



**CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF PRAIRIE VILLAGE  
DECEMBER 19, 2022**

The City Council of Prairie Village, Kansas, met in regular session on Monday, December 19, at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Mikkelson presided.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll was called by the City Clerk with the following Councilmembers in attendance: Chad Herring, Cole Robinson, Inga Selders (via Zoom), Ron Nelson, Lauren Wolf, Bonnie Limbird, Dave Robinson, Piper Reimer, Greg Shelton, Courtney McFadden, Ian Graves and Terrence Gallagher. Staff present: Byron Roberson, Chief of Police; Keith Bredehoeft, Director of Public Works; City Attorney David Waters, attorney with Spencer Fane LLP; Wes Jordan, City Administrator; Nickie Lee, Deputy City Administrator; Tim Schwartzkopf, Assistant City Administrator; Meghan Buom, Assistant City Administrator; Jason Hannaman, Finance Director; Adam Geffert, City Clerk.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mr. Nelson made a motion to approve the agenda for December 19, 2022 as presented. Mr. Dave Robinson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**INTRODUCTION OF STUDENTS AND SCOUTS**

There were no students or scouts present at the meeting.

**PRESENTATIONS**

None

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- Jim Cosentino, 6235 Ash Street, Mission, KS, shared his support for retaining the existing handball courts at the YMCA if a new civic center facility were to be constructed.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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



1. Consider approval of regular City Council meeting minutes - December 5, 2022
2. Consider approval of expenditure ordinance #3021
3. Consider reappointment of City Clerk

**Mr. Nelson made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. A roll call vote was taken with the following votes cast: “aye”: Herring, C. Robinson, Selders, Nelson, Wolf, Limbird, D. Robinson, Reimer, Shelton, McFadden, Graves, Gallagher. The motion passed unanimously.**

After approval, Mayor Mikkelson swore-in Adam Geffert as City Clerk.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Ad Hoc Civic Center Committee

COU2022-82      Consider memorandum of understanding with the YMCA to collaborate in studying the market feasibility of building a community center

The City of Prairie Village, in partnership with the YMCA of Greater Kansas City and Johnson County Library, had previously entered into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to conduct a market feasibility study to measure community support for building a new YMCA / community recreation center and library. The study was completed by the Wiese Research Group and presented to Council in January 2020. As staff was preparing for the next steps of the project, the COVID pandemic occurred, and the Council elected to place the project on hold.

Due to the length of time since the completion of the original study, Wiese recommended elements of the survey specific to the civic center be completed again to reaffirm community support, though questions related to the library would not be included. As a result, another MOU with the YMCA was needed to share the costs of the survey again.

The total sample size for the phone portion of the 2019 study was 400 respondents across the entire market area, which the Ad Hoc Civic Center Committee proposed again for the new survey. In addition, a supplemental sample of those living within the city limits of Prairie Village would be surveyed online, providing approximately 600 additional respondents. Residents would be invited to participate via a mailed postcard containing a link to the web-based survey.

Committee Chair Mr. Graves stated that the committee met on November 14 to discuss the survey. He noted that the new survey was essentially the same as the one conducted previously in 2019. The committee voted to approve the MOU with the YMCA and utilize Wiese to perform the survey again.



**Mr. Graves made a motion to approve the proposed MOU with the YMCA to collaborate in conducting a second market feasibility study for a cost not to exceed \$34,000. The motion was seconded by Ms. Limbird.**

Mr. Gallagher asked why the survey included residents from outside of the City. Mr. Graves said that to be sustainable, the proposed facility would need to be used by residents in surrounding communities along with those in Prairie Village.

Mr. Shelton proposed adding a question at the end of the survey to determine how respondents would feel about the project if the YMCA was or was not involved, to better determine the desire for a community center, regardless of what entity operated it. Cathy Morrissey from Wiese Research Group said that to accurately compare the results of the new survey with the original one performed in 2019, the questions should be consistent, and that the previous survey specifically identified the YMCA as the operating partner.

