



**CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF PRAIRIE VILLAGE
JANUARY 17, 2023**

The City Council of Prairie Village, Kansas, met in regular session on Tuesday, January 17 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, Ron Nelson, Lauren Wolf (via Zoom), 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

Mayor Mikkelson noted that Consolidated Fire District #2 Chief Steve Chick, who was scheduled to speak during staff reports, was unable to attend the meeting.

Mr. Gallagher made a motion to approve the amended agenda for January 17, 2023. 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

Tyler Riordan, Municipal Sales Manager at Republic Services, provided an update on solid waste services in the City. He stated that several new drivers had been hired, and that the group that handled Prairie Village trash and recycling was nearly fully staffed again. After his presentation concluded, Mr. Riordan answered questions from residents in attendance.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The following residents voiced concerns regarding certain proposals recommended by the Ad Hoc Housing Committee.



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- Bill Watson, 7877 Howe Circle
- Chet Hanson, 4620 W. 72nd Street
- Jori Nelson, 4802 W. 69th Terrace
- Geoff Alston, 7853 Howe Circle
- Pam Justus, 7627 Chadwick Street
- Peter Greig, 5209 W. 67th Street
- Whitney Kerr, 4020 W. 86th Street
- Tom Clough, 8510 Delmar Lane
- Betsy Hornbeck, 3631 Somerset Drive
- Pete Runyan, 5215 W. 77th Terrace
- Russell French, 4027 W. 72nd Terrace
- Jim McGrath, 7178 Buena Vista Street
- Tom Ward, 22 Coventry Court
- Nikki McCray, 2401 W. 71st Street
- Michael Levin, 4927 W. 88th Street
- Lupe Sabates, 8011 Fontana Street

Barbara Cantrell, 8236 Nall Avenue, speaking on behalf of Bridget Ismert, 4511 W. 72nd Terrace, asked why the Kansas state flag was no longer flying outside of City Hall. Mr. Bredehoeft said that he would contact Ms. Ismert with information.

Doug Luther, 5621 W. 78th Street, spoke in opposition to the proposal to allow Councilmembers to participate in the City's health, dental and vision insurance plans with the same cost sharing as full-time City employees.

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 19, 2022
2. Consider approval of expenditure ordinance #3022
3. Consider appointment to Arts Council
4. Consider agreement with the Kansas City Crime Commission for the 2023 TIPS Hotline Crime Stoppers Program
5. Consider interlocal agreement with Johnson County for project DRAIN-22X: Canterbury Drive and Village Drive drainage pipe replacement locations
6. Consider interlocal agreement with Johnson County for project DRAIN-22X: Windsor Street drainage pipe replacement
7. Consider approval of 2023 agreement with the Johnson County Parks and Recreation District
8. Consider approval of the 2023 SuperPass interlocal agreement and swim meet letter of understanding



Ms. Limbird 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.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Ms. Limbird stated that a First Suburbs Coalition meeting would be held on January 20. She also noted that the Arts Council had a new exhibit on display at City Hall that would remain in place until early March.
- Mr. Cole Robinson shared that the Diversity Committee had co-sponsored the second-annual Martin Luther King, Jr. event held at Village Presbyterian Church on January 14, which had over 400 attendees. He also noted that the committee would host a “town hall” event on February 25 at the Meadowbrook Park clubhouse, and that it would be working with United Community Services of Johnson County to develop a formal strategic plan for future efforts.

Mr. Robinson also reported that the police pension fund had finished the year down approximately 15.8% due to the difficult economic climate, but that it had returned roughly 6.5% annually over the past decade. He added that the Pension Committee would be meeting with an actuary in the second quarter to determine if changes needed to be made to the plan.

- Ms. Reimer said that the Teen Council met with the Mayor for a learning session prior to the meeting, and that there would be other sessions scheduled in the coming months. She also noted that she and Mr. Shelton would meet on January 18 with an applicant for the Sustainability Program Manager position.
- Mr. Dave Robinson said that the Insurance Committee met the prior week and were given a mid-year review presentation from Hub, the City’s insurance broker.

MAYOR’S REPORT

- The Mayor stated he had attended the following events since the prior Council meeting:
 - Several meetings with individual Northeast Johnson County legislators to discuss the City’s 2023 legislative platform
 - The League of Kansas Municipalities’ “Local Government Day” on January
 - A Mid-America Regional Council Board meeting
 - A United Community Services of Johnson County board meeting
 - A Johnson County / Wyandotte County Mayors dinner with local legislators



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- The Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration at Village Presbyterian Church, at which both Ms. Selders and the Mayor were given DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) awards
 - A second Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration hosted by the Olathe Chapter of the NAACP
- The Mayor also shared the following information:
 - The real estate website Zillow named Prairie Village the “most popular city” in the United States
- The Mayor noted the following upcoming events:
 - The Northeast Johnson County Chamber of Commerce’s “State of the Cities” luncheon on January 18
 - The League of Kansas Municipalities’ “Local Government Day” on January 25 in Topeka
 - A Prairie Village Foundation meeting on January 31

STAFF REPORTS

- Mr. Jordan stated that the community center survey agreement had been executed by the City and Wiese, the survey consultant, as had a memorandum of understanding between the YMCA and the City to share the costs of the survey. He also mentioned staff would be working on a postcard to mail to residents with a unique pin number should they want to fill out the survey online.
- Chief Roberson provided an overview of the asset forfeiture program and shared details of circumstances in which assets are seized by the Police Department. He noted that process had only been used by the City a few times in the past several years. The program is regulated at several levels, and a report must be provided to the Kansas Bureau of Investigation and United States Department of Justice annually.
- Mr. Geffert noted that the 2023 property tax rebate program had opened the prior week, and that 43 applications had already been received. He stated that he would request additional funding for the program from Council if a large number of applications continued to be received.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to come before the Council.

