with ADA and sensory playground. We had some amazing sponsors from the community businesses for the 4th of July party at the pool. The 7th street sewer extension is near in completion, we apologize for the inconvenience due to street closure, the crews should finish next week. Thank you to Scottsbluff City, they have offered to come out and assist us. We are moving forward with the power generation; we are on hold/waiting period due to working on permitting with NDEE. The Chief of police and I went to a local bank and discussed the purchase of the 24-25 police unit. They will give us a much

lower interest rate and we will keep the package deal offered by the seller, delivery of the unit will also be at no cost.

Chief of police – from the 18th through today, the department has taken 86 calls ranging from parking complaints, welfare checks, noise complaints, domestic violence and more. Larger calls include an arrest for an active warrant, arrest for terroristic threats. Our new hire from Colorado will begin in-house training on July 15. Police Officers have attended additional trainings. The Chief of Police provided additional updates.

The public was represented.

The next regular scheduled meeting will be on Tuesday, July 16, 2024.

There being no further business, motion by Ingram, seconded by Muench, to adjourn the meeting at 5:55 p.m. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Pike, Ingram, Warner, and Muench. Absent: none. Nay: None. Motion carried.

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John Morrison, Mayor City Clerk