

MINUTES
NEOSHO CITY COUNCIL
May 2, 2023 - 7:00 PM
Neosho Council Chambers
203 E. Main St., Neosho, MO

OPENING PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

David Moore opened the meeting with prayer and Mayor Davidson led the pledge of allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Davidson called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

ROLL CALL

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Angela Thomas, Tom Workman, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Julie Humphrey, Charles Collinsworth, and Carl Cobb

COUNCIL ABSENT:

None were absent.

CITY OFFICERS PRESENT:

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilman Collinsworth made a motion to Approve the Agenda; Councilman Cobb seconded.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Charles Collinsworth, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tom Workman

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilman Cobb made a motion to Approve the Consent Agenda to include the following:

April 18, 2023 Open Session Council Minutes

April 18, 2023 Closed Session Council Minutes

April 24, 2023 Special Session Council Minutes

Bill No. 2023-135

Bill No. 2023-136;

Councilman Workman seconded.

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Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Charles Collinsworth, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tom Workman

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Public Hearing for Bill No. 2023-133

Public Hearing for Bill No. 2023-133 opened at 7:03 p.m.

David Schminkey - 909 North Summit Street

Went over the amounts online and stated he feels that the increases are not needed. He feels that the increase all at once would be an issue. He feels that a 10% increase would be the best.

Public Hearing for Bill No. 2023-133 closed at 7:07 p.m.

Public Hearing for Bill No. 2023-134

Public Hearing for Bill No. 2023-134 opened at 7:07 p.m.

Tim Cox thanked the staff for getting information out to the citizens, and he asked that the city continue to get the information out to the public.

Merlen White 316 South Washington - she lives on a limited income and pays her bills on time. She would like to know why the increase for 33% is being considered.

Public Hearing for Bill No. 2023-134 closed at 7:12 p.m.

Bill No 2023-133: Article I Amending Section 710.180 Water Rates

AN ORDINANCE amending Section 710.180 "Water Rates – Generally – Classification of Consumers."

Attorney Paul read Bill No. 2023-133 in title only.

Councilwoman Robinson made a motion to approve and discuss Bill No. 2023-133; Councilman Collinsworth seconded.

Mayor Davidson requested John Briggs, with Allgeier, Martin and Associates, to come forward and explain to the public how the engineers came to the increase of 33% that is being requested.

John Briggs stated that the initial base rate for the water meter is 33%, but not all tiers would take a 33% increase. The next tier is a 16% increase, so the 33% was not a 'cross-the-board' increase.

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City Manager Kennedy stated that the city submitted an application for ARPA funding that the federal government released last year through the state. These were put out as grants and were extremely competitive. The city was denied by the state for water infrastructure grant funding. These were funds that were set up during the COVID-19 Pandemic and grant funding for water infrastructure is typically not done from year to year. The grants that do come out for water infrastructure are very competitive.

Discussion followed with Council and staff.

Mr. Briggs stated that issues with infrastructure are issues that all cities have. The public works department has been working on tracking down the water loss and putting in meters to find these, as well as changing out water lines.

Discussion followed.

Mayor Davidson, for the record, things that we do with Allgeier, Martin and Associates are engineered to find the best approach for the city to fix aging infrastructure and issues. If we do not increase our water/sewer rates, we will have to delay projects by reducing the increase and fixing the issues that are currently going on.

Discussion was held on a percentage increase.

Public Works Director Siler addressed questions regarding which projects may be cut if the full amount of increase was not approved. Siler stated that staff would work with Allgeier, Martin and Associates on the older areas of town, which are mostly downtown.

Discussion was held.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Robinson to amend the bill to 50% of the increase submitted in the water rate study and request the other half go into effect next year.

Motion died due to lack of second.

Mayor Davidson made a motion to amend Bill No. 2023-133 to 75% across the board of the initial request; Councilman Workman seconded.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Angela Thomas, Charles Collinsworth, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tom Workman

No: Carl Cobb

Abstain: None

Passed.

