

MINUTES
NEOSHO CITY COUNCIL
March 7, 2023 - 7:00 PM
Neosho Council Chambers
203 E. Main St., Neosho, MO

OPENING PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pastor Jeff Higgins opened the meeting with prayer and Mayor DeWitt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor DeWitt opened the meeting at 7 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilman Cobb made a motion to Excuse Councilman Collinsworth; Councilwoman Humphrey seconded.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tyler DeWitt

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Carl Cobb, Richard Davidson, Tyler DeWitt, Ashton Robinson, Angela Thomas, Julie Humphrey

COUNCIL ABSENT:

Charles Collinsworth, excused by Council.

CITY OFFICERS PRESENT:

David Kennedy, City Manager; Jordan Paul, City Attorney; and Cheyenne Wright, City Clerk, minutes taken by clerk.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor DeWitt asked for a motion to move Item #8 under New Business before Item #5.

Mayor Pro Tempore Davidson made a motion to Approve Agenda as Amended; Councilwoman Humphrey seconded.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tyler DeWitt

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

March 7, 2023 Council Meeting

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilwoman Robinson made a motion to Approve the Consent Agenda to include the following items:

February 21, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes

February 21, 2023 Closed Session Minutes

Bill No. 2023-112: Special Use Permit 420 Freeman Road

Bill No. 2023-113: ARPA Drainage Project Agreement

Bill No. 2023-114: Buffalo Creek Lift Station Agreement for Engineering Services

Bill No. 2023-115: Stafford Fencing Contract

Councilwoman Humphrey seconded.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tyler DeWitt

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

VISITOR'S BUSINESS

There was nobody present to speak under visitor's business.

BIDS

Unmanned Aerial Vehicle

Police Chief Baird addressed the Council stating that the purpose of this agenda item is to seek approval to purchase an unmanned aerial vehicle (drone). Over the past few years, the Police and Fire Departments have had several circumstances where a drone could have been used. It could have been used to locate missing children, drowning victims, assist in photographing major accident scenes, outside crime scenes, assist in locating fleeing/hiding suspects, etc. There were three bid packets sent out and two bids were received back.

American-Drones LLC \$23,109.42

Unmanned Vehicle Technologies \$17,953.97

Removal of unneeded items from the bid brings UVT's bid to \$15,546.97. We budgeted \$15,665.00 for this item.

Councilman Cobb made a motion to Approve the bid from Unmanned Vehicle Technologies in the amount of \$15,546.97; Councilwoman Humphrey seconded.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tyler DeWitt

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

March 7, 2023 Council Meeting

NEW BUSINESS

Bill No. 2022-116: Area Agency of Aging Contract

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the City of Neosho, Missouri, to enter into a Lease Agreement with Area Agency on Aging, Region X, a Missouri Non-Profit Corporation, for the purpose of leasing certain land and improvements commonly known as the Neosho Senior Center located at 1017 Carl Sweeney Parkway, Neosho, Missouri; and authorizing the Mayor to execute the same by and on behalf of the City of Neosho.

Attorney Paul read Bill No. 2023-116 in title only.

Councilwoman Robinson made a motion to Approve and Discuss Bill No. 2023-116: Area Agency on Aging Contract; Councilwoman Thomas seconded.

City Manager Kennedy addressed the City Council stating that this item is to seek approval of an updated contract with Area Agency of Aging for the Neosho/Newton County Senior Center.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tyler DeWitt

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

Bill No. 2023-117: Surplus FD-PD-IT Equipment

An Ordinance of the City of Neosho, Missouri declaring certain personal property as surplus; and authorizing the City Manager to execute the appropriate documents.

Attorney Paul read Bill No. 2023-117 in title only.

Councilwoman Robinson made a motion to Approve and Discuss Bill No. 2023-117: Surplus FD-PD-IT Equipment; Councilwoman Humphrey seconded.

City Manager Kennedy addressed the City Council stating that this item is to surplus fire, police and IT department items that are no longer needed by their departments.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tyler DeWitt

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

Bill No. 2023-118: Approve/Execute yearly Newton County Central Dispatch Contract

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the City of Neosho, Missouri, to enter into an Agreement with the County of Newton, Missouri, for the purpose of providing dispatch services; and authorizing the Mayor to execute the same by and on behalf of the City of Neosho.

March 7, 2023 Council Meeting

Attorney Paul read Bill No. 2023-118 in title only.

