

Special Council Meeting
April 25, 2017 6:00 p.m.
Oswego, Kansas

Present: Councilmembers Darren Tynan, John Davis, Kelly Vance, Caleb Strickland and Dr. David Newby with Mayor Bill Cunningham presiding.

Absent: Councilmember Scott Grassl

Also Present: City Superintendent Calvin Jurgensen, Deputy Clerk Renee Cochran, Danny Chapman, Carole McKinley, Pat Hendrickson, Paula Kern and Jerry Chesnutt.

The Mayor called the meeting to order.

Parks & Community Foundation Request – West Shelter House Project

Danny Chapman attended the meeting and reported that the Parks Foundation had received a \$5,000 grant from the Parsons Area Foundation for the Shelter House Project at Riverside Park contingent upon the Parks Foundation receiving a donation guarantee for the balance of the project. Chapman said they had raised \$18,000 to date and with the \$5,000 grant they would still need \$7,000 to finish the main phase of the project. The \$30,000 estimate for the project doesn't include sidewalks. Mayor Cunningham and Chapman both said the committee hopes to put in 8' wide ADA compliant sidewalks as funding becomes available. Several Council members asked Chapman to get with them later as they said they would like to assist with the sidewalk project. Supt. Jurgensen plans to move the existing building to Danny Elliott Park but the stone chimney will be left for the new structure.

Council asked if there were enough funds in the Sales Tax Parks. Clerk Cochran said City Clerk Eddington had looked in to it and there was currently \$91,543 in the account. The Council has committed \$10,545 for the new park signs (including stone work on the Riverside Park Sign), painting the caboose and purchasing tables and benches as the city's match for the Waste Tire Grant. This leaves a balance of \$80,998. Vance made a motion and Tynan seconded to approve a \$7,000 donation to the Parks Foundation for the West Shelter House Project. Motion carried.

Stone Hill Estates Auction Results

Jerry Chesnutt informed Council that the winning bid at the April 22nd auction was from Bill Owens for \$90,000 for the property plus the 6% realtor's commission. Chesnutt said he had a signed contract from the prospective buyer for \$95,400 with the stipulation that the plats are vacated. Council discussed that they wanted to get the property back on the tax roll but acknowledged that the bid is almost \$5,000 short of paying off the bond.

At the April 10th meeting Council discussed the possibility of using some of the revenue from the sale of the property to assist business owners who may be interested in moving to Oswego. After some additional discussion the Council determined that they did want to accept the offer but were not ready to make a decision on what to do with the proceeds of the sale. Vance made a motion and Strickland seconded to accept the offer of \$95,400 from Bill Owens for the Stone Hill Estates property. Motion carried.

Vacating Plat – Stone Hill Estates

The Council had previously determined that they were not opposed to vacating the plats on the Stone Hill Estates property if the purchaser should request it. Clerk Cochran said that a public hearing would need to be set and could be held by either the Planning & Zoning Commission or the Council. The advantage to having the Council hold the hearing would be that after the hearing is closed the Council could go ahead and act on it. There has to be twenty days between the publication date and hearing date so the earliest the hearing could be held is May 24th. The Council determined that they would hold the public hearing at the next Council meeting on June 12th. The closing for the property could then be held the next day, June 13th. Davis made a motion and Tynan seconded to hold a public hearing on June 12th to vacate the plats on the Stone Hill Estates property. Motion carried.

Additional Management Fee – Golf Course

Clerk Cochran said that the city had received a request from the Golf Course for an additional \$2,500 management fee. Skip Riley contacted the office to say they are implementing a new treatment program on the fairways and the initial setup fee is expensive. Billy Green had to purchase the chemical in bulk and can't carry that amount for very long without being paid.

Council felt that someone from the golf course should have been in attendance to present the request and answer questions. After some discussion the Council acknowledged that Billy Green was a good volunteer and shouldn't have to bear the expense himself but questioned why the golf course didn't plan ahead. It was suggested reducing the subsequent management fee each month by \$500 to compensate for the additional \$2,500 but wanted to discuss the idea with someone from the golf course.

At 6:38 p.m. the Mayor called for a 5 minute break to see if they could get a representative from the Golf Course to come to the meeting. At 6:43 p.m. the meeting resumed.

Councilmember Strickland said he was not able to get anyone to attend the meeting on short notice but had spoken to some of the golf course board members by phone. They have recently acquired 12 new members and the biggest request was for improvement of the fairways. They agreed that they would try to reduce their monthly management fee by \$500 for the next five months to compensate for the additional \$2,500. Strickland made a motion and Newby seconded to approve the additional \$2,500 management fee for the golf course. Motion carried.

Adjourn

Vance made a motion and Strickland seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. Motion carried.

Mayor F.W. Cunningham, Jr.

Attest:

Deputy Clerk Renee Cochran