THE LEAWOOD CITY COUNCIL

Minutes

February 4, 2019

DVD No. 434

The City Council of the City of Leawood, Kansas, met in regular session in the Council Chambers, 4800 Town Center Drive, 7:30 P.M. on Monday, February 4, 2019. Mayor Peggy Dunn presided.

Councilmembers Present:  Julie Cain, Mary Larson, Debra Filla, Lisa Harrison, Chuck Sipple, Jim Rawlings and Andrew Osman

Councilmembers Absent:  James Azeltine

Staff Present:  Scott Lambers, City Administrator
Patty Bennett, City Attorney
Chief Troy Rettig, Police Department
Brian Anderson, Parks Superintendent
Mark Tepesch, Info. Services Specialist III
Debra Harper, City Clerk

Dawn Long, Finance Director
David Ley, Public Works Director
Brian Scovill, City Engineer
Nic Sanders, Human Resource Director
April Bishop, Cultural Arts Coordinator
Cindy Jacobus, Assistant City Clerk

Others Present:  None

1.  PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Eight Scouts from Troop 395, all students at Curé of Ars School, presented the flags and led the Pledge. Mayor Dunn shared her three Scouts all attended Curé of Ars and two went on to attain Eagle Rank. She thanked the Scouts and Leaders for their assistance and invited them to stay to work on their Citizenship Merit Badges.

2.  APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Councilmember Larson; seconded by Councilmember Harrison. The motion was approved with a unanimous vote of 7-0.

3.  CITIZEN COMMENTS – None

Members of the public are welcome to use this time to make comments about City matters that do not appear on the agenda, or about items that will be considered as part of the consent agenda. It is not appropriate to use profanity or comment on pending litigation, municipal court matters or personnel issues. Comments about items that appear on the action agenda will be taken as each item is considered. CITIZENS ARE REQUESTED TO KEEP THEIR COMMENTS UNDER 5 MINUTES.
4. PROCLAMATIONS

National Engineers’ Week, February 17-23, 2019

Mayor Dunn read the proclamation into the record. She presented the proclamation to City Engineer Brian Scovill and thanked him for his great work.

Mr. Scovill thanked the Governing Body for the opportunity to recognize and promote the engineering profession. He is a member of the Professional Society of Engineers, a group which works closely with Missouri engineers in the metro area. The society hosts several programs for youth, the three largest of which are the Future Cities competition, Bridge Building competition and Math Counts competition. He will be assisting with the Math Counts competition early tomorrow morning at the Jewish Community Center. The Bridge Building competition was held last weekend at Prairie Fire and the Future Cities competition was held at the end of January. Bridges are demolished in the Bridge Building competition, so there is no national level competition for that event. Regional winners from the Future Cities and Math Counts, proceed to the national competitions whose winners are recognized during a National Engineers’ Week luncheon. The luncheon is the second largest gathering of engineers in the country during National Engineers’ Week. Kansas City has an active and vibrant engineering community.

Mayor Dunn stated the City was delighted to have Mr. Scovill, since he joined the team in September 2018.

5. PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS – None

6. SPECIAL BUSINESS – None

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Consent agenda items have been studied by the Governing Body and determined to be routine enough to be acted upon in a single motion. If a Councilmember requests a separate discussion on an item, it can be removed from the consent agenda for further consideration.

B. Accept minutes of the January 22, 2019 Governing Body meeting
C. Accept minutes of the November 27, 2018 Leawood Arts Council meeting
D. Accept minutes of the November 8, 2018 Sustainability Advisory Board [SAB]
E. Approve purchase in the amount of $35,577.96 from Coleman Implement, pertaining to the purchase of P&R Equipment; Kubota Excavator U55-4R3A
F. Approve payment in the amount of $20,419.71 to Hallbrook Homes Association, pertaining to LED Lighting Reimbursement for 2018/Electric Usage
G. **Resolution No. 5123**, approving and authorizing the Mayor to execute a Cooperative Memorandum of Understanding, in an annual amount not to exceed $47,876.53, by and between the City of Leawood, Prairie Village, Mission Hills, and Johnson County, Kansas, pertaining to providing a Johnson County Mental Health Co-Responder
H. **Resolution No. 5124**, amending the disbursement amounts of Special Alcohol Funds for purpose of supporting the efforts of the various schools in providing a safe environment for Leawood students for after-prom and after-graduation events, and repealing Resolution No. 3992
Councilmember Sipple requested Consent Agenda Item 7.A. be pulled. Councilmember Filla requested Consent Agenda Item 7.D. be pulled.

