



MINUTES OF MISSION WOODS CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, December 6, 2022
7:00 p.m.

The City Council of Mission Woods, Kansas met in regular session on Tuesday, December 6, 2022, at the Westwood City Hall.

Members Present: Mayor Darrell Franklin
Council Member Don Greenwell
Council Member Robert Tietze
Council Member Keith Mays
Council Member Carrol Thomas
Council Member Christopher Brent

Others Present: Alex Felzien, City Attorney
Chief Curt Mansell, Chief of Police
Ryan Bowden, Resident
Terry Cooper, Resident
Dana Good, Resident
Matt Good, resident
Katie Luka, Resident
Leslie Carto, resident
Joanie Blair, Resident
Pat Loftus, Resident
Brian Ramza, Resident
Susan Ramza, Resident
John Martin, City Treasurer
J.P. Thurlo, Chief of Police, Fairway, Kansas

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Franklin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was established.

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER MINUTES

There were no comments or changes to the November minutes from the Council. Council Member Tietze moved to approve the minutes and Council Member Greenwell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. (Ayes - IV, Nays - 0).

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER WARRANTS

Member Tietze noted the invoices from Heinen Landscaping for the leaf pickup and stated that leaves are still on the curbs throughout the City. Tietze mentioned that John Sullivan could come back with a street sweep. Mayor Franklin stated he would call Heinen to have them come back out to clean up the remaining leaves. Mayor noted \$1,400 for animal control is an annual charge, which explains why the amount was so high. There were no questions or comments from the Council. Council Member Mays moved to approve the warrants, and Council Member Thomas seconded the motion which passed unanimously. (Ayes - IV; Nays - 0).

IV. REVIEW OF POLICE REPORT

Mayor noted there was not much activity in the City in November, aside from someone hitting the stonewall at Mission Woods Road and Shawnee Mission Parkway. The driver, Mayor noted, has insurance that the City will pursue for reimbursement.

V. Update on Planning Commission Meeting

City Attorney Felzien advised the Council that there is a Planning Commission Meeting set for December 15, 2022, and that an agenda for that meeting would go out sometime before then.

VI. Streetlight Discussion

Mayor Franklin passed out handouts of the two (2) proposed streetlights to be installed on Mission Woods Road. The streetlights being considered would be placed pursuant to the recommendation of the lighting consultants. Mayor Franklin asked for comments from the citizens in attendance. Many residents attended the meeting and expressed support and opposition to the streetlights. In the first series of discussion, residents complained that their street is too dark, and that it is hard to see people walking and the street is difficult to navigate in the darkness. Another resident noted that Day Light Savings may end in 2023, and the City would have children waiting for the bus in the darkness of the early morning hours.

Mayor Franklin then noted that many residents are opposed to new streetlights, and like the lights as they are now. A resident wondered if people could just place lighting on their own homes to help illuminate the street. New city residents stated they like the darker street they moved to. Member Thomas stated that the Council cannot make everyone happy: half will want new lights, half will not want new lights. Mayor Franklin noted that the City is considering dimmer bulbs than other cities use: only 2500 lumen versus the standard 4300 lumen. A resident inquired if the lights could be shielded, to avoid light shining in people's homes. Member Thomas stated that there is a shield on the light in front of her house, but it is not effective in

keeping light out of her home. Several residents stated that they did not want any new streetlights on their property.

The Police Chiefs in attendance stated that light helps prevent crime. There was a discussion on whether the City should do a City-wide survey. Member Tietze noted that nearly everyone on this street was contacted and asked to provide input. It was suggested that these two lights on Mission Woods Road could be the City's pilot program for installing new street lights throughout the City. It was then discussed that the City rents its poles from Evergy, and that Evergy will not allow the City to place its own lights on top of Evergy poles. The Council then discussed "acorn" lights vs. "cobra" lights.

Member Brent then stated that he believes the City Council should lead, and made a motion to approve the placement of two streetlights on Mission Woods Road. This motion was seconded by Council Member Tietze, and passed unanimously. (Ayes - 5; Nays - 0).

VII License Plate Reader Discussion

Chief of Police Curt Mansell, and Chief of Fairway police were present and began discussion regarding license plate readers with the Council regarding new license plate readers ("LPR"). The Chiefs explained that they were in favor of LPRs in the City because it would help solve crime. The Chiefs explained that LPRs do not prevent crime, but help agencies apprehend criminals after the crime has been committed. The Chiefs gave various examples of how LPRs have assisted Kansas City, Missouri police officers.

The Chiefs explained that LPRs operate using artificial intelligence ("AI") to analyze still photos. The photos show every car that has passed by the camera in a given time frame and helps narrow down suspects, for example, when a car is stolen. There is a database that houses all these still images, and agencies across the metro work together to solve crimes that cross city borders. Currently, KCMO has 600 LPRs, while Johnson County has only 80, but that number will expand greatly over 2023.

By obtaining an LPR, the Chiefs explained, the City could become part of the metro-wide system that helps track vehicles related to crime. There are no LPRs planned by Johnson County for Rainbow or State Line Road, meaning there are gaps in the system. Currently, no Johnson County LPRs are planned within the City.

This would allow the City to become part of the metro-wide system that helps track vehicles. KCK and JoCo are building out their systems. The City could help bridge a gap in the planned Johnson County system. Chief Mansell then showed the Council a typical image taken from an LPR.

There were questions from those in attendance regarding privacy rights, and Council Member Brent asked if LPRs could be used to track women who get an abortion, as an example. The Chiefs explained that when someone leaves their home they are most likely videotaped on

many cameras, including Ring Cameras, standard traffic cameras, and security cameras on businesses.

The discussion then turned to the cost to implement an LPR in the City. There is no set cost determined yet, so Council Member Tietze recommended reaching out to a consultant to do an analysis of the City to determine how many LPRs would be beneficial, and the cost to implement them. Mayor Franklin closed the discussion by stating he would contact the consultant for a survey and cost analysis.

VIII. Open For Discussion

Council Member Tietze raised the issue of the condition of the asphalt on the 51st Street cul-de-sac, and Mayor Franklin advised that Dan Miller, engineer on the project, thought the street was "fine." John Sullivan also looked at the street and deferred to Miller's comments on the street. It was decided by the Council to draft a letter to the contractor to come back out and replace the crumbling asphalt on the cul-de-sac.

There was a brief discussion on placing the directory online and Mayor Franklin advised that he is working on that project with Barb Haviland and Keith Mays in January 2023.

Council Member Tietze requested that the meeting agendas be posted online prior to meetings.

IX. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Thomas, which was seconded by Councilmember Greenwell, and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 P.M.