Councilman Cobb made a motion to Approve and Discuss Bill No. 2023-118: Newton County Central Dispatch Contract; Councilwoman Thomas seconded.

Police Chief Baird addressed the City Council stating that this item is the yearly contract between the city and Newton County Central Dispatch. The City Attorney has read and approved the contract.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tyler DeWitt

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

Bill No. 2023-119: Contract with YMCA Youth Softball/Baseball Program.

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the City of Neosho, Missouri, to enter into an Agreement with Tri-State Family Young Men's Christian Association, a Missouri Non-Profit Corporation, for the purpose of using a portion of the real property and improvements commonly known as Morse Park for youth baseball and softball leagues; and authorizing the Mayor to execute the same by and on behalf of the City of Neosho.

Attorney Paul read Bill No. 2023-119 in title only.

Councilwoman Thomas made a motion to Approve and Discuss Bill No. 2023-119: Contract with YMCA Youth Softball/Baseball Program; Councilman Cobb seconded.

Parks and Recreation Manager Balls addressed the City Council stating that this item is to seek Council's approval of the contract with the YMCA to operate the youth softball/baseball program at Morse Park. NYSBA no longer wants to provide this service any longer. The last few years have been hard to find volunteers to help run this program. Staff recommends approving the contract with our local YMCA to operate the youth softball/baseball program at Morse Park.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tyler DeWitt

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

Purchase Police Vehicle

Police Chief Baird addressed the City Council stating that the purpose of this agenda item is to request the purchase of a new police vehicle. These vehicles have been very hard to obtain, however staff was notified by Corwin Republic Ford that they have three 2023 Ford Police Interceptor vehicles on the lot. They offered a trade-in value of \$3,500 for a 2013 Ford Interceptor. The total cost for the Interceptor would be \$40,025.00 and this purchase was budgeted for.

Councilwoman Robinson made a motion to Approve the Purchase of a new police vehicle in the amount of

March 7, 2023 Council Meeting

\$40,025.00; Councilwoman Humphrey seconded.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tyler DeWitt

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

Bill No. 2023-120: Surplus Police Vehicle

An Ordinance of the City of Neosho, Missouri declaring certain personal property as surplus; and authorizing the City Manager to execute the appropriate documents.

Attorney Paul read Bill No. 2023-120 in title only.

Councilwoman Thomas made a motion to Approve and Discuss Bill No. 2023-120: Surplus Police Vehicle; Councilwoman Humphrey seconded.

Police Chief Baird addressed the City Council stating that the purpose of this agenda item is to request Council's approval to surplus a 2013 Ford SUV to trade-in on the new purchase of a 2023 Ford Interceptor.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tyler DeWitt

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

Bill No. 2023-121: MOU with the Neosho School District (PD)

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the City of Neosho, Missouri, to enter into an Agreement with the Neosho School District, a political subdivision and public school district of the State of Missouri, for the purpose of providing law enforcement services; and authorizing the Mayor to execute the same by and on behalf of the City of Neosho.

Attorney Paul read in title only Bill No. 2023-121.

Councilman Cobb made a motion to Approve and Discuss Bill No. 2023-121: MOU with the Neosho School District-SRO; Councilwoman Humphrey seconded.

Police Chief Baird addressed the City Council stating that the purpose of this agenda item is to have a Memorandum of Understanding in place with the Neosho School District for them to now create their own police department. The MOU is required by Missouri State Statute.

Discussion followed.

Ryan West addressed the Council and stated that they will be starting out with four officers, and they will have their MOPOST.

March 7, 2023 Council Meeting

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tyler DeWitt

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

Resolution Bill No. 2023-01: Gateway Intersection Agreement

A RESOLUTION authorizing the City of Neosho, Missouri, to convey certain property rights to the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission, a political subdivision of the State of Missouri, related to the construction of intersection improvements at Gateway Drive and Highway 86 in Neosho, Missouri.

Resolution Bill No. 2023-01 read in title only by Attorney Paul.

Councilwoman Robinson made a motion to Approve and Discuss Resolution Bill No. 2023-01: Gateway Intersection Agreement; Councilman Cobb seconded.

City Manager Kennedy addressed the Council stating that this is to sign over right of way and the traffic signal located at 86 Highway and Gateway over to MoDOT. This will finalize the agreement with the City of Neosho and MoDOT to release the intersection to them.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tyler DeWitt

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

Approval for Purchase of GMC Sierra (D&M-PW Dept.)

