



MINUTES OF MISSION WOODS CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, January 5, 2021
7:00 p.m.

The City Council of Mission Woods, Kansas met in regular session on Tuesday, January 5, 2020 virtually, via Zoom.

Members Present: Mayor Darrell Franklin
Council Member Christopher Brent
Council Member Selina Zapata Bur
Council Member Carrol Thomas
Council Member Lauren Aleshire

Members Absent: Council Member Thomas Clemente

Others Present: Alex Felzien, City Attorney
Police Chief Greg O'Halloran

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Franklin called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. A quorum was established.

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF DECEMBER MINUTES

There were no comments or changes to the December minutes from the Council. Council Member Aleshire moved to approve the minutes and Council Member Brent seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. (Ayes – IV, Nays – 0).

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF DECEMBER WARRANTS

There were no comments or questions. Council Member Aleshire moved to approve the warrants as submitted, Council Member Thomas seconded the motion which passed unanimously. (Ayes – IV; Nays – 0).

IV. Review of Police Report

Mayor Franklin commented this was a brief police report. Chief O'Halloran was present to answer any questions the Council had. Chief mentioned recent traffic enforcement on 50th Terrace involving his department, as well as donations made by his department to members of the Johnson County community.

V. SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS TOWER UPDATE

City Attorney Felzien advised the Council that Sprint has not yet made contact with KU Med regarding the communications tower contract. Sprint has informed the City that it believes KU Med is an essential party to the contract. Felzien further advised that he plans to contact Sprint monthly and keep the Council apprised of any developments.

VI. ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Franklin then turned to the annual appointment of City officers. Mayor Franklin appointed Shelley Floyd to the position of City Clerk, John Martin to the position of City Treasurer, Mauer Law Firm to the position of City Attorney, Police Chief Greg O'Halloran to City Marshall, and Timothy Turner to position of Municipal Judge. There were no questions or discussion on the appointments. Council Member Thomas moved to approve the Mayor's appointments, and Council Member Aleshire seconded the motion which passed unanimously. (Ayes – IV; Nays – 0).

Next, Mayor Franklin brought forth his appointments for the City's Architectural Review Board ("ARB"). Mayor Franklin appointed Ryan Bowden as Chair, Erin Lowery, Janet McCarter, Tara Light, and Sara Chaffee to the ARB. Mayor Franklin mentioned that he reviewed his appointments with the ARB Chairman, Ryan Bowden. Bowden agreed to serve as ARB Chairman for another year. Mayor Franklin then mentioned the two new citizens up for appointment, Ms. Light and Ms. Chaffee, both have experience in design and architecture. There were no comments or questions from the Council, and Council Member Bur moved to approve the Mayor's appointments, which Council Member Thomas seconded. The motion passed unanimously. (Ayes – IV; Nays – 0).

Mayor then appointed Council Member Aleshire as Council President for 2021. Council Member Bur made a motion to approve Council Member Aleshire as Council President, which Council Thomas seconded. The motion passed unanimously. (Ayes – IV; Nays – 0).

VII. GOVERNMENT ENFORCEMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT

City Attorney Felzien explained the nature of the agreement to the Council. The agreement calls for Mission Woods Police Department to assist the Johnson County Health Department in enforcing the County's health order requiring social distancing, among other public health initiatives. and how it would be the enforced through the City police department.

Chief O'Halloran explained his and other departments will focus on education before enforcement of the Health Order. Chief further explained he appreciated Johnson County running this program because it meant the Health Order will be uniformly applied throughout the County.

Council Member Aleshire moved to approve the agreement, which Council Member Brent seconded. The motion passed unanimously. (Ayes – IV; Nays – 0).

VIII. DISCUSSION OF SHORT TERM RENTALS

Mayor Franklin then turned the discussion to short term rental properties in Mission Woods. Mayor Franklin mentioned a resident approached him about the possibility of short term rentals changing the nature of Mission Woods. City Attorney Felzien explained how other cities have addressed the issue of short term rentals, including regulation of the industry by requiring business licenses and other requirements of the homeowner. Council Member Aleshire mentioned that this issue was addressed by a previous Council and no action was taken.

Chief O'Halloran mentioned he has seen cities require the homeowner to be present with the lessees in the home, the homeowner be required to publish noise ordinances within the home, and for the homeowner to require their guests to park off the street. Council Member Thomas mentioned she believed a majority of the residents would not be in favor of short term rentals and suggested the City put the issue to the residents for a vote. Council Member Bur urged caution, mentioning that homeowners may have property rights the City should respect.

Mayor Franklin stated that he would reach out to surrounding Mayors to see how their respective cities have addressed this issue. Mayor Franklin tabled this issue until the February Council meeting.

IX. UPDATE ON PROJECT CONNECTED COMMUNITY SIDEWALKS

Mayor Franklin mentioned that he and Council Member Bur met with the owner of the 1968 Building regarding the proposed sidewalk project along Shawnee Mission Parkway. Mayor reported the owner had no objection to the project and would consider granting the City a wider easement if needed. Mayor Franklin and Council Member Bur then met with the Kansas Department of Transportation, who were agreeable to giving the City access to KDOT right of way to construct the sidewalks. Mayor Franklin explained that he and Council Member Bur have now met with all the property owners, they will now circle back with KU Medical Center regarding their willingness to give the City a larger easement to construct the sidewalks. Lastly, Mayor Franklin explained the City will work on the application for 50% of construction costs, and further work on securing additional funding for the project.

X. Bike Walk KC

Council Member Aleshire explained she recently met with Bike Walk KC regarding safety on Rainbow Boulevard. Aleshire stated that the City of Westwood has gone through a “complete streets” project that has made Belinder Avenue safer, and Aleshire reached out to the Westwood Council to get a sense of the process to start a “complete streets” project on Rainbow Boulevard. Aleshire was told a collaboration with Kansas City, Kansas, Westwood, Westwood Hills and Mission Woods would be necessary for a comprehensive project along Rainbow Boulevard. The policy director of Bike Walk KC will be inquiring what is needed from each city

to show interest in the project. There was then a discussion of the improvements along Belinder Avenue and 47th Avenue.

XI. Miscellaneous

Council Member Bur mentioned she has been approached twice by dogs that have been off leash. Mayor Franklin explained the City has a lease law. Chief O'Halloran said animal control services would respond to a call regarding this, as would his department. Mayor Franklin said he will include this issue in his January newsletter to residents.

Council Member Aleshire mentioned pop up exercise classes that have been happening at Karbank parking lots. She explained that the lady teaching the classes is an individual that has likely contracted with the Karbank building to use that space. Council Member Thomas has not heard any noise or disturbance coming from the outdoor classes.

Council Member Thomas mentioned vehicles parked in church's meeting house have been parking on the grass around the meeting house's driveway. Council Member Thomas called the police to address the lawn-parking. The police officer informed Council Member Thomas that people can park on their lawns if they choose too, and that it is not in violation of City Code. Council Member Thomas suggested the Council address this issue moving forward.

Council Member Brent then mentioned powerlines within the City, and the prospect of the City burying the power lines for safety and aesthetic reasons. Mayor Franklin explained this was a passion project of former Mayor David Patzman, who explored this option in or around 2005. The estimated cost for the project was over a million dollars in 2005. Mayor Franklin asked the Council to consider this and potentially address this issue in a later meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 P.M.