

**CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF PRAIRIE VILLAGE
APRIL 5, 2021**

The City Council of Prairie Village, Kansas, met in regular session on Monday, April 5, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Councilmembers attended a virtual meeting via the Zoom software platform. Mayor Mikkelson presided.

ROLL CALL

Roll was called by the City Clerk with the following Councilmembers in attendance remotely via Zoom: Jori Nelson, Inga Selders, Ron Nelson, Tucker Poling, Bonnie Limbird, Sheila Myers, Piper Reimer, Dan Runion, Courtney McFadden, Ian Graves and Terrence Gallagher. Staff present via Zoom: Byron Roberson, Chief of Police; Keith Bredehoeft, Public Works Director; City Attorney David Waters, attorney with Lathrop & Gage; Wes Jordan, City Administrator; Jamie Robichaud, Deputy City Administrator; Tim Schwartzkopf, Assistant City Administrator; Meghan Buum, Assistant City Administrator; Nickie Lee, Finance Director; Adam Geffert, City Clerk.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Limbird made a motion to approve the agenda for April 5, 2021. Ms. Reimer seconded the motion, which passed 11-0.

PRESENTATIONS

Mindy Corporon, President of the Faith Always Wins Foundation, shared information about SevenDays, an annual series of events demonstrating how hatred, bigotry and ignorance could be overcome by kindness, respect and understanding. Mayor Mikkelson read a proclamation declaring April 13 - 25 as SevenDays Week 2021 in Prairie Village.

Teen Council members Macy Cherra and Sydney Newton gave a presentation on how local businesses had been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, and shared suggestions on how residents could continue to support them.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No requests to address the Council were received.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Mikkelson asked if there were any items to remove from the consent agenda for discussion.



1. Approval of regular City Council meeting minutes - March 15, 2021
2. Consider pool painting bids
3. Consider Change Order #2 with McCownGordon for the GMP for construction of the Public Works facility (BG700002)

Mrs. McFadden made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. A roll call vote was taken with the following votes cast: “aye”: J. Nelson, Selders, R. Nelson, Poling, Limbird, Myers, Reimer, Runion, McFadden, Graves, Gallagher. The motion passed 11-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Environmental Committee**

COU2021-35 Consider revisions to Council Policy 001

Mr. Graves first gave an update on the Environmental Committee’s recent activities, noting that it had met the prior week to discuss several topics, including the “Mayors’ monarch pledge”, an effort to improve the habitat of butterflies and other pollinators.

Mr. Graves added that members had shared concern with the current timing of meetings, particularly in relation to events that the committee took part in, such as Earth Day and VillageFest. He stated that members agreed that meeting 10 times per year, rather than every other month, would be beneficial moving forward. Making such a change would require modifications to Council Policy 001, which laid out guidelines for committees.

Ms. Limbird made a motion to approve the revision to Council Policy 001 as presented. Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion, which passed 11-0.

- **Mrs. Myers made a motion to amend section III-e of Council Policy 001, adding the words “and reappointments” to the last sentence:**

For Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals, the selection committee will consist of the Mayor, Planning Commission Council Liaison, Deputy City Administrator, Planning Consultant, and Council President. The selection committee will recommend appointments and reappointments to the Mayor.

Mr. Nelson seconded the motion, which passed 11-0.

- Mr. Runion stated that the Police Pension Committee was given its annual presentation by an actuary, and would hold a special meeting on April 15 to discuss funding options.



