**MULVANE CITY COUNCIL**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

December 18, 2023 7:30 p.m.

The Mulvane City Council convened at the City Building at 211 N. Second at 7:30 p.m. Presiding was Mayor Shelly Steadman, who called the meeting to order.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Brent Allen, Tim Huntley, Nancy Farber Mottola, Kevin Cardwell, Kurtis Westfall.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Austin St. John, Debra Parker, Mike Robinson, Chris Young, Gordon Fell, Joel Pile, Pete Swart, Larry Richardson, Charlie Cadwell, Jerry Quigley, Terry Lane, Candace Dudley, Paul Foster.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**  All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Steadman.

**APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:**

MOTION by Mottola, second by Huntley to approve the Regular meeting minutes dated December 4, 2023.

MOTION approved unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Councilmember Mottola received comments regarding the naming of the Downtown Park.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**APPOINTMENTS, AWARDS AND CITIATIONS:** None

**OLD BUSINESS**

**1**. **Review Proposal to Name Park:**

Mayor Steadman reviewed the information presented at the last City Council meeting regarding naming of the park located downtown at Prather and Main St. and reviewed the policy for naming a new park. Since the park is located downtown, the council liked the idea of naming the park after the first historic business at that location instead of a person. It was noted that there would be other opportunities to name a park with some of the suggestions previously presented.

Charlie Cadwell had presented a petition at the last meeting in support of naming the park Hixson Park after former City Administrator, Kent Hixson. Cadwell asked for the process in pursuing the original petition for naming the park. Council suggested he speak to the City Administrator, Austin St. John, to get the process for doing so.

City Attorney, J.T. Klaus, commented that the Harry C. Nessly memorial is currently in Cobb Park. It is a waymark for the State of Kansas.

MOTION by Allen, second by Huntley to name the park Nessly Auto Park.

MOTION approved unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. New Copier/Printer for Police Department/Court:**

Public Safety Director, Gordon Fell, reported that due to maintenance issues and the current machines reaching their end of life, he would like to replace the copier/printer for the Police Department/Court.

MOTION by Cardwell, second by Westfall to approve the agreement with Konica Minolta for a Bizhub C3350i and Bizhub C450i with the One Rate Program and maintenance agreement for c458 as approved by the City Attorney.

MOTION approved unanimously.

**2. City Prosecutor Contract:**

Public Safety Director, Gordon Fell, requested renewing the Independent Contract with Joy K. Williams for City Prosecutor.

MOTION by Allen, second by Huntley to approve the contract with Joy K. Williams.

MOTION approved unanimously.

**3. 2024 Cost of Living Adjustment:**

City Administrator, Austin St. John, reviewed the history of the COLA for employees since 2011. The Bureau of Labor Statistics showed an increase of 2.9%. Social Security is implementing a 3.2% increase. The City budgeted for a 5% increase for 2024.

Mayor Steadman indicated it is nice to receive a COLA for those employees who are topped out on the pay scale. Mottola felt a 1% increase was sufficient but would consider a 2% increase.

MOTION by Huntley, second by Cardwell to implement a 3% cost of living adjustment (COLA) for the 2024 payroll purposes.

MOTION approved 4 – 1 with Mottola opposed.

**ENGINEER**

**1. Project Review and Update:**

Downtown Park – Park improvements have been completed and the park is open to the public. The Contractor is working on a Change Order and Final Pay Application.

Main “A” Sanitary Sewer – The Contractor expects to mobilize the first of the year. The Contractor is working on traffic control plans, and the City is still waiting to hear back from BNSF.

Pearl St. Water Line, College Ave. to Park Ave. – The City is waiting for KDHE approval to proceed with construction.

GIS Mapping – The City Administrator and Engineer have completed a preliminary draft of a “Request for Proposal” (RFP) for GIS mapping services.

