

City of Walnut
City Council Meeting Minutes
December 11th, 2023, 6:30 P.M.

Mayor: Brian Kirkpatrick City Attorney: Timothy L. Fielder

Council Members: Jonathan Westhoff, Melissa Smith, Brian Crapson, Seth Volz, Cory Scott

Clerk: Saralyn Boyd Treasurer: Samantha Guy Superintendent: Craig Kirkpatrick

Call to Order

Mayor Brian Kirkpatrick called the meeting to order with Council Members Melissa Smith, Brian Crapson, and Cory Scott, in attendance. Also in attendance were City Attorney Timothy Fielder, City Clerk Saralyn Boyd, and City Treasurer Samantha Guy. City Superintendent Craig Kirkpatrick and Council Members Jonathan Westhoff and Seth Volz were absent.

Approval of Agenda

Cory Scott made a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Brian Crapson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Approval of Minutes

Brian Crapson motioned for approval of the minutes from the previous regular meeting. Melissa Smith seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Approval of Bills

Cory Scott made a motion to approve the bills. Brian Crapson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Clerk's Report

The account balance as of December 11th was \$44,135.03. As for delinquent utility accounts for November, all account balances were collected. The number of utility bills for December was two accounts remaining at the time.

Treasurer's Report

City Treasurer, Samantha Guy, reported all was accurate for the reports for November.

Old Business

A reminder was announced that the new election terms of the Mayor and Council Seats No. 2 and No. 4 are to take effect at the January 2024 regular meeting. Brian Kirkpatrick will renew his position as Mayor, and Melissa Smith will renew her position as Council Seat No. 2. There was a tie of write-in votes for Council Seat No. 4, with two votes each for Chad Norris and Mary Jo Little, which resulted in a coin flip for the win awarding the position to Mary Jo Little. She kindly did not accept, so Council Seat No. 4 will be vacant starting in January 2024, until the Mayor appoints to fill the position.

New Business

Brian Kirkpatrick and Brian Crapson mentioned they were still working on trying to get the Christmas tree in town to set up and decorate.

Maintenance Report

The Mayor mentioned Lowrie Sheet Metal & Air was supposed to install the unit the previous Saturday, but now he has Covid. The City Clerk mentioned the letter from Tim Fielder stated the installation deadline was December 4th.

The Mayor also mentioned the Sewer Pump was removed to be repaired by Zimmerman Electric Service, Inc, specifically to repair a short in the motor. A new sewer pump was priced at around \$10k, so the plan is to repair the current pump, if at all possible.

The KDHE Sanitary Survey Inspection that is done every three years, we are waiting to hear from the Maintenance Superintendent to report on.

The City Clerk also mentioned there is another new requirement from KDHE, requiring inventory for all lead service lines for water systems, with inventory reporting due by October 2024, so the Clerk wanted to make sure that project was started soon.

The Mayor also brought up an issue with the Water Salesman equipment at the Maintenance Building, as there has been a lot of needed maintenance done on it recently. Craig was given information about a quote for a new equipment box that includes the coin mechanism, for around \$5k. Brian stated he hopes Craig will bring more information about it to the meeting next month.

Librarian's Report

Pancake Feed will be held on December 16th, 7:30 - 10am.

Councilmember Concerns

The City Clerk mentioned she would like to put together a list of 2024 projects for the city, for items that have been mentioned in previous years, and to start selecting some items to move forward with soon, including addressing the status of the water tower, including acquiring an updated inspection, etc., also dilapidated houses, and other projects.

Public Comment

There were no council member concerns at the time.

Call for Adjournment

Cory Scott made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Melissa Smith seconded the motion. All were in favor.