Public Works Director Siler addressed the City Council stating that the purpose of this agenda item is to seek Council's approval of a 2022 GMC Crewcab 1 ton for the D&M Department. This truck is budgeted for. Griffith in Neosho just recently received a 2022 GMC Sierra 3500 Crewcab for \$50,420.00.

Councilwoman Thomas made a motion to Approve the purchase of a GMC Sierra for Public Works in the amount of \$50,420.00; Councilman Cobb seconded.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tyler DeWitt

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

DED Right of Way Easement

City Manager Kennedy addressed the City Council stating that the purpose of this agenda item is to obtain right of way from DJM Associates, for the Stratford and Freeman Road drainage project. This property is located at 711 East McKinney Street. This will be deeded to the City of Neosho and turned over to MoDOT

March 7, 2023 Council Meeting

once the project is completed.

Councilwoman Thomas made a motion to Approve the DED Right of Way Easement with Ron McCleary; Councilwoman Robinson seconded.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tyler DeWitt

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

Letter of Support for Liberty Utilities

City Manager Kennedy addressed the City Council stating that this item is to approve a letter of support for an upcoming grant for Liberty Utilities. Liberty is applying for two grants; one for distribution automation and most vulnerable feeder reinforcement. Both of these projects would have immense benefits for our community.

Councilman Cobb made a motion to Approve the Letters of Support for Liberty Utilities; Councilwoman Robinson seconded.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tyler DeWitt

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

Area Agency of Aging (AAA) Facility Donation Letter

City Manager Kennedy addressed the City Council stating that the purpose of this agenda item is to provide proof of public match for Area Agency of Aging to continue to fund their programs. The rental to be paid by AAA for the usage of the premises is \$1.00 per year.

Councilwoman Robinson made a motion to Approve the Senior Center Facility Donation for Area Agency of Aging; Councilman Cobb seconded.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tyler DeWitt

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

City Aquatic Center Presentation

Parks and Recreation Manager Balls addressed the City Council for the purpose of presenting a new aquatic center for the city of Neosho. The current city pool was built in 1978 and is now 45 years old and has been very costly for the city to maintain. The recommendation is to build an aquatic center to be located on the west

March 7, 2023 Council Meeting

side of the golf course, using approximately 20 acres of this area that is no longer in use other than the practice green and driving range. This could be funded if authorized by Council to place the Use Tax on the ballot for the improvements as indicated.

This would also include a new golf course clubhouse and the movement of some of the holes and the driving range.

Discussion was held.

Council would like to see figures on other avenues of revenue other than the Use Tax.

Golf Fees Discussion

Golf Course Manager Farris addressed the City Council stating that he needs to raise rates due to the inflation costs.

Discussion was held.

By a consensus to bring these rates back in an ordinance.

APPOINTMENTS AND VACANCIES

Golf Course Board

- **Letter of Interest from Gary Elam for Golf Course Board**

Mayor DeWitt made a motion to appoint Gary Elam to the Golf Course Board; Councilman Cobb seconded.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tyler DeWitt

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

REPORT OF CITY OFFICERS

City Manager Kennedy informed the Council of the tree trimming getting ready to start by Liberty Utilities on the Bradford Pears around City Hall. This is due to them being in the way of the lines.

CLOSED SESSION

Mayor DeWitt asked for a motion to go into closed session under Section 610.021 (1) RSMo...Legal actions, causes of action of litigation involving a public governmental body and any confidential or privileged communications between public governmental body or its representatives and its attorneys.

Councilwoman Robinson made a motion to go into Closed under Section 610.021 (1); Councilman Cobb

March 7, 2023 Council Meeting

seconded.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tyler DeWitt

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

Mayor DeWitt closed open session at 8:12 p.m.

At 8:39 p.m. Mayor DeWitt the Council came back into open session and stated that no votes were taken.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor DeWitt asked for a motion to adjourn.

Councilman Cobb made a motion to Adjourn; Councilwoman Humphrey seconded.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tyler DeWitt

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

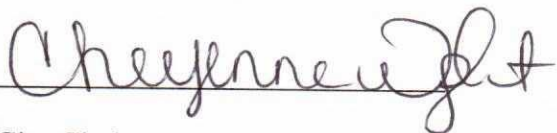
Mayor DeWitt closed the March 7, 2023 Council Meeting at 8:40 p.m.

APPROVED

NEOSHO CITY COUNCIL

Mayor

ATTEST



City Clerk