Mayor Davidson made a motion to postpone 2nd & 3rd reading of Bill No. 2023-133 to the May 16th, 2023 Council Meeting; Councilwoman Thomas seconded.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Charles Collinsworth, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tom Workman

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

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Bill No. 2023-134: Article VI Sewer Service Charges Amending Section 705.450

AN ORDINANCE amending Section 705.450 "Classification of Users – Monthly Service Charges."

Attorney Paul read Bill No. 2023-134 in title only.

Councilwoman Thomas made a motion to approve and discuss Bill No. 2023-134; Councilwoman Humphrey seconded.

Councilwoman Thomas made a motion to amend Bill No. 2023-134 to 75% across the board of the initial request; Councilman Workman seconded.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Angela Thomas, Charles Collinsworth, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tom Workman

No: Carl Cobb

Abstain: None

Passed.

Mayor Davidson made a motion to postpone 2nd & 3rd reading of Bill No. 2023-133 to the May 16th, 2023 Council Meeting; Councilwoman Thomas seconded.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Charles Collinsworth, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tom Workman

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

VISITOR'S BUSINESS

Jeff Jones thanked council and city staff for all of the help he received regarding his Bowlathon Event.

BIDS

Lawn Care at the Neosho IOOF Cemetery

City Clerk Wright addressed the City Council stating that staff went out for bid for lawn care at the Neosho IOOF Cemetery. There were eight bids sent out and only one bid was received back from Benny's Lawn and Landscaping in the amount of \$93,000.00. Benny's Lawn and Landscaping has had the contract for the lawn maintenance at the cemetery for the last three years. Staff have been very happy with the service they have received from this company for the last three years. There have been many compliments given to the city for the upkeep and care that has been given to the cemetery since the city took it over. Staff recommends approving the bid from Benny's Lawn and Landscaping in the amount of \$93,000.00.

Councilman Cobb made a motion to Approve the bid from Benny's Lawn and Landscaping in the amount of

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\$93,000.00; Councilman Workman seconded.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Charles Collinsworth, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tom Workman

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

2023 Street Maintenance Materials

Public Works Director Siler addressed the City Council stating that the purpose of this agenda item is to seek Council's approval for the 2023 street maintenance materials state bid from Sasco in the amount of \$20,775.00. Over the past nine years, we have been using the same crack-sealing material that MoDOT uses. Craftco RoadSaver 515. This material has proven very effective and Sasco Pavement Coatings is the only authorized dealer for this brand of material in our area. The quote provided by Sasco is the same price used in the MoDOT Co-Op State Bid contract#60518CO0093. The bid price was \$0.87 per lb. We have requested 22,500lbs, which brings the total with truck shipping to \$20,775.00. We currently have \$45,136.10 in street maintenance materials budget line.

Councilwoman Thomas made a motion to Approve the bid from Sasco \$20,775.00; Councilwoman Robinson seconded.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Charles Collinsworth, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tom Workman

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Bill No. 2023-137 Business and Contractor License Fee -Proposed Increase

AN ORDINANCE amending Section 605.090 "Fees – Generally."

Attorney Paul read Bill No. 2023-137 in title only.

Councilman Collinsworth made a motion to approve and discuss Bill No. 2023-133; Councilwoman Humphrey seconded.

Finance Director Forest addressed the council stating that the purpose of this agenda item is to approve a fee increase for business and contractor licenses. The current fee structure for licenses has been in place since June 1987. As costs continue to rise, the fees charged for business licenses and local contractors are no longer supporting the cost to maintain and issue licenses. The fees range from \$10 to \$25. Staff is proposing a 100% increase, thereby doubling each rate from \$10 thru \$25 to \$20 thru \$50.

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Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Charles Collinsworth, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tom Workman

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

Bill No. 2023-138: Employee Handbook Amendment

AN ORDINANCE amending the Employee Handbook of the City of Neosho, Missouri.

Attorney Paul read Bill No. 2023-138 in title only.