**2. Boundary Resolution:**

Whenever the city limits change due to annexation or de-annexation, a new Boundary Resolution must be approved by the end of the year. In June 2023, the City annexed property located near the northeast corner of 111th Street S. and Webb Road. This property was platted as the “Harvest Point Addition.”

MOTION by Mottola, second by Allen to approve the 2023 Boundary Resolution #2023-7 and authorize the Mayor to sign.

MOTION approved unanimously.

**CITY STAFF**

**City Clerk:** None.

**City Administrator:**

KPP Solar Array Update – Currently KPP is looking at using the City owned land next to the wastewater treatment plant. Even though this property is in the flood plain, KPP does not believe it will be an issue. A LiDAR survey of the property will be conducted to further evaluate the property. Some items of consideration will be the zoning and also approval from FEMA for use of the land. Councilmember Allen asked what the City would gain from this project. KPP will build a 2 MW solar project that will be behind the City meter. This will allow the City to receive a credit to help lower our electric bill.

Support of Homeless Infrastructure Funding in the State Budget – Homelessness continues to be an issue in Sedgwick County and across the state. Representative Leah Howell is requesting the City to be included in a letter of support asking Governor Laura Kelly to put $50 million in her budget for homeless infrastructure. The request is not asking for any financial contribution from the City of Mulvane.

MOTION by Huntley, second by Cardwell for the City of Mulvane to support future State or Federal grant funding for homeless infrastructure.

MOTION approved unanimously.

**City Attorney:**

Update on the Sale of Quad Co. - City Attorney, J. T. Klaus, gave the council an update on making an application to prepay the loan for Quad Co. There have been many obstacles. A copy of the original loan document from 1980 is needed along with numerous certifications. Klaus explained the process would take 180 days to complete, and the lease for any new tenants would need to include notification explaining we could be prepaying our Federal loan and after that time the rent could be raised to either a market rate rent or be asked to be removed from the project. It is preferable to get the documents completed by the end of the year, making the 180 days July 31, 2024 for closing.

Executive Session - City Attorney, J.T. Klaus, requested an Executive Session to discuss matters involving non-elected personnel for a period of ten (10) minutes.

MOTION by Allen, second by Huntley to recess this meeting to an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing matters involving non-elected personnel pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) for the purpose of discussing a personnel issue for a period not to exceed ten (10) minutes to include the Mayor, City Council, City Administrator, and City Attorney and to reconvene in open session at approximately 8:45 p.m.

MOTION approved unanimously at 8:35 p.m.

MOTION by Mottola, second by Cardwell to reconvene the regular meeting of the City Council.

MOTION approved unanimously at 8:45 p.m.

Mayor Steadman advised that no decisions were made during the Executive Session.

City Attorney, J. T. Klaus, asked for clarification of Item #5 on the Consent Agenda. This is for repairs to the Rock Rd. Bridge Abutment Joint due to damage that occurred during the November 25th snowstorm.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

MOTION by ­­­Mottola, second by Westfall to approve consent agenda items 1-7.

1. Payroll dated 12/8/23 - $253,428.32

2. Warrant Register for November - $1,571,614.06

3. Excelsior Blower Systems – Blower for WWTP - $10,560.20

4. Purchase of Sodium Hydroxide and Ferric Chloride from Brenntag - $25,700.00

5. Repairs to Rock Rd. Bridge Abutment Joint – Dondlinger Construction - $34,850.00

6. Purchase of Electrical Supplies from Stanion Wholesale - $29,620.08

7. Purchase of Electrical Supplies from Wesco - $47,441.63 & $15,578.21

MOTION approved unanimously.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS, MEETING, AND NEXT AGENDA ITEMS:**

Next City Council Meeting – Wednesday, January 3, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION by Allen, second by Huntley to adjourn the regular meeting of the Mulvane City Council.

MOTION approved unanimously at 8:47 p.m.

Debra M. Parker

Minutes by:

Debra M. Parker, City Clerk