A motion to approve the remainder of the Consent Agenda was made by Councilmember Filla; seconded by Councilmember Larson. The motion was approved with a unanimous vote of 7-0.


Councilmember Sipple inquired about the location of the retaining wall in regard to payment for design services to vendor H W Lochner Inc. listed on the first page of Appropriation Ordinance 2018-55. Mr. Ley stated the retaining wall is for the Mission Road 119th to 127th Street Project. This same vendor designed the retaining wall at 127th Street and Mission Road. The project will involve going through an existing wall because of a modified design to place the storm sewer on the west side of Mission Road. Mr. Scovill confirmed one additional small disbursement for estimation of engineering costs is expected.

Councilmember Larson applauded the City’s disbursements to Shawnee Mission East and Blue Valley North High Schools for graduation and after prom events, as these may help to keep young people safe and is money well-spent. Mayor Dunn agreed and stated the City is fortunate to have funds from Alcohol Tax Funds to contribute.

A motion to approve Consent Agenda Item 7.A. was made by Councilmember Sipple; seconded by Councilmember Larson. The motion was approved with a unanimous vote of 7-0.

7.D. Accept minutes of the November 8, 2018 Sustainability Advisory Board [SAB]

Councilmember Filla offered thanks for support of the Tree Committee and tree ordinance changes worked on by volunteers and City Staff in her absence. She reminded the Sustainability Advisory Board 10th Annual Home Owners Association dinner is Thursday, February 21. There is no cost for the dinner, but registration is required. Mayor Dunn stated the event is always great and Parks & Recreation Graphics Technician Marica Putman is handling reservations. Mayor Dunn and Councilmember Cain stated they have registered to attend.

A motion to approve Consent Agenda Item 7.D. was made by Councilmember Filla; seconded by Councilmember Cain. The motion was approved with a unanimous vote of 7-0.

In regard to Consent Agenda Item 7.F., Councilmember Filla asked for a status update on the Energy Cost Savings Program for LED streetlight replacement in Hallbrook. Mr. Ley stated approval of the third payment is being requested for the second full year of use. The first payment was for a partial year as streetlights were changed to LED in October. The second year payment for 2018 was approximately $22,000.

8. MAYOR’S REPORT

A. Our sympathies to the family of Leawood resident Ruth Johnson who recently passed away at the age of 97. She was a longtime member of both the Leawood Singers and the Leawood Woman’s Club – a great lady who remained very involved in our community throughout her entire life.
B. Thanks to I-Lan Sister City Committee Chair Bette Monson and her Committee, along with Staff Liaison Julie Berger, for organizing a splendid Lunar New Year event celebrating the “Year of the Pig.” We had a great crowd including nearly all City Councilmembers.

C. I attended a Johnson County Republican Party event featuring remarks from Senator Jerry Moran.

D. I also attended a roundtable discussion with Congresswoman Sharice Davids and the Mayors of the Kansas Third District.

E. My thanks to Scott Lambers, Chris Claxton and Deb Harper for assisting with the State of the City event last week. All City Councilmembers as well as all Department Heads were in attendance. The year 2018 had many reasons to celebrate.

F. The year 2019 has already scored a big award in the area of public safety. The National Council for Home Safety and Security has ranked Leawood as the number one safest city in Kansas. Our crime rate per 1,000 people was 0.013; violent crimes per 1,000 were 0.885; and property crimes per 1,000 were 12.532. Congratulations to Chief Rettig and to all involved.