NEW BUSINESS

COU2022-03

Consider change order #2 for inclusion of drainage repair program improvements into the 2022 residential street program

Mr. Bredehoeft stated that on September 6, 2022, Council approved the award of the 2022



storm drainage repair program to Infrastructure Solutions, LLC. Staff reduced the scope of items that exceeded estimated costs in the contract, including an inlet replacement and channel handrail replacements. A quote for the removed items was received utilizing the City's open contract with Superior Bowen to bring the items within budget.

Mr. Bredehoeft added that the Superior Bowen contract was awarded on June 21, 2022. Change order #1 increased the contract by \$200,233 for water line improvements on Windsor Street. Change order #2 would increase the contract amount by \$40,972.50 to a total of \$3,967,865.50. He added that having the work performed by Superior Bowen would save the City approximately \$50,000.

Mrs. McFadden made a motion to approve change order #2 with Superior Bowen for storm drainage improvements to be included in the 2022 residential street program. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cole Robinson and passed unanimously.

Mrs. McFadden made a motion for the City Council to move to the Council Committee of the Whole portion of the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Reimer and passed unanimously.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

COU2023-01 Consider approval of Ordinance 2480, an ordinance regarding nondomiciled contractor licenses amending Sections 5-101, 5-103, 5-106, and 5-110 of Article 1 (General Provisions), Chapter 5 (Business Regulations) of the Municipal Code

Ms. Lee said that the proposed ordinance was intended to clean up language in the City's Municipal Code due to a process change. She noted that contractors doing work in the City were required to apply for a contractor's license, categorized as a "nondomiciled business" in the Code. Previously, licenses were due annually based on the calendar year, and expired on December 31, which was a cumbersome, paperwork-driven manual process for City staff.

Ms. Lee added that the City had recently implemented the OpenGov software product to allow for online license renewal, which required much less staff involvement. Doing so prompted a process improvement of moving licenses to an annual renewal on a rolling basis rather than the calendar year, similar to the way other City licenses are handled. New contractors would be able to sign up at any point during the year, pay the full \$75 fee, and renew twelve months later.

Mrs. McFadden made a motion to recommend approval of Ordinance 2480 to the City Council as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Herring.

Mr. Nelson suggested changing the language of Section 5-101 (d) to the following:



(d) *Nondomiciled* – any person or business that does not have its primary office, or principal place of operations, its home, or physical location within the City.

Mrs. McFadden and Mr. Herring agreed to include the recommended changes in the motion, which passed unanimously.

COU2023-02 Consider 2023 recreation fee schedule

Ms. Buum said that per Council direction, staff annually reviewed recreation fees to ensure they remain reasonable and keep pace with any operational increases. Fees were last increased in 2016 with the goal of evaluating them every five years. However, the Parks and Recreation Committee chose not to implement a fee increase following the pandemic.

For 2023, both athletic field and tennis court rental rates were proposed to increase to keep the City in line with other municipalities, as were Junior Tennis League rates and private tennis tournament rental costs.

For aquatics fees specifically, Ms. Buum noted that the City generally aimed to recover 60% of costs at the swimming pool complex. In 2022, 50% of costs were recovered. Due to significantly increased operating costs, City staff recommended a fee increase in 2023. The Parks & Recreation committee approved the proposed fee schedule with the following changes:

- Under age 3 - free (currently under age 2 is free)
- Senior citizen rate applies to age 65+ (currently age 60+)

Ms. Buum added that without fee increases, the City would not be able to meet the 60% cost recovery threshold without reducing open hours or staffing.

Mr. Gallagher made a motion to recommend approval of the fee schedule without changing the minimum age of senior citizen rates. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wolf.

After further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion on adding members of the Governing Body to the City's health, dental and vision insurance plans with the same cost sharing as if they were full-time City employees.

Mr. Cole Robinson stated that currently, members of the Governing Body could participate in the City's insurance plans by paying for 100% of the premium. The discussion would consider whether to make a change to allow members of the Governing Body to "opt in" to the insurance plans and receive the same benefits as full time City employees. He noted



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that having a diverse group on the Council, including those who might not have health care benefits, was valuable for the City, and added that currently, Councilmembers received no pay for their services. Mr. Herring shared his support for the concept.

Mrs. McFadden said that Councilmembers in nearly all other Johnson County cities received compensation and asked why health coverage was the focus of the discussion rather than council pay. Mr. Gallagher suggested that the discussion should be taken to the Finance Committee for consideration in the 2024 budget. Mayor Mikkelson agreed, and added that to avoid a conflict of interest, any proposed changes should not be implemented until after the next election cycle.

After further discussion, Ms. Selders made a motion for City staff to research what neighboring municipalities pay for City Council positions and whether they offer health insurance packages to Councilmembers. The motion was seconded by Mr. Graves.

Mr. Graves made a motion to amend the motion to also have staff research the potential financial impacts of adding Councilmembers to the City's healthcare plan. The motion was seconded by Ms. Selders. After further discussion, the motion to amend passed 11-1, with Mr. Gallagher in opposition.

The original motion as amended passed 11-1, with Mr. Gallagher in opposition.

Mrs. McFadden moved that the City Council end the Council Committee of the Whole portion of the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Herring and passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements were included in the Council meeting packet.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Mikkelson declared the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Adam Geffert
City Clerk