Councilman Cobb made a motion to approve and discuss Bill No. 2023-138; Councilwoman Robinson seconded.

Human Resources Director Muhic addressed the City Council stating that the purpose of this handbook amendment is to update handbook section 1.06, classification of employees to include Police Lieutenant and Deputy Fire Chief. This would also update section 5.03, no stacking overtime/compensatory time and holiday pay, section 7.12, political activities.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Charles Collinsworth, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tom Workman

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

Bill No. 2023-139: Contract with Mid-America Pump

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the City of Neosho, Missouri, to enter into an Agreement for Independent Contractor Services with Mid-America Pump, L.L.C., a Kansas Limited Liability Company, for the purpose of making repairs at the Shoal Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility for the not to exceed price of Eighty Three Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety Nine and 23/100 Dollars (\$83,899.23); and authorizing the Mayor to execute the same by and on behalf of the City of Neosho.

Attorney Paul read Bill No. 2023-139 in title only.

Councilwoman Robinson made a motion to approve and discuss Bill No. 2023-139; Councilman Cobb seconded.

Alliance Water Resources Manager, Ken Brady, addressed the City Council stating that this is the contract with Mid-America Pump for the rebuild of the Fairbanks Morse Pump for the Shoal Creek WWTP. This would put the plant back in full operation. Council previously approved the bid from Mid-America Pump on April 18th, 2023 in the amount of \$83,899.23.

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Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Charles Collinsworth, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tom Workman

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

Bill No. 2023-140: Liberty Electric Vehicle Charging Stations Contract

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the City of Neosho, Missouri, to enter into an Electric Charging Station Participant Agreement with Liberty Utilities Services Corp., an Arizona Corporation, for the purpose of participating in the Ready Charge Pilot Program; and authorizing the Mayor to execute the same by and on behalf of the City of Neosho.

Attorney Paul read Bill No. 2023-140 in title only.

Councilwoman Humphrey made a motion to approve and discuss Bill No. 2023-140; Councilman Workman seconded.

Development Services Director Leavens addressed the council stating that the purpose of this agenda item is to obtain council's authorization for the mayor to sign the contract with Liberty Utilities to install and operate three level 2 charging stations in the city parking lot on the northwest corner of W. Spring Street and Jefferson Street.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Charles Collinsworth, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tom Workman

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

Resolution Bill No. 2023-03: New Signatories for the Bank

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF NEOSHO, MISSOURI, DESIGNATING NEW SIGNATORIES ON CITY OF NEOSHO CHECKING ACCOUNTS HELD AT FIRST COMMUNITY BANK.

Attorney Paul read in title only Resolution Bill No. 2023-03.

Finance Director Forest addressed the City Council stating that the purpose of this agenda item is to designate new signatories on all bank accounts, due to the change in the new Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore. Staff also changed the wording in the resolution to reflect how the checks are currently being signed. Currently, the resolution states that the city clerk signs the checks and in her absence the city manager will sign. However, the city manager currently signs all checks and in his/her absence the city clerk will sign.

Councilwoman Thomas made a motion to approve and discuss Resolution Bill No. 2023-03; Councilwoman Humphrey seconded.

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Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Charles Collinsworth, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tom Workman

No: None

Abstain: None

Passed.

Drinking in Public Section 600.050

Adriana Henry addressed the Council and stated that the businesses are asking to allow the area designated on the attached map from 4 - 10 p.m. during Celebrate Neosho. This would be alcohol that is purchased from one of the four vendors and in a designated cup for the event.

Mayor Pro Tempore Davidson made a motion to approve the suspension of 600.050 for Celebrate Neosho to the four vendors on the square per the map attached to the minutes; Councilwoman Thomas seconded.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Angela Thomas, Charles Collinsworth, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Tom Workman

No: Carl Cobb, Ashton Robinson

Abstain: None

Passed.