- Ms. Limbird reported that the fourth annual Art of Photography juried competition went live on April 2. The artwork could be viewed at <http://artspv.org>.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- The Mayor noted that the Niche website had rated Prairie Village the #1 suburb in both Kansas and the Kansas City metropolitan area for 2021, as well as the 27th best suburb in the United States.
- The Mayor provided an update on the COVID-19 pandemic, noting that the Johnson County Health Department recently stated that all residents 16 and older would be eligible to receive a vaccine by mid-May. He added that 20% of County residents had already been vaccinated, including 80% of those 65 and older. Lastly, virus trends were heading downward, and the County's social distance and mask requirements remained in effect until April 30.
- The Mayor stated the City was still waiting on details about COVID-relief funding from the federal government. Spending restrictions and guidelines had still not been finalized.
- A law repealing the state's "tax lid" had been passed by the Kansas legislature and signed by the Governor.
- The Mayor noted that a solar panel array was installed on the new Public Works building, which was expected to open in the late summer.
- The Mayor and City staff attended the retirement ceremony for Fire Chief Tony Lopez of Consolidated Fire District #2. Steve Chick was appointed as the new chief.
- The Mayor stated that he would co-chair the next MARC First Suburbs Coalition meeting on April 16.
- The Mayor said he would attend the second Johnson County Charter Commission meeting on April 12.
- The Mayor noted the next Prairie Village Foundation meeting would be held April 14.
- The Mayor shared that Bird scooters would soon be deployed in Prairie Village.
- The annual large-item trash pickup would begin on Saturday, April 10. The collection would be held over the course of four weekends in different areas of the City. Information about recycling was shared through the City's social media accounts, the website and the Village Voice.

STAFF REPORTS

- Mr. Jordan shared that Governor Kelly had signed SB 13, eliminating the "tax lid", and that Ms. Lee was reviewing how the new regulations would affect the City. He added that he would contact Chief Chick about giving Council a quarterly fire report in the future. Mr. Jordan stated the 2022 budget process was underway, and a line-by-line review of department budgets would be taking place throughout the week. Lastly, Mr. Jordan noted that he planned to begin sending Councilmembers an update report on items included in the monthly plan of action.



- Ms. Buum said that enrollment had opened for two tennis programs the previous week: lessons provided by the Johnson County Parks and Recreation District at Harmon Park, and the City's Junior Tennis League. She noted that the first of two walk-and-read programs was underway in Franklin Park, in conjunction with the Johnson County Library. Lastly, a blood drive would be held on April 20 and 21.
- Chief Roberson reported that the Police Department had started a new unmanned aerial vehicle (drone) program. The program would be used for purposes such as searching for missing individuals and fleeing suspects, as well as for accident reconstruction and crowd monitoring.
- Mr. Bredehoeft said that the final steps of the culvert replacement at 71st Street and Mission Road were nearly finished. He added that the skate park replacement project had begun, and that Public Works staff were working to address concerns of residents surrounding the new Public Works building.

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Myers asked that Council consider returning to in-person meetings due to recent encouraging news about the pandemic. She moved that Council resume in-person meetings in June. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gallagher.

Mr. Jordan noted that video technology currently being installed in the Council Chambers would allow for both in-person and remote attendance simultaneously. Additional information would be shared at an upcoming meeting.

After further discussion, Mrs. Myers modified her motion, asking staff to come back to Council with a plan for resuming in-person meetings with flexibility for Councilmembers who would not feel comfortable attending in person. Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion, which passed 10-1, with Ms. Nelson in opposition.

Mr. Runion shared comments about Police Pension Plan funding, affirming his support of a larger contribution from the City.

NEW BUSINESS

COU2021-36

Consider adding new historic trail signage in Prairie Village

Mr. Bredehoeft stated that the trail signage concept was initially presented to the Council Committee of the Whole for discussion in October 2020, at which time it was recommended to be brought to City Council for final approval. In the interim, staff researched how the development of the historic trails affected Native American populations that were already residing in the area at the time. The proposed signs would include QR Code links to an interactive website providing additional information about this impact. Mr. Bredehoeft

stated that staff would bring back final details about the sign design and language at a future meeting.

Mr. Poling made a motion to approve the purchase and installation of the historical trail signage at an approximate cost of \$6,000.00. Ms. Nelson seconded the motion, which passed 11-0.