G. The Leawood Arts Council and the Leawood Stage Company are working together to present a Romance Art Exhibition, February 14 through February 17, 2019, at the Ironwoods Lodge. The exhibition will coincide with opening evening of the Leawood Stage Company’s production of “The Man Who Came to Dinner.” The exhibition will be open for free viewing hours Saturday, February 16, from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M, and there will be an artists’ reception that morning with coffee and refreshments.

9. COUNCILMEMBERS’ REPORT

Councilmember Rawlings - Consideration of possible start time of City Council meetings

Councilmember Rawlings stated his pleasure of being a member of the Council with his 20th anniversary this April. Only Mayor Dunn has been a member of the Council for a longer period of time. Within the past two or three months he has personally questioned if the start time of the Council meeting might be revised to 7:00 P.M. rather than 7:30 P.M. if there was no Work Session to precede a Council meeting. There are a limited number of Work Sessions, which are planned well in advance. If the proposed start time was approved, there would be ample time to provide public notice. Presenters, especially those on topics that occur later on an agenda, and City Staff that must attend the meetings, would likely prefer the earlier start time.

Councilmember Osman stated agreement with Councilmember Rawlings, but differing start times might be confusing for applicants, who may be unaware that a Work Session is scheduled. He questioned if Work Session start time should be revised from 6:00 P.M. to 5:30 P.M. Mayor Dunn stated her schedule could not accommodate an earlier Work Session start time.

Councilmember Sipple stated agreement with Councilmembers Rawlings and Osman about the convenience of a 7:00 P.M. start. He asked how meeting start times would be distributed to external parties to facilitate participation/attendance, suggesting postings and listing of meeting dates/times on the website, and notification of planned attendees. He requested to receive a list of administrative changes that would be made in regard to meeting start time.
Ms. Bennett confirmed to Mayor Dunn an ordinance with public notice would be needed with change effective after publication or upon a stated effective date. Social apps could be used to distribute meeting start time information and Ms. Harper could notify Scout troops. Ms. Harper pointed out there are two Work Sessions currently scheduled, February 18 and April 15, so an effective date of June 1 would not disrupt this schedule.

Councilmember Filla stated the revised start time would allow students and Scouts to arrive and depart earlier. She stated the City’s distribution list for meeting agendas is vast and agendas are also posted on the City’s website. Some of the public is not aware the Council meets. With the proposed earlier start time as standard, participants/attendees would arrive early for Council meeting if there happened to be a Work Session. Councilmember Filla suggested an effective date of May 1 for the 7:00 P.M. start time.

Councilmember Cain stated the proposal was a great idea, but questioned if it would cause confusion and if there was precedent in other cities. Mr. Lambers stated most cities observe a consistent start time for their meetings. The day after a Council meeting he reviews the draft agenda for the next scheduled Council meeting, so there could not give much more than two-week notice. Work Sessions are usually scheduled well in advance. The Governing Body’s next meeting scheduled for February 18 will begin at 7:30 P.M. because the RanchMart Community Improvement District will be reviewed at the Work Session prior to that Governing Body meeting. He stated Work Session documentation for February 18 will be distributed this week in advance of typical schedule.

Mayor Dunn stated Councilmember Azeltine had provided similar comment expressing “concern about confusion.”

Ms. Harper stated meeting start time could be red-flagged and bolded on agendas. Councilmember Sipple stated this would be acceptable.

Councilmember Rawlings opined meeting attendees would be able to comprehend stated start times. Mayor Dunn thanked Councilmember Rawlings for his initiative.

A motion to approve a 7:00 P.M. start of Council meetings without preceding Work Session effective May 1, 2019 was made by Councilmember Rawlings; seconded by Councilmember Filla. The motion was approved with a unanimous vote of 7-0.

10. CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – None

11. STAFF REPORT – None

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

12. PLANNING COMMISSION – None

13. OLD BUSINESS – None

14. OTHER BUSINESS – None
15. **NEW BUSINESS** – None

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

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Debra Harper, CMC, City Clerk

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Cindy Jacobus, Assistant City Clerk