Thomas Hart Benton Tribute Mural at City Hall

Development Services Director Leavens addressed the City Council stating that the purpose of this agenda item is to seek council's approval of a Thomas Hart Benton mural on the outside of City Hall. The Neosho Arts Council has offered to donate to the city a tribute mural to Thomas Hart Benton to be mounted on the outside of city hall on the north side of the building. The full color mural would be painted by local artist, Jared Jennings, on three metal panels and be a total of approximately 9'X12' in size. The painting will be sealed with a coating to prevent the paint from fading and allow it to be cleaned. The city would pay to have the mural hung on the north exterior of the city hall between the main entrance and the council chamber entrance. It would be lit from above on the roof knee wall. The city would also provide insurance on the mural.

By a consensus of the Council to bring back an agreement to the Council.

Celebrate Neosho Update and Request for Input

Development Services Director Leavens addressed the City Council stating the following events are scheduled for Celebrate Neosho:

a children's sandbox, seed spitting contest, cornhole tournament, 9 square game, rides for the kids (train ride, bungee jump, bounce houses, horse rides). There will be five food truck vendors with food different from the four restaurants on the square. There will also be live music and to end the night, a fireworks display.

By a consensus that the council approved all items as presented by staff.

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REPORT OF CITY OFFICERS

City Manager Kennedy informed Council that Public Works Director Siler has been appointed to the Region M Board. This is the board that we receive a grant from every year for the Recycle Center. He also informed Council of City Clerk Wright's appointment to President of the Southwest Division of MOCCFOA.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the council, Mayor Davidson asked for a motion to adjourn.

Councilman Collinsworth made a motion to Adjourn; Councilman Workman seconded.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Carl Cobb, Angela Thomas, Charles Collinsworth, Julie Humphrey, Richard Davidson, Ashton Robinson, Tom Workman

No: None

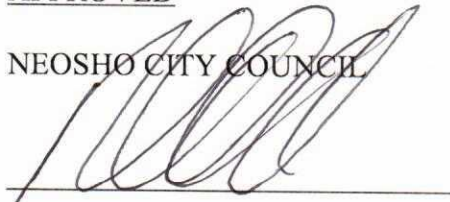
Abstain: None

Passed.

Mayor Davidson closed the May 2, 2023 council meeting at 8:49 p.m.

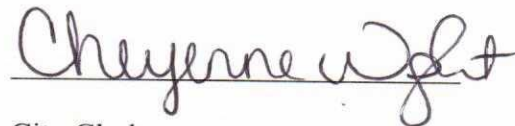
APPROVED

NEOSHO CITY COUNCIL



Mayor

ATTEST



City Clerk





Spring Street

ALCOHOL ZONE



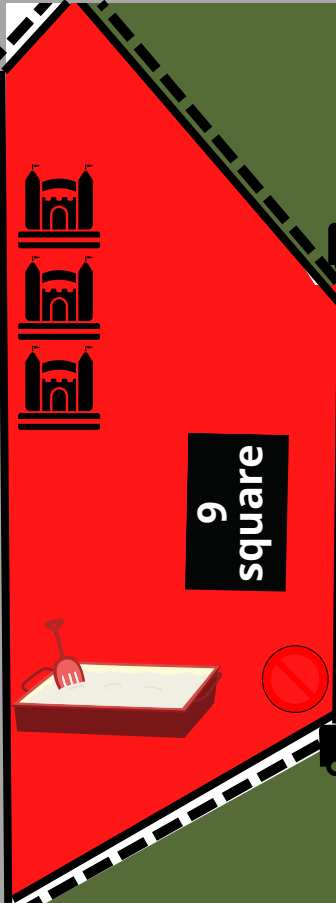
- Bungee Jumping
- Kids Train
- Swing



Washington Street

Main Street

Wood Street



NO ALCOHOL ZONE

NO ALCOHOL
BEYOND THIS POINT

ALCOHOL BEYOND
THIS POINT IN
VIOLATION OF CODE
600.050
DRINKING IN PUBLIC



Main Stage