COU2021-37 Consider agreement with Johnson County for enforcement of County Health Order

Mr. Waters said that in November 2020, the Johnson County Board of Public Health adopted a health order that included social distancing requirements and gathering limitations. As part of the order, several cities entered into agreements with the County allowing it to enforce the order within their borders. The City Council approved the agreement for Prairie Village at its December 7, 2020 meeting.

On March 25, 2021, the original order expired, and a new order was issued. The new order did not contain mass gathering limitations, but did include social distancing and facemask requirements through April 30, 2021, unless otherwise amended, revoked or replaced. Since the previous agreement only allowed for County enforcement of the original health order, a new agreement needed to be approved by the Council in order for the County to continue enforcing the order within city limits.

Mrs. McFadden made a motion to approve the government enforcement services agreement for Johnson County local health officer orders and County Board of Health orders. A roll call vote was taken with the following votes cast: “aye”: J. Nelson, Selders, R. Nelson, Poling, Limbird, Myers, Reimer, Runion, McFadden, Graves, Gallagher. The motion passed 11-0.

COU2021-38 Consider 2021-22 Insurance renewals

Ms. Lee stated that insurance renewal costs were originally anticipated to increase by as much as 10%, but in actuality would only go up by 3.72% over the prior year’s premium. The only significant change was an increase in the deductible for hail damage, from \$50,000 to \$100,000, based on a recommendation from the insurance broker. The Insurance Committee had reviewed the proposal and recommended approval of the renewal of all of the City’s insurance needs with Travelers and HDI Specialty for the coverage year May 2021 to May 2022.

Mrs. Myers made a motion to approve the insurance renewal policy and rates with Travelers and HDI Specialty at a renewal rate not to exceed \$373,394 for the upcoming coverage year. Ms. Reimer seconded the motion, which passed 11-0.



Consider approval of 2022 budget requests:

- **VillageFest**

Mrs. McFadden stated that the committee anticipated returning to a more traditional event in 2022, under the assumption that the pandemic would be less of a factor. The committee requested to maintain its \$20,000 allocation, as 2022 income and expenses were projected to be similar to those incurred in previous years. Any increased charges or additions to the festival would be accommodated through Prairie Village Foundation funding.

Mr. Nelson made a motion to approve the budget request as presented. Mr. Graves seconded the motion, which passed 11-0.

- **JazzFest**

J.D. Kinney said that the committee was continuing to explore the possibility of holding an event in 2021 on the Saturday after Labor Day. Revenue from the event would likely be lower due to the pandemic, however.

Mr. Kinney added that the committee anticipated that the 2022 event would be similar to those held in past years, and as such, again requested funding of \$10,000.

Ms. Limbird made a motion to approve the budget request as presented. Mrs. McFadden seconded the motion, which passed 11-0.

- **Arts Council**

Ms. Limbird said that although the Arts Council's 2022 budget had not yet been finalized due to the uncertainty of COVID impacts on regular events, the group was requesting \$14,500 in funding, as it had for the past several years.

Mr. Gallagher made a motion to approve the budget request as presented. Mr. Nelson seconded the motion, which passed 11-0.

- **Diversity Committee**

Ms. Selders stated that as a new committee, the Diversity Committee was just beginning to consider community outreach plans that would require funding for both 2021 and 2022. Initiatives supported through the budget could potentially include training, town hall meetings, art, education, and festivals. Ms. Selders said that the committee requested funding in the amount of \$10,000 for 2022.

Ms. Limbird made a motion to approve the budget request as presented. Mr. Nelson seconded the motion, which passed 11-0.



- **Environmental Committee**

Mr. Graves said that the committee was requesting \$8,000 for 2022, as it had in previous years. He noted that new ways to utilize funds had been discussed at recent meetings. Considerations included a native plant sale on Earth Day, a recycling drop-off event, stream cleanup and collaboration with other organizations on joint environmental initiatives.

Mr. Poling made a motion to approve the budget request as presented. Mr. Nelson seconded the motion, which passed 11-0.