Several Councilmembers shared concerns about explicitly naming the YMCA as a partner in the project, as well as the cost of the survey and the limited number of participants. Mr. Dave Robinson suggested the point of the survey was simply to determine whether the community was supportive of a civic center, which the proposed survey could answer.

**After further discussion, Mr. Nelson made a motion to amend the original motion to include a question at the end of the survey regarding respondents' impressions of the YMCA, and whether partnering with the agency on a community center would impact their support. Mr. Shelton seconded the motion.**

Mark Hulet, Chief Operating Officer for the YMCA of Greater Kansas City, stated that the YMCA was interested in partnering with the City, but survey data was essential to determine whether it was worth pursuing the project.

**After additional discussion, a roll call vote on the motion to amend the original motion was taken with the following votes cast: "aye": Herring, C. Robinson, Nelson, Limbird, D. Robinson, Reimer, Shelton, Graves; "nay": Selders, Wolf, McFadden, Gallagher. The motion to amend passed 8-4.**

**A roll call vote on the original motion as amended was taken with the following votes cast: "aye": Herring, Nelson, Limbird, D. Robinson, Reimer, Shelton, Graves; "nay": C. Robinson, Selders, Wolf, McFadden, Gallagher. The original motion as amended passed 7-5.**

- Ms. Limbird noted that the 2023 Arts Council event calendar had been included in the meeting packet.



## PRAIRIE VILLAGE KANSAS

- Ms. Reimer said that the Environmental Committee met on December 14 to consider projects for 2023. She added that the annual native plant sale would not take place in 2023 because sponsor Deep Roots planned to hold the event in a different city in the region.
- Mr. Dave Robinson shared information about “Candy Cane Lane”, a Prairie Village holiday fixture at 79<sup>th</sup> Street and Outlook Lane since 1958.
- Mr. Gallagher stated the Parks and Recreation Committee met to review the park signage and branding plan, which would be brought before the Council in January.
- Ms. Selders provided information about an upcoming Martin Luther King, Jr., celebration on January 14.

### **MAYOR’S REPORT**

- The Mayor stated he had attended the following events since the prior Council meeting:
  - The Johnson County / Wyandotte County Mayors annual dinner
  - The Northeast Johnson County Mayors annual holiday lunch
  - D.A.R.E. graduations at five elementary schools in Prairie Village
  - The City’s committee volunteer appreciation dinner
  - A ribbon-cutting event for the new CareNow urgent care facility in the Village Shopping Center
  - A Mission Hills holiday lunch with staff
  - The City’s staff appreciation lunch
- The Mayor also shared the following information:
  - The Shawnee Mission East bowling team had won the state championship
  - Increasing numbers of COVID, flu and RSV cases were straining area hospitals
  - Residents could still sign-up through the end of the year to be committee volunteers
  - The Prairie Village Foundation had received a large number of donations, and that final numbers would be shared in January
- The Mayor noted the following upcoming events:
  - A Police Academy graduation on December 21, including two new Prairie Village officers
  - Several meetings with county and state legislators
  - The NAACP Martin Luther King, Jr., annual dinner on January 16
- Lastly, the Mayor said that the January 3 City Council meeting would likely be cancelled due to a lack of agenda items



### **STAFF REPORTS**

- Mr. Jordan said that he had recently spoken with Scott Jones, the new Senior Community Business Manager with Evergy.
- Chief Roberson provided a summary of the “Shop with a Cop” and “Tip a Cop” events. He also noted that the City would be receiving a \$75,000 grant from the Department of Justice to be used for technology and training.
- Mr. Bredehoeft noted that Public Works crews were preparing for forecasted winter weather later in the week.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business to come before the Council.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

COU2022-83      Consider 2023 exterior grant program changes

Ms. Lee stated that at the December 5 Council Committee of the Whole meeting, the committee requested that the sustainability and exterior grant programs be separated into two separate action items. During the discussion, the committee agreed with staff's recommendations to make the recommended changes summarized below.