- **2022 Decision packages**

Ms. Lee shared a preliminary list of decision packages that had already been received:

- New Public Works Employee
- Civic Center Feasibility Study
- Sustainability Grants
- Energy Efficiency Audit Implementations
- Five-Year Salary Survey
- Police Department Canine Unit
- Carbon Emissions Tracking Services
- Annual Diversity Training
- Exterior Grant Program
- Building Permit Software

She noted that the requests would next be vetted by the Finance Committee on April 22, and then returned back to the full Council in May to be voted on individually.

Mr. Nelson made a motion that the City Council move to the Council Committee of the Whole portion of the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gallagher and passed 11-0.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Discuss the 2021 Prairie Village pool complex modified opening plan

Ms. Buom said that City Staff had developed tentative plans for a modified operating structure in response to the COVID-19 pandemic based on guidelines set by the Johnson County Department of Health and Environment (JDHE) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). She shared six protocol categories that would be followed to allow the pool to operate safely:

1. Gathering size - set capacity limit of 400 patrons at any given time



2. Patron compliance - assistant managers responsible for ensuring safety protocols being observed by customers; entries counted by front-desk staff
3. Social distancing - separation of deck chairs; occupancy limits in shared spaces; one-way entry and exit
4. Masking - mask guidelines based on county regulations; masks available for patrons if needed
5. Signs and messages - Posting of CDC-developed signage and regular announcements over the public address system
6. Cleaning and sanitizing - frequently touched surfaces cleaned regularly; hand sanitizer stations placed throughout the pool complex

Ms. Buum noted that the protocols could change based on updates to the county health order.

Mrs. Myers asked if residents would be given prioritized entry in light of the capacity limits. Ms. Buum said that in past seasons, an average of 575 patrons came to the pool daily, approximately 275 of which were residents. Based on those numbers, the capacity limit would be unlikely to impact resident attendance. Ms. Buum added that the City would not be participating in the “superpass” program in 2021, which would also likely limit attendance.

Discussion and consideration of new residential sustainability grant program

Ms. Robichaud stated that at the January 4, 2021 City Council meeting, the Council approved a motion to roll over remaining funds from the 2020 Exterior Grant Program in the amount of \$20,000 and apply those funds to a new sustainability grant program that would be developed by staff and brought back to the Council at a later date. Since that time, staff conducted research and developed a grant proposal for the City Council’s consideration. The grant would be available to all one and two-family dwellings in the City to make energy efficiency improvements.

The grant program proposal would require all energy efficiency improvements to be in compliance with the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code, the most recent building code standards available to measure energy-efficiency.

Ms. Robichaud shared a summary of the proposed participation requirements:

- No appraised value maximum to be eligible to participate
- 20% match from the City with a minimum investment by the property owner of \$2,500
- The maximum City match would total \$2,500
- All applications would be submitted to the Codes Department, then reviewed by the Building Official for compliance with the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code
- Eligible projects would include the following:



- A home energy audit by a certified auditor
- Solar installations
- Wind power installations
- Energy-efficient HVAC or water heater
- Energy-efficient windows or doors
- Insulation
- Geothermal heating and cooling
- Duct sealing
- Homeowners would only be eligible to receive grant funding through the program once every 10 years
- No code violations would be allowed in order to receive grant funding

Ms. Nelson made a motion to recommend approval of the grant program to the City Council as presented. Ms. Reimer seconded the motion.

Ms. Selders made a motion to amend the motion limiting eligible properties to owner-occupied homes with an appraisal value under \$500,000. Ms. Limbird seconded the motion.

Mr. Nelson moved to amend the motion to amend, by raising the maximum appraisal value to \$1,000,000. There was no second for the motion.

The motion to amend the motion failed 10-1, with all but Ms. Selders in opposition.

The original motion passed 10-1, with Mrs. Myers in opposition.

Ms. Nelson moved that the City Council end the Council Committee of the Whole portion of the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Reimer and passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements were included in the Council meeting packet.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Limbird made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Poling, and passed 11-0.

Mayor Mikkelsen declared the meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Adam Geffert
City Clerk