Further, the committee requested the addition of language regarding the possibility of reimbursement for rental equipment used by homeowners for projects. Ms. Lee noted that reimbursements for large rental equipment expenses had been handled on a case-by-case basis in the past. She stated that if Council wished to specifically include the cost for rental equipment as an allowable reimbursable expense, staff recommended including the following language: “reimbursement of rental equipment may be reimbursed per review of the Codes Department, for a maximum of 10% of the total project cost.” Lastly, she noted that staff would continue to explore marketing opportunities for grant programs.

The following changes were recommended for 2023:

- Increase the appraised value maximum for the 2023 exterior grant program from \$350,000 to \$375,000
- Move the application process to the OpenGov online cloud-based platform (in-person applicants would be assisted with submitting applications on a computer at the Codes Department)
- Increase the City's percentage match from 20% to 25%
- Decrease the minimum homeowner investment from \$2,500 to \$2,000
- Open the program on February 1 and extend the number of days to complete the project from 120 to 180 to allow additional time to complete projects



- Reallocate the unused 2022 exterior grant funds (estimated to be \$15,997) to the 2023 exterior grant program, increasing the 2023 budget to \$90,000

Mrs. McFadden made a motion to approve the recommended changes to the 2023 exterior grant program as outlined. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wolf.

Ms. Selders made a motion to amend the motion and include language stating the reimbursement of rental equipment may be reimbursed per review of the Codes Department, for a maximum of 10% of the total project cost. Ms. Limbird seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The original motion as amended passed unanimously.

COU2022-84          Consider 2023 residential sustainability grant program changes

Ms. Lee said that at the December 5 Council Committee of the Whole meeting, the committee agreed with staff's recommendations to make the changes summarized below to the residential sustainability program. Further, the committee requested the addition of language regarding the possibility of reimbursement for rental equipment used by homeowners for projects.

Ms. Lee noted that like the exterior grant program, reimbursements for large rental equipment expenses had been handled on a case-by-case basis in the past. She stated that if Council would like to specifically include the cost for rental equipment as an allowable reimbursable expense, staff recommended including the following language: "reimbursement of rental equipment may be reimbursed per review of the Codes Department, for a maximum of 10% of the total project cost."

In addition, she stated that staff would work with the Environmental Committee and/or the sustainability coordination group to take a closer look at the program and find further opportunities for improvement and would continue to explore marketing opportunities for grant programs.

Staff recommends the following changes for 2023:

- Move the application process to the OpenGov online cloud-based platform (in-person applicants would be assisted with submitting applications on a computer at the Codes Department)
- Increase the City's percentage match from 20% to 25%
- Decrease the minimum homeowner investment from \$2,500 to \$2,000
- Add an insulation-only project option to the sustainability grant program, allowing for smaller projects with a 50% match for a minimum of \$1,000 spent
- Open the program on February 1 and extend the number of days to complete the project from 120 to 180 to allow additional time to complete projects



- Keep the program budget at \$30,000, as originally specified in the 2023 budget

Mrs. McFadden made a motion to approve the recommended changes to the 2023 residential sustainability grant program as outlined. The motion was seconded by Mr. Herring.

Mr. Graves made a motion to amend the motion and include language stating the reimbursement of rental equipment may be reimbursed per review of the Codes Department, for a maximum of 10% of the total project cost. Ms. Selders seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The original motion as amended passed unanimously.

COU2022-85      Consider election of 2023 Council President

Mayor Mikkelson said that traditionally, the longest serving Councilmember who had not yet served as Council President was elected to the position each year. He noted that Mr. Nelson had served on the City Council since January 2018 and recommended that the Council ratify his election as Council President.

Mr. Herring made a motion to ratify the election of Ron Nelson as the new Council President. The motion was seconded by Mrs. McFadden and passed unanimously.

### **COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

There was no business to come before the Council Committee of the Whole.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Announcements were included in the Council meeting packet.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Mikkelson declared the meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Adam Geffert  
City Clerk